



MEETING OF	Ordinary Meeting of Broom, Kirkhill, & Mearnskirk, Community Council	
HELD ON	Monday 21 st November 2022 @ 7.30pm at Mearns Castle High School	
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting	
	In attendance: William Maxwell (Chairperson), Jane Royston (Treasurer), Margaret Hinchliffe, Anne Lithgow, Susan Brodie, Janet Olverman (Secretary) Also in attendance: Cllr. Andrew Anderson; Peter Barry, Fiona McFarlane, Elnara Alderson, Asif Majif, Gurjeet Singh and Iltaf Dean, Crookfur, Greenfarm & Mearns Village CC, G Spence	
APOLOGIES	Cllr. Edlin, Steve Rutherford, Cllr. Bamforth, Doug Pitt	
ITEM DISCUSSED		Action Points
APPROVAL OF MINUTE OF MEETINGS	Minute of Ordinary Meeting 24th October 2022 The Chairperson proposed the minute as a true record of the meeting and was seconded by Margaret Hinchliffe and approved by the Community Council.	
MATTERS ARISING/ ACTION POINTS	Rob Jones resignation from Community Council. Page 3 – The Chairperson wrote to Rob Jones and Janet Olverman informed Vincent McCulloch the Community Council liaison officer. Digital signs at the Avenue Page 5 Local Facility Upgrading funding – The Chairperson wrote to ERC about the proposal to install digital signs at the Avenue for the purpose of advertising location of retailers and the Mearns Workshop/Market, to enquire if CC's could have access to advertise meetings. No response as yet. BKMCC members are of the opinion that the £136,000 of the total £551,100 Community funding could be spent better elsewhere. The advertising boards at the Avenue should be funded by the Avenue owners and/or retailers themselves. Maidenhill Bus Service Cllr Anderson advised that a Maidenhill bus service will be starting in April 2023. Running from Maidenhill, along Ayr Road to the Avenue, along Barrhead Road and on to Silverburn. Litter bins for Maidenhill The Local Facility upgrading funding is being used to provide new litterbins in Neilston, Thornliebank and	



	<p>Barrhead - the minute mentioned possibility of reusing the old bins in Maidenhill.</p> <p>The residents of Maidenhill would prefer new bins to be provided.</p> <p>The Chairperson offered to write to the Department of the Environment asking them to install new litterbins in Maidenhill.</p>	
POLICE REPORT	<p>The Chairperson presented the Police Report:</p> <p>"This report covers progress we have made in dealing with priorities for the Broom, Kirkhill & Mearns Kirk Community Council area for the period 19th October 2022 to 19th November 2022</p> <p>CRIMES OF NOTE & CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE</p> <p>Crime levels in your community council area remain very low and there have been no specific crimes of note.</p> <p>Home security</p> <p>As it is getting darker earlier with each passing day it is asked that constituents are reminded of the importance of maintaining home and vehicle security. Crime prevention advice can be found on Police Scotland's webpage via the links below.</p> <p>https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/your-home/your-house/</p> <p>https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/your-home/your-garden/</p> <p>Our officers would like to also highlight the importance of vehicle security. Some important advice is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove valuables from cars;• Take time to ensure your car is locked;• If you have keyless entry/start consider key security within your home or purchase a faraday pouch to help prevent the chance of relay vehicle theft. <p>Pedal Cycles</p> <p>If any community group would be interested in organising a bike event for person's bikes to be securely marked free of charge please highlight this to the chair who will contact Giffnock community policing.</p> <p>Fraud</p> <p>Instances of Fraud continue to be frequent both nationally and locally. Frequently victims, of all ages, can be scammed when they receive unexpected text or telephone</p>	



messages and respond to these. Crime prevention messages are regularly provided via our social media accounts and further advice is available at -

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/scams-and-frauds/>

We encourage everyone to discuss this crime prevention message with anyone they know who may not have access to the information or who may be more vulnerable.

Further information regarding developing crime trends can be found by logging on to the Police Scotland website and social media accounts of Police Scotland, Trading Standards and East Renfrewshire Council.

Comments from BKMCC

While it is good news that there is very little crime reported, we are concerned that some local crimes are not being notified.

The Chairperson reviewed the ERC Cabinet meeting notes in which Crime Statistics for the whole of East Renfrewshire are provided.

Web link below:

https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/8192/Cabinet-Police-Fire-item-03-22-September-2022/pdf/Cabinet_Police

Summary:

Acquisitive Crime

Ten crimes were recorded relating to homes being broken into (including attempts) during Q1 (Quarterly Report: Apr to Jun 2022), 28.6% lower than in the same period last year.

This is still well below the 5-year average figure with a reduction of 47.4%.

