

PRESENT:

Diane Easton (DE)	Bonnyrigg and District
Dougie West (DW)	Bonnyrigg and District
Ann Stewart-Kmicha (ASK)	Dalkeith and District
Andrew Watt (AW)	Dalkeith and District
Constance Newbould (CN)	Damhead and District
Barbara Mackie (BM)	Eskbank and Newbattle
Robert Hogg (RH)	Mayfield & Easthouses (Chair)
Judy Thomson (JT)	Mayfield & Easthouses
Gavin Mowatt (GM)	Moorfoot
Sarah Matthews (SM)	Newtongrange
Jamie Tennant (JT)	Penicuik and District
Mark Whitham (MW)	Tynewater

IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Johnson (PJ)	Midlothian Council - Communities, Lifelong Learning and Employability
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Apologies

Gordon Brown	Tynewater
Jim Hiddleston	Roslin and Bilston
Paul McGrath	Moorfoot
Helen Blackburn	Rosewell and District
Eddie Robertson	Gorebridge

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

RH (Chairperson) welcomed Community Councillors to the meeting.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES APPROVAL & MATTERS ARISING

i Participatory Budgeting (PB)

RH, (Mayfield and Easthouses), had been in touch with the Council re PB. He had been advised that Annette Lang (Group Service Manager CPP and CLL), is the contact person to discuss PB.

PJ will check to see whether AL would be able to discuss PB at the May MFCC meeting.

ii **Elected Members - Environmental Funds**

RH (Mayfield and Easthouses) had contacted David Gladwin (Chief Financial Officer) to seek further information about expenditure of the funds. At the point of the meeting, he had not received a reply.

iii **Local Place Plans**

Some Community Councils had not heard back after the submission of their Local Place Plans

Newtongrange CC had received confirmation that their LPP had been received.

All CCs were advised to contact the Planning team to check their LPP had been received.

iv **GP Surgery patients (Danderhall resident's use of Newbattle Surgery)**

RH had contacted the Practice Manager at the Newbattle GP Surgery to discuss issues of concern surrounding Danderhall residents being required to attend the surgery rather than the one in Danderhall. At the time of the meeting RH had not received a reply.

v **March MFCC Minutes**

Proposed: Robert Hogg

Seconded: Ann Stewart Kmicha

3. **LOCAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATES**

Bonnyrigg and District

i No update

Dalkeith and District

i No update

Damhead

i No update

Danderhall and District

i No update

Eskbank and Newbattle

i No update

Gorebridge and District

i No update

Howgate and District

- i** HCC met on Wednesday, 10 April.
- ii** A draft '*revitalisation plan*' has been developed and circulated.
- iii** A new website and email address have been created.
- iv** There is no public space for meetings to be held in the area. Venues in Penicuik and Auchendinny are being considered.
- v** It is anticipated that the AGM will be held on 20 May or 3 June. The venue is still to be decided.
- vi** The next meeting is planned for 24 April.

Loanhead

- i** No update

Mayfield and Easthouses

- i** Potholes continue to be an issue both at our meeting and on FB. We would appreciate data from the Council to put out about what the Pothole Pro has been able to accomplish.
- ii** After MAEDT getting a defibrillator that is available 24/7, we were reminded there is an online resource to find defibs online - <https://www.defibfinder.uk/>. It has been added to our website and to the Federation website too.
- iii** Pleased with progress with new Easthouses Primary School and grateful for the visit we had. Looking forward to seeing progress with new Mayfield campus soon. Consultation about Mayfield campus has taken a back seat to the Beeslack consultation but is now beginning. Concerns for both construction traffic during the works and also moving the issue of school traffic/parking when new school opens.
- iv** We have been pushing for a 'safe route' to the new Easthouses Primary from both the bottom of Easthouses and from the Kippielaw Estate, without any success so far. We have heard that the land is not council owned and paths are complicated because they have to be a width and substance to allow wheelchairs, and of course need to be well lit so all possibly proving to be a step too far. We have not given up just yet though.
- v** Fly tipping continues to be a big issue in the area. Breakthrough this week on FB when it was revealed a local company had collected rubbish only to dump it in their own backyard. Police have been informed.

- vi Local Councillor raised concerns about pavement parking in the area and was interested to find solutions, such as any land that could be converted as parking.

Moorfoot

- i No update

Newtongrange

- i Kate Goodall came along to the March meeting to discuss community benefits which was much appreciated as many of our Members support other groups, so this information will be shared throughout the community.
- ii Due to the development in Newtongrange Centre we have asked Fiona Clandillon, Head of Development, Midlothian Council to come along and give an update.
- iii A meeting will be held on the 16th of April regarding Crawlees Road and I will update the MFCC on Wednesday with any developments.
- iv Still issues with parking at school drop-off/pick-up times. The issues are now on the Community Action Team's radar.

