



MEETING OF	Ordinary Meeting of Broom, Kirkhill, & Mearns Kirk, Community Council	
HELD ON	Tuesday 7 th February 2023 @ 7.30pm at Mearns Castle High School	
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting	
	<p>In attendance:</p> <p>William Maxwell (Chairperson), Jane Royston (Treasurer), Margaret Hinchliffe, Anne Lithgow, Susan Brodie, Steve Rutherford (Vice Chair), Janet Olverman (Secretary), Doug Pitt, Elnara Alderson, Asif Majid</p> <p>Also in attendance: Cllr Andrew Anderson, Cllr Paul Edlin, Cllr Caroline Bamforth, Constable Steven Wallace (Police Scotland), Sgt. Gordon Sweeney (Police Scotland), Peter Barry, Creighton Halliday</p>	
APOLOGIES	Ron Gimby	
ITEM DISCUSSED		Action Points
APPROVAL OF MINUTE OF MEETINGS	<p>Minute of Ordinary Meeting 12th December 2022</p> <p>Amendments to Page 4:</p> <p>'A monthly frequency of bin collections'</p> <p>'Review Council office accommodation'</p> <p>The Chairperson proposed the minute as a true record of the meeting and was seconded by Jane Royston and approved by the Community Council.</p>	
MATTERS ARISING/	<p>Further to the ERC Budget Consideration meetings held in November 2022, which were attended by members of the BKMCC, the Chairperson asked Councillors if they knew anything about the report which should have been generated by the organisers.</p> <p>The Councillors all confirmed they had not seen the report.</p> <p>Councillors were asked and offered to investigate, if any of our Council Tax was diverted to other not so well off councils.</p> <p>Cllr Anderson confirmed this is not the case.</p>	
POLICE REPORT	<p>Constable Steven Wallace and Sgt Gordon Sweeney attended the meeting and presented the Police report:</p> <p>"There has been a low level crime in our Community Council area.</p> <p>The recent house break-ins in our area have not been linked to the wider National house break-ins. There was wide spread publicity about arrests made in connection with these but these do not appear to be linked to the local</p>	



crimes.

It was emphasised that residents should to be alert and mindful about their home security.

Newton Mearns is an affluent area and sometimes the home security does not always reflect the potential crime risk.

Home owners should ensure:

- Gates are locked
- Alarms are updated and used.
- Keep doors locked at all times.
- Improving home security may decrease insurance premiums.

More in depth home security analysis can be provided for people who have suffered burglary.

Residents may find Crime prevention advice on Police Scotland's webpage via the links below.

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/your-home/your-house/>

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/your-home/your-garden/>

For general crime prevention advice and tips, you can speak to your local Crime Reduction Officer or community policing team by dialling 101.

Car Theft

There have been several high value vehicle thefts in the area. Relay theft is an ongoing issue and is preventable by storing car keys in a Faraday pouch that prevent the signal being relayed to the car. You can also use 'defensive parking' that involves parking another car blocking in the higher value car and prevents it being stolen.

Bike Marking Scheme

The police are targeting bike theft by running an ultraviolet sensitive bike-marking scheme. Stickers are placed on bikes that if removed ruin the paintwork. This deters thieves. This can be arranged by contacting Giffnock Community Policing.

Janet offered to organise an event in the Spring.

Scams and frauds

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 messages and respond to these. Further advice is available



	<p>at:</p> <p>https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/scams-and-frauds/</p> <p>Comments from BKMCC</p> <p>How do you feel about the bad publicity against the police in England?</p> <p>Constable Wallace responded "There is a different approach in Scotland to England which is considered friendlier.</p> <p>Police Scotland has a different recruitment procedure and does not have the same issues as the Metropolitan Police Force".</p> <p>Police do not have guns because they have a very different approach to how they police compared to other countries.</p> <p>Police presence on the street has it been increased?</p> <p>There was a festive campaign where police were present in high-risk areas. Police now monitor problem areas and proactively patrol streets in unmarked cars.</p> <p>Can Police come along to schools to speak to young children?</p> <p>East Renfrewshire Schools have Campus cops who provide school presentations.</p> <p>PC Mohammed Akram will attend Primary schools to speak about specific topics. The school is able to arrange this.</p> <p>The Chairperson and BKMCC members thanked Constable Wallace and Sgt Sweeney for their report and attendance at this meeting.</p>	
<p>DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL TO CHANGE NAME OF BKMCC</p>	<p>Our Community Council area now includes Maidenhill and the Chairperson put forward the Motion:</p> <p>"To include the newly recruited members of the Broom, Kirkhill and Mearns Kirk Community Council, the Chairperson puts forward the Proposal that the name be changed to the Broom, Kirkhill, Mearns Kirk and Maidenhill Community Council (BKMMCC)"</p> <p>This will involve a change to our Constitution which states:</p> <p>'16.1 Any proposal by the COMMUNITY COUNCIL to alter this Constitution must first be considered by a meeting of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL. The terms of the proposal to alter the Constitution shall be stated on the notice calling the meeting, which shall be issued to all members not less than ten days prior to the meeting. Any proposed alterations may not contradict, prejudice or undermine the terms and objectives contained within the Scheme and must not negatively impact on the transparency and</p>	<p>Janet to issue notice no later than 25th</p>