Public Protection

Up to and including Q1, sexual crimes have increased with 28 victims coming forward. Detection rate for this year is 35.7%, which is lower than the 5-year average.

Drug Dealing & Use

In this quarter, we have recorded 37 drug related offences, 36.2% fewer than last year & 47% fewer than 5 year average - Applies to whole of East Renfrewshire

Violent Crime

Three serious assaults; this is less than same period last year and the 5-year average. However, minor assaults have increased by 12%.



	<p>Antisocial Behaviour & Disorder</p> <p>Calls classified as "Public Nuisance" are down by 49%. "Noise" complaints down by 3% compared to 2021-22 figures.</p> <p>Margaret commented that on a local what's app group, set up during Covid, as a means of helping neighbours, some suspicious behaviour was recorded, such as the apparent taking of photos outside some houses, entrance by strangers to back gardens for no legitimate reason, and young men knocking on doors asking to clean gutters, deliver milk etc. This raised suspicion on the part of some householders.</p> <p>The Chairperson reported he had witnessed Police Activity in Broom Park on 2nd November where three police cars and a dog van were in attendance. The Police dog swept the park.</p> <p>We received no information at all about this.</p> <p>The Chairperson offered to write formal letter to the Community police at Giffnock, enquiring about their reporting mechanisms.</p> <p>It is however, pleasing to note that the Police are increasing the number of patrols in our area.</p>	
<p>RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS</p>	<p>If anyone present would like to join our number please let us know. Our membership is now reduced to 8. There are 12 vacancies.</p>	
<p>LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS</p>		
<p>EASTWOOD GOLF CLUB DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>Planning Application 2021/0947 Eastwood Golf Course</p> <p>This application has, despite 37 votes in favour, been turned down due to being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contrary to Policy SG1 (site not identified for housing development); • Contrary to Policy D3 as development in the Green Belt; • Contrary to Policy D3.3 as not being justified for being of direct operational requirement for workers; • Contrary to Policy 8 the development being not located in a sustainable location and will rely heavily on car use. <p>Eastwood Estates website link below: https://www.eastwoodestate.co.uk/</p>	



<p>MEARNSKIRK HOUSE DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>Mearnskirk House Development Planning application 2022/0466/TP has been submitted.</p> <p>Fiona McFarlane (Mearnskirk Owners Association) provided Dundas Estates timescale for the development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning determination – Jan 23 <p>Providing approval is given:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads and Drainage approvals – March 23 • Ownership of Peter Pan transfer to ERC - March 23 • Site Start – March 23 • Agree specification for the plinth – March 23 • House Construction (18 months) – March 23 to Sep 24 • Application for funding through Place Based Investment Fund for Peter Pan – June 23 • Conveyancing of Peter Pan site from Dundas Estates to ERC – December 23 • Tender Works Peter Pan – Jan 24 (budget in the region of £50k) • Design and Construction Peter Pan – June 24 – September 24 	
<p>SPORTS FIELD BROOM PARK</p>	<p>The new Mearns Castle High School sports facilities are developing well and scheduled for completion before Christmas 2022.</p> <p>A resident commented about the bright floodlights shining into his house. He also raised concerns about people parking outside his house once the pitches are being used.</p> <p>The Chairperson advised that the BKMCC discussed these issues last year when the planning application was submitted.</p> <p>We were told the floodlights would be switched off at 7pm and the sports facility is only for use by the school and there should not be a large number of cars. Parents collecting children should use the school car park.</p>	
<p>BRIDGE AT BROOM BURN</p>	<p>There has still been no progress.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth asked Jane Corrie for an update on the bridge at Broomburn, and received the following response:</p> <p>"Further to your recent enquiry I can advise that our</p>	



	<p>contractor has confirmed that their supplier has been in touch to let them know that there has been a delay with the manufacture of the new footbridge for the site at Broomburn and it will now be mid-January before it is available.</p> <p>This is disappointing, but to start again with procurement would only cause further delay and other contractors will be experiencing the same difficulties with materials supply”</p> <p>Planned installation for around 19th January 2023.</p>	
<p>TRAFFIC SIGNAGE ON MEARNSKIRK ROAD</p>	<p>Further to the BKMCC’s communications with ERC Roads Dept., we received the following response:</p> <p>“We can confirm that the failure of drivers to leave the Co-op car park access unobstructed has been brought to our attention and observations have affirmed these reports. Consequently, the Roads Service has instructed our contractor to lay "KEEP CLEAR" markings adjacent to the car park access to remind drivers of their duty in this regard.</p> <p>We trust that this amendment will improve access to/from the store's car park.”</p> <p>A Keep Clear sign has been installed.</p> <p>Cllr Anderson advised a Yellow box is not appropriate for this place.</p> <p>Comments:</p> <p>Drivers still stop on this sign.</p> <p>The positioning of the chicane (Heading South) means drivers have to stop on an incline causing headlight blinding to traffic approaching from the south.</p> <p>The Chicane has not been designed very well – both ends have right of way.</p> <p>The Mearns Kirk Owners Association said nobody was notified of this until it was installed. The MOA did not have a chance to review or comment.</p> <p>Emails were sent to wrong or obsolete email addresses, in spite of the fact ERC had been notified of the change.</p> <p>Cllr. Anderson is meeting with Head of Service for Roads, and offered to put our comments to them.</p> <p>The Chairperson wrote a letter to the Police asking about accidents and speeding on this road. He received a response saying there have been no reported accidents or speeding.</p>	