Penicuik and District

- i No update

Rosewell and District

- i No update

Roslin and Bilston

- i Bilston residents have formed a group 'Make Bilston Better' which has been well received and are looking at new initiatives eg regular litter picks, reminiscence group, men's club.
- ii Pavement Parking- 25 residents from Station Road where Scotmid is attended our April meeting to express their concerns that their street has not been categorised as exempt. A case is being prepared due to the size of the pavement and we will ask for a review on options.
- iii An Environmental Enforcement Officer attended our April meeting and is really making a difference in our neighbourhoods liaising with residents and delivering for us eg arranging new bus stop bins, helping at litter picks, following up on intelligence re fly tipping etc. He also issues penalty

- enforcement notices for littering although there is a concern that a high percentage are not paid, and the Council do not take action to enforce.
- iv** The long-awaited 'pump track' for cyclists, skateboarders in Roslin Park are out for tender and it is hoped work will start in July with completion in September.
 - v** Roslin Guerilla Gardeners continue to do excellent work and their next project is to spruce up the Medical Practice grounds. The group have been successful recently with Lottery funding and also from the Asda Foundation.
 - vi** The sport of Pickleball has come to Roslin with fortnightly sessions @ 10am on Wednesdays in the Pavilion. 2 members have been supporting Active Schools with come and try sessions @ Lasswade and are hoping to introduce those to Roslin & Bilston Primaries.
 - vii** Roslin are looking to constitute a Development Trust and a flyer mail drop has generated significant interest with 100+ sign ups to support this and a further 15 residents interested in being Trustees. A follow up get together is due on Wed 8th May to take this forward.

Tynewater

- i** Local Place Plan - we were unable to complete a LPP to comply with the framework specified. Local views were gathered and a report with recommendations was completed - this was submitted to MC. It is hoped that the recommendations are considered by MC when developing the LDP.
- ii** Developer Contributions - This is currently a 'hot' topic amongst residents with the development by Muir Homes in Pathhead - the allocation of the funding is being challenged by residents and we are seeking clarification on the process.
- iii** Police Scotland's attendance at a recent mtg went down well and we look forward to similar meetings.
- iv** We have had some excellent joined up working / collaboration with landowners and MC to get issues like flooding sorted.
- v** At our AGM we recorded a thank you for excellent attendance by our elected Councillors.

4 LOCALITY PLANNING INPUT AT MAY MEETING

- i Annette Lang (Group Service Manager Community Planning and CLLE) and Rebekah Sullivan (Development Officer - Community Planning) have made a request to attend the next MFCC meeting (15 May) in order to discuss Locality Planning
- ii Those present agreed to extend an invitation.

ACTION: PJ to invite AL & RS

5 MINUTE TAKER FOR MAY MEETING

- i PJ will be on Annual Leave
- ii RH (Mayfield and Easthouses) agreed to take the minutes of the meeting.
- iii Those present at the meeting agree that on a trial basis, JT could record the meeting.

6. A7 SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT STUDY - COMMUNITY STEERING GROUP

- i PJ highlighted a proposal to create a community steering group to engage with and support the project.
- ii Group membership will include STANTEC (Project Consultants), Midlothian Council, and those Community Councils whose boundaries are along the route.
- iii The study aims to develop active travel improvements, including public transport accessibility, on and across the A7 corridor between the Sheriffhall Park and Ride site and the B6482 junction, and the section of the B6482 from the A7 junction to the junction with Main Street in Newtongrange.
- iv It is anticipated that the proposed community steering group will include representatives from the Midlothian Access Forum, MTRaP and the Community Councils within the immediate vicinity of the study corridor, namely:
 - Bonnyrigg and District CC
 - Dalkeith and District CC
 - Danderhall and District CC
 - Eskbank and Newbattle CC
 - Gorebridge CC
 - Mayfield and Easthouses CC
 - Newtongrange CC

ACTION: STANTEC will circulate an invitation.

MTRaP members \ Local Community Councils to respond.

7. EDINBURGH AIRPORT NOISE BOARD

- i AW (Dalkeith) circulated a report to MFCC members on 17 April.
- ii The EANB had a new logo
- iii An increase in the number of scheduled flights in the early hours has been noted.

8. CARE FOR PEOPLE MEETING.

- i Next meeting is on 18 April.

