

LENZIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2010 IN LENZIE PUBLIC HALL

ACTION

1.0 ATTENDANCE

- 1.1 Rosemary Craig, Liz Ibbotson, Tom Gray, Sandra Thornton, Councillor Anne Jarvis, John McFadden, Ron Hall, Suzanne Smith

2.0 APOLOGIES

- 2.1 Donald MacLeod, Allan Jarvis, Councillor Rhondda Geekie

3.0 POLICE REPORT

- 3.1 Constables Jim McLean and Graham Rankin attended the meeting and provided an update on crime patterns in the Lenzie area. There were 5 crime reports relating to the Lenzie area since the last report, with two detections relating to Breach of the Peace and possession of cannabis. The other three incidents included theft of petrol from a petrol station, the car having false plates, and two vandalisms. There was discussion of problems arising from various 'drinking dens' in secluded spots. The issue of a perceived increase in vehicle speeds on B757 was raised, which might be related to road works traffic hold-ups at the Hornshill slip road on the M80. Constable McLean agreed to look into this if suitable conditions could be established.

4.0 MINUTES 18TH AUGUST MEETING

These were accepted as correct.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING

- 5.1 **Queen's Building Clock** – Eleven businesses in the Queen's Buildings block had been invited to donate to the restoration project, in the light of the overall funding of £205 needed to renew the power supply. Four had responded with donations, two in particular being exceptionally generous. Donations totalled £235. The letter to potential donors had indicated that any excess funds would be held for contingencies or future maintenance. The electrical contractor previously identified had therefore been instructed to go ahead and it is hoped that the clock can be restored to working order before long. There was discussion of how best to publicise restoration of the clock when the time arrives. The Secretary had been given a copy of a newsletter article from the time of the first restoration of the clock and this could form the basis of an interesting news item.

A letter had also been received, declining to donate to the Clock project at this time, but requesting further information on the activities of the Community Council with the possibility that an application for funds could be made on a future occasion. A reply has been sent.

- 5.2 **Easter Gargaber Road Tunnel** – the action to investigate this further with KI had not reached a conclusion, as Duncan Hamilton of KI had been on holiday. However, Councillor Jarvis confirmed the previous information that KI had previously agreed with Network Rail to the effect that, once the KLR was in place, it would ask EDC Roads Department to consider closing the tunnel to vehicular traffic. She added that there had been a request by householders in the past to close the tunnel, but objections had been raised,

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among other factors, noting the need for rapid access for emergency vehicles,. In any event, any proposal for closure would require Traffic Orders, which would in turn give rise to consultation with residents and others.

- 5.3 **AGM arrangements** – Lenzie Academy Library has been booked for 20th October. The topic of the M80 development has been agreed but a speaker has not yet been identified. The Council is required to place a formal notice and public invitation to the AGM in the Kirkintilloch Herald. There was discussion on ways to increase public attendance at the AGM.

SS & TG

6.0 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A report had been circulated to members by email and there had been some subsequent income (Clock Fund, further Gala contribution and a cheque from First Scotrail in respect of Station planters).

7.0 **REPORT ON EDC BUDGET CONSULTATIONS**

Four members have been taking part in the EDC Budget Consultation process, covering five different themes. Experiences had been mixed. In some cases, information and briefing had been good, but in others, insufficient information was provided and facilitation of group discussions poor. However, constructive feedback had resulted in improvements and the general perception of those involved was that the exercise was becoming worthwhile. The next stage would involve a questionnaire survey over a wider range of East Dunbartonshire residents and some doubts were expressed that the required information can be sufficiently distilled and presented to enable meaningful responses. Further feedback had been provided to the Consultation organisers by members.

8.0 **PLANNING**

The Planning Convener had previously circulated a summary of planning applications since the last monthly meeting and it was agreed that there were no contentious proposals apart from two that had been considered at a special meeting of LCC on 7th September, following circulation of reports by the Planning Convener. It was agreed that summaries of the discussions and outcomes of that meeting would be included in the current minutes.

- 8.1 **Wester Gadloch Farm** – this application proposed conversion of steadings to form five dwellings and the formation of a new access onto Robroyston Road, the latter aspect being within North Lanarkshire Council area. It was agreed that a letter of objection should be sent both to East Dunbartonshire Council and North Lanarkshire Council. The main grounds for objection were that the proposed development would be on Green Belt land and did not appear to comply with the requirements for conversions in such cases. There was also concern that granting the application, including the access road, might open the door to further developments in the two Council areas and erode the Green Belt, together with the attractive aspect of the Gadloch as a feature of the local environment. It was reported that a letter, circulated to members, has now been sent and acknowledged by both Councils.

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- 8.2 **Oak Drive development** – Four emails from residents had been received via the website, together with one letter, seeking information about this development and raising objections. The development comprises 15 flatted dwellings in two and three-storey blocks, the aim of the proposal being to provide accommodation for Council tenants. Various misconceptions were evident in many of the communications, but the problems mostly highlighted related to allocation of the flats to tenants. It was noted that this is not a relevant issue in the context of Planning and the correspondents had been so informed. The available information on the development at that stage was considered and a conclusion reached that there were no strong grounds for the Community Council to lodge objections relative to Planning.

Information had been sought on the Council's intentions relative to tenants and it was confirmed that, if and when the accommodation was available for release, it would be allocated according to the normal procedures in the light of the current waiting list, with no special conditions. This information was conveyed in replies to correspondents. However, a subsequent exchange indicated a conflict of information from different Council sources and the existence of this divergence was conveyed to the Ward Councillors.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE

An invitation had been received to attend a special dedication ceremony for The Sanctuary at Stobhill Hospital. Donald MacLeod had agreed to attend.

Copies of papers for EDC Planning Board 14th September; Licensing Board 14th September and a Special Meeting on 26th August concerned with reinstatement of free school transport were received.

10.0 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- 10.1 Rosemary Craig reported that arrangements have been made for the annual Charity Christmas Card Sale in Lenzie Old Parish Church on 13th November. She was thanked for making these arrangements and the event will be placed on the LCC website events calendar.

- 10.2 There was discussion of the arrangements for the Christmas Lights Switch-on. Firstly it was confirmed that EDC staff will be supporting these events as normal. The date was set following normal practice as Saturday 4th December, with a provisional timing of 17:30. Suzanne Smith will circulate an actions list for the necessary arrangements.

SS

- 10.3 It was noted that a long-serving member of the Community Council had retired from the Council and it was considered appropriate to mark this by making a presentation. Ron Hall agreed to consult to determine the most appropriate form of gift for this purpose.

RH

11.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 11.1 The next meeting will be on Wednesday 20th October at 7:00 pm and will be held in Lenzie Academy Library before the Annual General Meeting at 8:00 pm.

ALL