TRAFFIC SPEED ON WATERFOOT ROAD	<p>The Chairperson sent another copy of our letter and received a response on 28th October 2022 from Ross McDowall</p> <p>ERC have allocated £150k to improve road safety on Waterfoot Road, between Cruachan Drive and St Clare's Primary School. This will include widening the pavement and adding a cycle lane on the west side of Waterfoot Road between the above two locations.</p> <p>Waterfoot Road from Broom Road East to the junction with B767 Glasgow Road</p> <p>The Roads Department at ERC state "It is an established fact that vehicle speed is influenced more by the characteristics of the road than by the posted speed limit. Therefore, given the rural characteristics of this stretch of Waterfoot Road it is unlikely that the majority of drivers would comply with a reduced speed limit of 30mph.</p> <p>Any reduction in speed limit must first gain the support of Police Scotland. For the reason given above it is extremely unlikely that Police Scotland would support a reduction of the posted speed limit to 30mph. Nor would a 30mph speed limit be appropriate."</p> <p>According to the most recent road safety data available at this time, there has been 1 slight injury collision on this stretch of road in the last 5 years, compared to 368 across the rest of East Renfrewshire.</p> <p>There are no plans to alter the speed limit along this stretch of road.</p>	
ERC BUDGET	<p>Budget Considerations 2023-26 ERC</p> <p>ERC are holding several Consultation Meetings. The Chairperson, Susan Brodie and Margaret Hinchliffe attended the meeting on 15th November at the Contemplation Room, Woodfarm High School. They will attend the second on Tuesday 29th November venue TBA.</p> <p>Summary:</p> <p>Total budgeted expenditure for the 2022/23 year = £339m.</p> <p>Due to inflationary pressures this will need to be reduced by approx. £30m spread over the next three years.</p>	



ERC BUDGET

Overall Budget and Possible Redundancies

Reduction in staffing levels of approximately 400 across the total ERC employment role of about 4,000 over the three year period (2023-2026).

If the possible changes outlined below are not made more redundancies may occur.

ERC have indicated the following proposals for reducing expenditure:

Support Services – reduction £3m

Accountancy, Legal, Audit, Procurement, Property, Health and Safety.

Environment Budget – reduction £6m:

Suggested reductions:

- 3 weekly to 4 weekly waste collection cycle
- reduce grass cutting in parks
- closure all grass football pitches and pavilions
- increase burial charges
- reduce roads budget
- reduce services in housing and economic development
- reduce planning services

Education – reduction £18.4m

- reduce staff numbers working with low performing pupils
- reduce number of pupil support teachers
- reduce absence cover
- to shorten school week in Primary Schools from 25 to 22.5 hrs. This will mean an earlier finish on Friday.

Business Operations and Partnerships – reduction £2m

- Reduce services to public
- Slower responses to anti-social behaviour
- May reduce CCTV
- Reduce support for External organisations

Comments:

Could they increase council tax?

Cllr. Anderson advised this is capped to 3% by the Scottish



	<p>Government.</p> <p>Margaret asked "What about the leisure centre? "</p> <p>Cllr Anderson advised:</p> <p>Long-term projects, such as new schools and leisure facilities, are funded through the Council's Capital Budget. This is a different pot of cash from the Revenue Budget, used to pay for the day-to-day costs of running council services. Any savings must come from the Revenue Budget.</p> <p>The Chairperson encouraged members to fill out the questionnaire and put across their points and views and suggestions (Link below) CLOSING DATE 9TH DECEMBER</p> <p>https://getinvolved.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/corporate-community-services/east-renfrewshire-council-budget-2022/</p>	
<p>SPT CONSULTATION</p>	<p>The Chairperson participated in a Teams conference on 28th October 2022</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p><i>The RTS objective is 'to make public transport a desirable and convenient travel option for everyone'. This is welcomed both for a reduction in road congestion and in response to the climate emergency. The impact of high car use and ownership in areas such as East Renfrewshire should be recognised.</i></p> <p><i>Currently substantial areas of East Renfrewshire have bus services once an hour and these are not always reliable.</i></p> <p><i>This reflects the challenge of providing adequate services in peripheral areas as opposed to the city centre.</i></p> <p><i>More frequent services need to be established with an improved reliability before folk will be encouraged to use them. This does require funding.</i></p> <p>A review of routes around East Renfrewshire is needed, particularly in relation to east - west services. Some long-standing routes may not be meeting residents' requirements as services have changed over time. Recent changes in the distribution of populations have not been accommodated.</p> <p>Bus availability for secondary school pupils is a specific issue which is not recognised in the strategy and is a significant challenge</p> <p><i>A bus hub concept based at Clarkston merits consideration.</i></p> <p><i>The current governance and ownership of bus services</i></p>	