9. COMMUNITY PLANNING

- i Examined implications of the Midlothian Council Budget
- ii ASK will forward the related papers
- iii Julian Holbrooke presented a paper on a local food system
- iv An update on information had been made by a members of the Climate Action Hub
- v There had been an input and discussion on UNHCR – Rights of the Child
- vi Also discussed the Local Outcome improvement Plan

10. PLANNING

- i RH highlighted that each Community Council should be getting the weekly Planning update. RH encouraged members to monitor the Planning Portal
- ii See link here: **[Weekly List \(midlothian.gov.uk\)](https://www.midlothian.gov.uk)**. If not registered, Community Council members can also use the link to register an account.
- iii ASK noted that the RAMPS system has not been operational for several months

11. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- i JT (PDCC) highlighted that small vans or cars with trailers are no longer able to use the Penicuik Recycling Centre. This restricts the use of the centre for residents in the west side of the county where there has been a large amount of housing development. This now involves a longer trip to Stobhill – increasing the carbon footprint of those people wish to recycle.
- ii PJ was asked to contact a member of the recycling team to invite them to the June MFCC meeting.

ACTION: PJ to contact colleagues to invite them to the June meeting

12. MIDLOTHIAN TRAFFIC ROADS & PATHS (Next Meeting, 6 June 2024)

April Meeting

- i** Steven Psihramis (Midlothian Council Sustrans Senior Project Officer) provided information about the proposal to create a Community Steering group to engage with and support the project. (see item of 6 of these minutes).
- ii** The Capital Works Progress report was provided. (See documents attached with these minutes).
- iii** Membership of MTRaP and the MTRaP Terms of Reference was discussed.
- iv** Draft Active Travel Strategy will be circulated for consultation.
- v** A range of other items were discussed – see *draft* MTRaP Minutes for further details.

13. PAYING FOR THE FEDERATION WEBSITE

- i** JT (Mayfield and Easthouses) highlighted the costs associated with the hosting and provision of the MFCC website.
- ii** After a wide ranging discussion those present agreed that the Website was an important resource that provided a range of information that can be used by Community Councils and Midlothian residents.
- iii** Agreement that it was a good use of MFCC funds.
- iv** There was a suggestion that it could be expanded for use with local community councils. No decision was made on this.

14. TENANT PARTICIPATION

- i** Noted that there is a new Tenant Participation Officer in post.
- ii** Yvonne Montgomery can be contacted via email yvonne.montgomery@midlothian.gov.uk

15. REMEMBERING TOGETHER MIDLOTHIAN

- i.** Remembering Together Midlothian is a project to co-create memorials which will honour the people that were lost, mark what has been lost and changed lives and preserve the best of what has been learned and created together during the Covid pandemic.
- ii.** The project is supported by the Scottish Government and greenspace scotland.
- iii.** The creative design phase is underway with 6 workshops being delivered across the county
- iv.** Community Council meetings have been attended in each of the proposed sites, Mayfield and Easthouses, Rosewell and District and Penicuik and District
- v.** Midlothian Council have agreed planning permissions for all 3 sites

- vi. Garden design development is underway with local gardening groups at each site
- vii. Further information can be found on the Midlothian page of the Remembering Together Website:
[Midlothian — Remembering Together | Co-creating Covid Community Memorials](#)

16. **A.O.C.B.**

i. **Mayfield and Easthouses War Memorial**

- The site has fallen into a state of disrepair.
- A funding initiative to develop the space has been started by a local resident, in partnership with Mayfield and Easthouses CC

ii. **Close Circuit Television (CCTV) Provision**

- The programme to upgrade CCTV systems has commenced with Bonnyrigg, Dalkeith, Loanhead and Penicuik already receiving upgraded systems

iii. **River Esk – Musselburgh Protection Scheme**

- ASK noted the project team are currently commencing the development of the Outline Design through a process of consultation. On the 20th and 21st June 2023, the Project Team will be holding large-scale Public Exhibition at Eskmills.
- See further information here: [Home - Musselburgh Flood Protection](#)

iv. **Tynewater – Developer Contributions**

- MW highlighted that the majority of developer contributions for a development in the area had been allocated to Dalkeith High School
- Community Benefits – Developments in Tynewater had initially been allocated to the Borders Rail project but now have agreement that it allocated towards improving the local bus service.
- Those present at the meeting noted that ideally contributions accrued from development in the area should be spent directly to support the local community.

iv **Review of the Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils**

- PJ highlighted that the consultation on the draft proposals for revision of the scheme is underway. **Deadline: 24 May.**
- A draft revision document (with amendments from the current scheme in red), has been circulated to MFCC members.
- He requested that MFCC members circulate the link to the survey to their Community Councils members and encourage them to complete the survey.
- He highlighted that it is an opportunity for Community Council members to be able to have an input into how the scheme operates
- Select the link to complete the survey:
[Survey on draft proposals included in the review](#)

ACTION: Community Councillors to review document and complete survey

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15 May 2024, 7.00 – 9.00 pm (Zoom)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86959822093?pwd=ZnRXTktoRG1TeVVINWtOMkdl dGt4dz09.](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86959822093?pwd=ZnRXTktoRG1TeVVINWtOMkdl dGt4dz09)

Meeting ID: 869 5982 2093.

Passcode: 065266.