

## Waterside Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of Tuesday 10 May 2022 at Archie's Shed

Present: J. Herriot (Chair); J. Whyte (Secretary); C. Lilly (Communications); M. Todd;  
Cllrs. S. Murray; S. MacDonald; P. Marshall.

Also in attendance: M. Whiteford; C. Notman; D. McFadden; D. Paterson.

Apologies: E. Carlin; K. Chesney-Bathie (Treasurer); I. Bowman.

1. **The first face-to-face meeting** since lockdown two years ago began at 7.35pm.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting** were read and proposed/seconded by C. Lilly and Cllr. Murray.
3. **Matters arising** from these minutes were as follows:
  - 3.1 **Re point 10**, C. Lilly had contacted Jennifer Wiggins of the Greenspace team asking a) for information on open space requirement specific to population of Waterside (we're usually grouped with Kirkintilloch); b) whether anything had been done about climbable carved figures for Moss Rd circle (proposed by Jackie Gillespie); and c) whether anything could be done about a community growing space.
  - 3.2 **Addresses, school:** There had been an email in Sept. from EDC's Jamie Docherty explaining the requirements to get *Waterside* officially returned to local addresses: council support, MP's endorsement and an 80 per cent positive response to a Royal Mail consultation – some 315 addresses involved. Unfortunately, the process had temporarily stalled. The council had now written to Stuart McDonald MP for support. Possible issue: should *Kirkintilloch* remain in address to avoid confusion with other Watersides?  
M. Whiteford complained that signs and invoices to the ASN school said 'Kirkintilloch'.  
Cllr MacDonald said use of 'ASN school, Kirkintilloch' was temporary. J. Herriot pointed out that Waterside's status was being eroded, and asked for the signs to be changed.  
Cllr. MacDonald will take this up with officers. He said the school address will be Waterside. Its name will be consulted on with parents.
4. **Easter Sunday Duck Race:** This had been very successful, helped by lovely weather. £606.53 profit. Takings for duck sales: £900. C. Lilly expressed thanks to all the volunteers who had taken part and everyone who had donated prizes. It was agreed that next year's duck race would be held on Easter Monday. Individual requests had been effective for recruiting volunteers.
5. **Meeting with A. Davie (EDC Depute Chief Executive):** Questions to be finalised for long-awaited Ann Davie meeting (requested by Ian Bowman and followed up repeatedly by Cllr. MacDonald.) Councillors willing to come to meeting if WCC wishes. As well as Ian Bowman, J. Herriot, C. Lilly and M. Todd will attend. One Monday evening in the Shed?
6. **Police report sent by PC. C. Addyman:** 'Over the previous two months we have seen an increase in calls regarding youth disorder. The number of calls is lower than last year. However, with the weather likely to continue to improve, schools on exam leave and lighter nights, this problem will likely remain. Kirkintilloch Police Office is running Operation Saferways this year. This is targeting criminality on open spaces and the canal footpath. We will be robustly Policing the Bing again this year as I believe we did have an impact on the disorder last year. We have also had two calls regarding youths climbing on the building site for the new school and on Gartconner Primary. I am going to tie in with School campus officers to have a chat with the pupils regarding the risks this poses.'  
Other issues: the bench at Moss road roundabout is being kicked, and three boys were seen breaking trees down at Moss Road. There had also been damage to trees along the Luggie.
7. **Garage site on Bankhead Road:** The planning application for a house had been withdrawn. Work is taking place and a notice is up for a roof and garage door showroom coming soon.
8. **CRT improvement fund needs to be spent:** Group: J. Herriot, J. Whyte, Caroline Notman, Karen Chesney-Bathie, C. Lilly. Possibility of a community garden raised. One possible site: derelict dovecotes behind Moss Road. Consultation with pigeon owners may be needed.

Other vacant spaces in the village also worth considering: gardens at 16-18-and 20 Cairnview; site of the former piggery off Alexander Place; other plots throughout village. Cllr. MacDonald suggested looking into Stalled Spaces funding. Group meeting TBA.

9. **Events being planned:** Window Wanderland and scarecrows (?) at Halloween; Christmas Santa deliveries; Santa's grotto by Lisa at Archie's; Easter duck race. Event planning to start earlier. Luggiewatch will continue to do monthly litter picks and occasional bat walks. K. Chesney-Bathie organising walks. May want to get an events team together; also to work with Miners' Charity on events. Lynne Bateman willing to lend expertise and help. Christmas tree (in pot) will be needed.
10. **Waterside Miners' Charitable Society** should be back in governance soon. C. Lilly thanked Cllr. Murray for her advice and expertise, which had put the project in a far better position.
11. **WCC five-year term will be up soon:** J. Herriot happy to continue but also to step down if someone else has more time. It was commented that she was doing a sterling job of chairing. K. Chesney-Bathie to stand down as treasurer. C. Lilly having to do too much. Membership needs to be looked at. Some members haven't attended for over two years. Suggestion that attendees might try bringing a friend. Shed a little small if meetings return to pre-lockdown size. Room at Kirky High £4.93 an hour. No availability at Gartconner.
12. **EDC garage ground sites:** According to *Taking Part* (issue 55, April 2022), EDC's publication for tenants, there are 21 sites in the ED area with availability for garages. We know there is an eventual Local Development Plan intention to build social housing on some or all of these, but this cannot be imminent if EDC is trying to fill vacant lots including at Moss Rd.
13. **Contractor Issues:** J. Herriot reported verbal abuse from workers at temporary traffic lights. She had asked to see the manager and received a rude response from the worker. Cllr. MacDonald investigating.
14. **Congratulations** were expressed to councillors on their (re-)election.
15. **Open Space:** M. Todd asked whether councillors considered Waterside a separate entity re open space/green space per population. (Not a budget thing; greenery.) Cllr. MacDonald: 'Yes.' Local Development Plan decides. Amenity all looked at on a locality basis. Capital programmes are East Dunbartonshire-wide. Cllr. Murray said all three councillors would commit to keeping what open space we have, particularly in view of what we've lost. There's a moral imperative. So what do we have we left? Horse's field, and triangular meadow above stepping stones. All councillors want Waterside to keep its identity.
16. **Fenced in play park likely to be put at Taig Road:** There will be a consultation process.
17. **Correspondence:** CALA has asked if we would like to suggest names for the new development at Duntiblae. We have asked if we can have input into street names too.
18. **Remembering Together:** Artist Elena Harris will attend next WCC meeting to discuss Covid memorial.
19. **Not all buses turning up:** Driver shortage.
20. **Road Safety:** A vehicle had destroyed the fence etc. near the bend by the steps on Bankhead Road. Details of registration passed to Police. Anyone walking would have been killed. Speed test monitoring needed (Cllr. MacDonald will request). Signage might help and traffic calming measures. Cllr. Murray recommended European system of painting figures of children on road. Particularly hazardous stretch given bend, lack of pavement and steps onto road.
21. **Glenluggie lights malfunctioning:** To be reported.
22. **Chair thanked** all those in attendance. Huge thanks to everyone at Archie's too.
23. **Next meeting 14 June (7.30pm at Archie's Shed).**