	<p>accountability of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL'</p> <p>BKMCC members will be asked to vote upon this Motion at the next meeting on March 7th 2023.</p> <p>Once agreement has been made by two thirds of CC members, then the Secretary will inform East Renfrewshire Council who will have to approve the change.</p>	February
CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS	<p>Elnara Alderson and Asif Majid have completed the necessary paperwork and were accepted as Co-opted members of the Community Council.</p> <p>The Chairperson welcomed Elnara and Asif to the BKMCC</p>	
BKMCC RESPONSE TO BUDGET CONSULTATION 2023-24	<p>Three BKMCC members attended both the consultation sessions. Following discussion with CC members the Chairperson sent a number of questions to our Ward Councillors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How will the extra £550m from the Scottish Government Budget of December 2022 affect ERC budget?2. Why is the Budget for Health and Social Care Partnership analysis being carried out separately? Suggest that if £10m per year cut was exercised across all components of the Budget then the impact would be lessened on each subunit.3. If the Education Budget is treated as a protected/ring fenced fund, how does ERC Council suggest that the budget may be balanced by larger cuts in other services?4. It is acknowledged that the Capital budget for development of the new Leisure Centre in Eastwood Park is separate from the recurrent budget. What is the current estimate for the build of the Leisure Centre and how will this be financed? Should ERC consider delaying the build?5. Can Offers of Voluntary Severance be considered for senior administrators/management?6. Can extra control be exercised for payment of staff expenses?7. Has any analysis been undertaken for the savings obtained if council offices and sites were to be rationalised or reduced? And does this imply a reduction in numbers of staff? <p>Councillors responded:</p> <p>There is a political dispute about how the extra £550m will be distributed. COSLA have disputed this.</p> <p>Because most of the £550m has been ring-fenced by the</p>	



	<p>Scottish Government, there is only £71m that may be split between all Scottish councils. Most of ERC's share will be clawed back by Government cuts to grants.</p> <p>The Scottish Government has dictated that Councils are not allowed to cut teacher numbers, pupil support assistants or length of the school week (Statement by Scottish Education Secretary, Tuesday, 7th March 2023).</p> <p>ERC have highest number of teachers per student number for any local authority in Scotland.</p> <p>50-60% of ERC's budget goes on education of which 70% is for teachers. If teacher numbers are protected there is very little avenue for cuts.</p> <p>The vast majority of BKMCC members want to maintain the high standard of education in East Renfrewshire.</p> <p>It is inevitable that the effects of cuts will occur in first year of the 2023-2026 period, but the second and third years will be worse.</p> <p>Construction of the new Leisure centre had been put on hold since October 2022.</p> <p>The final budget decisions will be taken on 1st March by ERC Council.</p>	
<p>MEMORIAL CAIRN FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH II?</p>	<p>Place Based Investment Programme</p> <p>The Chairperson put forward a suggestion that BKMCC submit an application to the Place Based Investment Programme for the erection of a memorial cairn to Queen Elizabeth II.</p> <p>One of the highest points in our area is on the Drovers Road. A cairn with plaque on top pointing out notable peaks might provide an attraction for walkers.</p> <p>The Chairperson wrote to Lorna Wallace at Regeneration Opportunity funding on January 19th and received a very positive response.</p> <p>Members are supportive of a memorial cairn in principle but raised questions about the accessibility of the proposed site.</p> <p>Doug Pitt supported this motion and The Chairperson offered to obtain quotes.</p> <p>Closing date for applications is the beginning of May.</p>	
<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</p>	<p>The Chairperson confirmed BKMCC's Neighbourhood Watch membership on 25th January. We are fully registered as members of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme with the aim of working together as a community group to keep alert for any nefarious activity in our area.</p>	