	<p><i>may need review to provide more integrated transport</i></p> <p>Comments:</p> <p>Co-ordinating timings of busses and trains would help.</p> <p>Access to the Health centre from Mearnskirk and the whole of Newton Mearns is difficult by bus with no direct route.</p> <p>There is no bus service from Newton Mearns to the QE hospital. This should be a priority.</p> <p>There is no service to Silverburn shopping centre.</p> <p>Cllr Anderson commented that First Bus advised that the problem is a lack of drivers, however there are people who want to train but they cannot get a bus to the depot to start a shift!</p> <p>The Chairperson submitted comments on behalf of BKMCC</p>	
NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK 4	<p>The National Planning Framework 4 Revised draft was placed before parliament on 8th November.</p> <p>The Chairperson and Ron Gimby reviewed the 180 pages of information and submitted suggestions on behalf of BKMCC.</p> <p>The documentation may be viewed using the link below: https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/draft-national-planning-framework-4/</p>	
INTERACTION WITH OTHER COMMUNITY COUNCILS	<p>The Chairperson attended the Crookfur, Greenfarm Mearns Village CC meeting on Wednesday 2nd November.</p> <p>He had attempted to make contact with all CC Secretaries in East Renfrewshire but only received two responses.</p>	
LITTER PICKS	<p>Saturday 3rd December – 11 am Venue TBA</p>	
FUTURE MEETING DATES	<p>Monday evenings at 7.30pm in Mearns Castle High School</p> <p>December 12th 2022</p> <p>January 16th, 2023</p> <p>February 20th, 2023</p> <p>March 20th, 2023</p> <p>April 17th, 2023 (Easter is 9th April)</p> <p>May 22nd, 2023 (AGM)</p> <p>June 12th, 2023</p>	



<p>AOCB</p>	<p>Maidenhill Events</p> <p>School Fundraising Fun Day Saturday 26th November. £2 entry.</p> <p>Janet to put details on Facebook.</p> <p>The Maidenhill Primary Parent Council are organising Daffodil planting on Sunday 27th Nov. followed by a litter pick in Maidenhill</p> <p>Consultations on Local action plans for Newton Mearns.</p> <p>Result of the first consultation has been published on ERC website</p> <p>https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/article/5139/Local-Action-Plans</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>The Newton Mearns consultation ran from 6 May until 20 June 2022 and in that time over 4,000 visits generated 1206 contributions and 316 news subscriptions. The greatest number of positive comments were generated for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recreation - 17Public space - 14Paths and footways - 12 <p>General topics which generated the highest numbers of negative comments were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Roads and streets - 93Moving around - 67Paths and footways - 67Personal safety - 57 <p>Jane commented we had looked at the possibility of providing public toilet facilities at Broom Park. However, we could not get funding for the ongoing support for cleaning etc.</p> <p>Cllr. Anderson advised there are proposals for relocating council headquarters but no decision has yet been made.</p> <p>Vaping Concerns</p> <p>Following concern raised about vaping by pupils at Mearns Castle High School, BKMCC wrote to the Head Teacher and Parent Council. We received the following response from the Head Teacher:</p> <p>“We have previously highlighted the increased prevalence of vaping amongst young people across the country and the West of Scotland, alongside the associated health risks. I am pleased that our Campus Police Officer is taking the time to visit assemblies regarding this concern. PC Mitchell is highlighting the dangers of vaping and</p>	<p>Janet to add to Facebook</p>
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	<p>concerns regarding the illegal selling of vapes to young people within the community.</p> <p>In his weekly assembly, the headmaster will be reiterating to pupils that there will be very serious consequences, including possible suspension, for anyone caught vaping within the school building. When there are concerns a pupil is vaping within the school grounds or community, parents will be alerted.”</p> <p>The Chairperson commented that nicotine is highly addictive and disrupts brain development.</p> <p>Scientific journals document behavioural changes in young people using vapes.</p> <p>We are pleased to note that MCHS are treating this issue seriously.</p>	
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	Monday 12 th December 2022 at 7.30pm in Mearns Castle High School	
	With there being no further business, the Chairperson thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting	