**BONNYRIGG AND LASSWADE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 11 Aug 2022, at Lasswade Library**

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| Present: | (Chair) Diane Easton |
|  | (Treasurer) Bill MacDonald |
|  | John Atchison |
|  | James Cameron |
|  | Bill Hunter (guest) |
|  | Jan Irvine |
|  | Flora Kenny (guest) |
|  | (Minutes) Liz MacDonald |
|  | Dougie West |
|  | PC Jonny Cassidy  |
|  | PC Chris Howarth |
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| Apologies: | Cllr Dianne Alexander  |
|  | Cllr David Virgo |
|  | Marnie Crawford |
|  | Jammy Gracoeiro |
|  | Sheila Metcalfe |
|  | Owen Proudfoot |

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| **ITEM** | **1** | **In attendance and apologies** |  |
| Noted | (i) | Those in attendance and apologies noted above.  |  |
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| **ITEM** | **2** | **Introduction and welcome** |  |
| Noted | (i) | DE welcome everyone to the meeting and introduced Bill Hunter, a guest attending. DE was pleased to welcome Police Scotland representatives, Jonny Cassidy and Chris Howarth, attending for the first time since the pandemic. Chris had joined the community police team in Nov 2020.  |  |
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| **ITEM** | **3** | **Minutes of 16 June meeting**  |  |
| Noted | (i) | The August meeting was inquorate, as only 3 community councillors from Bonnyrigg and Lasswade attended. The June minutes could not be approved and an additional short meeting would need to be held in September to do this.  |  |
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| **ITEM** | **5** | **Police Report** |  |
| Received | (i) | Police reports for June and July had been received.  |  |
| Noted | (i) | Both police officers are back out in the community, following the lifting of Covid restrictions.  |  |
| Noted | (ii) | CH commented on 25 different incidents across Midlothian on one night, resulting in tens of thousand’s pounds of damage, carried out by 11-14 year olds and caught on CCTV cameras. The youngsters were cautioned and charged in the presence of their parents and reports submitted to the youth justice officer. |  |
| Noted | (iii) | JC mentioned the incident in Rosewell when a bus was attacked. This resulted in a temporary withdrawal of the 49 bus and impacted the local community. It had been discussed at high level with senior police, MSPs and local councillors. |  |
| Noted | (iv) | JC encouraged attendees to take part in the survey noted at the end of the July update to help develop the Local Police Plan and priorities for 2023-2026. |  |
| Noted | (v) | JC described his close work with Neighbourhood Watch. JA commented he received useful information via it on scams, home security etc. Neighbourhood Watch can send out alerts by text to people who are registered, such as warnings about theft of quad bikes. The Co-ordinator will draw up a list of benefits of membership which the police will forward to DE.  |  |
| Noted | (vi) | JI was concerned about the speed of cyclists and people on scooters on the railway walk and the potential for serious accidents. DE commented on the problem caused by some golfers using wide buggies and obstructing the path near Broomieknowe.  |  |
| Noted | (vii) | JC confirmed they had received funding to go into schools and talk to the pupils re speed and road safety. Nine mobile cameras are to be erected on lamp posts and would help with monitoring problems. |  |
| Noted  | (viii) | JA asked the police how their recent community surgeries had been received. Unfortunately, they had not been as successful as hoped. |  |
| Noted  | (ix) | Problems of parking near Gigi’s and the lack of dropped kerbs around Tesco Express were discussed. |  |
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| **ITEM** | **5** | **Report from Midlothian Councillors** |  |
| Noted | (i) | No councillors were present and no updates had been received. |  |
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| **ITEM** | **6** | **Visitor Matters** |  |
| Noted | (i) | Bill Hunter thanked the Community Council and MC in particular for her letter to oppose the planning application for work on houses near the Sun Inn. He also commented on the amount of material dumped on the nearby Carrington Road, including evidence of tipping. JA advised this should be referred to Midlothian Council’s environmental and enforcement officers |  |
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| **ITEM**  | **7** | **Midlothian Traffic, Roads and Paths [MTRAP] Update** |  |
| Noted | (i) | No meetings had been held recently. The next one was on 29 August. |  |
| Noted | (ii) | A letter had been sent to Midlothian Council in support of potential purchase of a machine to repair potholes.  |  |
| Noted | (iii) | Various Temporary Traffic Restriction Orders (TTRO) would be added to the Residents’ Forum Facebook page. Dundas Street on 20, 27 and 10 September for Bonnyrigg Rose home games; Polton Road West and Quarryfoot on 25 August and Lothian Street closed for 2 weeks from 29 August, all three for resurfacing. |  |
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| **ITEM** | **8** | **Midlothian Federation of Community Councils update** |  |
| Noted | (i) | Next meeting on 21 September. Two community councillors from each CC can attend, preferably the Chair and another member.  |  |
| Noted | (ii) | A community council induction training programme was to be held for 90 minutes via Zoom on either 6 October or 4 May 2023. |  |
| Noted  | (iii) | Possibility of holding all the CC AGMs in the same month was discussed, in the hope this would encourage participation. |  |
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| **ITEM**  | **9** | **Update on merger with Poltonhall and Hopefield Community Council** |  |
| Noted | (i) | DE had contacted the Bank of Scotland about the bank account. A letter had been drafted, signed by DE and BMacD and delivered about the CC change of name. |  |
| Noted | (ii) | The Data Commissioner still needed to be alerted and Paul Johnstone to be emailed re Zurich insurance. |  |
| Noted | (iii) | JA reported that PHCC held a meeting on 10 August to suspend the constitution and standing orders and call the inaugural meeting of the new Bonnyrigg and District CC on 15 September. The Lasswade Library room may be too small and we may require the gym hall or another room in the school. Fiona Warner will investigate. |  |
| Noted  | (iv) | DW confirmed he will start the process of closing down the PHCC website and transferring information to the new BDCC website. |  |
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| **ITEM** | **10** | **Financial Report** |  |
| Received | (i) | Verbal update from BMacD. |  |
| Noted | (i) | A cheque for £34.92, which had been held in petty cash, had been deposited in the bank. The balance was £3,616.78. The unexpected £100 credit was compensation from the bank. No word had yet been received re the new account name. A cheque from PHCC to BDCC would need to be written. New bank cards would be issued once the new officer bearers were in place.  |  |
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| **ITEM** | **11** | **AOCB** |  |
| Noted | (i) | JA requested the new CC should write to the Chief Executive of Midlothian Council asking that the vulnerable be protected from the looming cost of living crisis. Transport may be required to bring people together to warm areas.  |  |
| Noted  | (ii) | DE proposed the new CC should find a way to give Bonnyrigg Weedbusters money towards bulbs and tools. JA hoped the Weedbusters would join the CC as a community group, but they wanted to stay as an informal group. LMacD suggested the nearby shops be encouraged to water the plants, especially in hot weather. |  |
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| **ITEM**  | **12** | **Planning**  |  |
| Received | (i) | Written report from MC.  |  |
| Noted | (i) | A letter had been written to Midlothian Council about the proposed supermarket at Cockpen roundabout. A meeting with local residents raised particular concerns about traffic, parking and the proximity of the roundabout. |  |
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| **ITEM** | **13** | **Date of next meeting** |  |
| Noted | (i) | Inaugural meeting of the Bonnyrigg and District Community Council Thursday 15 September 2022 at 7pm.Venue: Lasswade High School, room to be confirmed. |  |
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