<p>SCOTTISH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE</p>	<p>The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act</p> <p>It has been 20 years since Public Authorities only were made subject to this act.</p> <p>There is a Consultation running on access to information rights in Scotland.</p> <p>It is proposed to include public sector, private sector and third sector (charities and charitable organisations).</p> <p>Link below: https://consult.gov.scot/</p> <p>Closing date March 14th.</p> <p>Should we have Scottish Mayors?</p> <p>The Provost is elected by Councillors. Should Scotland consider the possibility of having a publicly elected leaders of the 32 Councils in Scotland?</p> <p>Western Isles interconnector</p> <p>Planning is underway for an interconnector to the Western Isles to allow transmission of wind generated electricity from the Western Isles to the National Grid.</p>	
<p>LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS</p>		
<p>SPORTS FIELD BROOM PARK</p>	<p>The new Mearns Castle High School sports facilities are nearly finished. However, no progress has been made since December 2022.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised laying AstroTurf is weather dependent and has been postponed until weather improves in the spring.</p> <p>The contractors have been paid for the installation so it does not make any difference to the cost how long it takes to finish.</p> <p>BKMCC expressed frustration at the length of time taken to get these facilities up and running. The new sports facilities have been needed for years!</p> <p>Asif asked if the school could approach BAM to ask if they could provide a defibrillator at the new sports facility.</p> <p>It was noted that Broom Park drainage has been improved by the contractors, the engineers have put in proper drainage.</p> <p>The Chairperson to write to Planning Dept. and the Education Dept. asking why finishing has been suspended and ask if penalties have been included for overdue completion.</p>	<p>Asif to contact MCHS about Defibrillator</p> <p>Will to write to ERC Planning and Education</p>

<p>BRIDGE AT BROOM BURN</p>	<p>The new Broom burn foot-bridge has finally been installed. It is now open to the public. The stonework and fencing still needs to be finished.</p> <p>The Chairperson offered to write a thank you note to ERC.</p>	<p>Will to write to ERC</p>
<p>GREENHAGS BIOGAS PLANT</p>	<p>David Jesner has written to all CC's to convene an urgent meeting to ask ERC to revoke the planning applications 2016/0070/TP, 2018/0065/TP and 2022/0203/TP for the erection of a anaerobic digestion biogas plant 300 metres north east of Greenhags, Ayr Road.</p> <p>Cllr Bamforth advised the approved planning application is still in place and cannot be revoked but may be due for renewal. She offered to check the renewal date then we can consider if this matter may be pursued.</p> <p>It was suggested that if the applicants apply for a planning extension there could be a chance to refuse permission.</p> <p>Janet to forward DJ's email to Cllr Bamforth.</p>	<p>Janet forward DJ's email to Cllr Bamforth</p>
<p>COMMUNITY MAP SCOTLAND</p>	<p>The Chairperson has been invited to attend a meeting on 10th and will provide a report at the next meeting in March.</p>	
<p>CORONATION TEA PARTY</p>	<p>Sunday 7th May 2-4pm at Broom Church</p> <p>BKMCC have been in touch with Broom Church who are holding a Coronation tea party.</p> <p>BKMCC have agreed to offer our help with the organisation and running of this event.</p>	
<p>LITTER PICKS</p>	<p>On Saturday 4th February, the litter pick at Mearns Castle High School and in the area around the Broom Road East Co-op and Kirkhill Gate Nursery, collected 16 full black bags of rubbish in just 1 hour.</p> <p>Margaret took photos of rubbish lying within the school grounds.</p> <p>BKMCC to write to the Head teacher and invite the School ECO committee to attend one of our meetings and also help with the litter picking.</p> <p>Jane to order more litter pickers.</p>	<p>Will to write to MCHS</p> <p>Jane to order more litter pickers</p>
<p>AOCB</p>	<p>Maidenhill construction. Diggers – are they allowed to work on a Saturday from 7.40am?</p> <p>Cllr Bamforth offered to find out.</p> <p>Air Pollution</p> <p>Every January, Friends of the Earth Scotland look at air</p>	



	<p>pollution data for the previous year to find the most polluted streets, this year Scotland did not breach legal air pollution limits in 2022.</p> <p>However many streets are just below the legal limit, and some did get worse in 2022 – but this is a positive step.</p> <p>Communication from CGMVCC</p> <p>CGMVCC are proposing to organise an event with the Police in the Avenue to offer advice on matters such as home security and have asked BKMCC to participate.</p> <p>The Chairperson to write and offer our help.</p> <p>Hazeldene riding school housing proposal been rejected</p> <p>Mearnskirk Owners Association</p> <p>Fiona Mcfarlane has stepped down as Vice Chair and Secretary of the MOA. Mr Finlay Souter has taken over this role. George Mackie remains as Chair of MOC.</p> <p>Fiona expressed her thanks for BKMCC’s support and work in the community.</p>	
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	Tuesday 7 th March 2023 at 7.30pm in Mearns Castle High School	
	With there being no further business, the Chairperson thanked everyone for attending	