

WATERSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

Present: C. Lilly (Communications/Administration), J. Whyte (Secretary),

M. Todd, I. Bowman, Cllrs. S. Murray, J. Jamieson.

Also in attendance: D. McFadden, M. Renshaw, L. Renshaw, D. Paterson, D. Carmichael,
C. Notman.

Apologies: E. Carlin, K. Chesney-Bathie. J. Herriot.

Guests: C. Morrison, A. Morrison.

- (1) **Meeting began at 7.40pm.** C. Lilly chaired in the absence of chair J. Herriot.
- (2) **Introductions.** Alex Morrison and his wife, Cat, introduced themselves. Alex hopes to stand as an SNP candidate at next year's council elections. Cllr. J. Jamieson is planning to stand down. We thank him for all he has done for us but hope to see him for a while yet.
- (3) **Minutes of previous** meeting were read. Matters arising are covered below.
- (4) **The offending containers** at the bottom of Taig Road are to be moved soon.
- (5) **The projected cost of the ASN school** has risen to thirty-six million, and will go up still further (as the cost of materials is rising).
- (6) **Estate walkabout** took place on Wednesday 8 September. This was attended by Thos. McMenamin (Executive Officer Roads & Environment). Also present were Cllr. J. Jamieson, Cllr. S. MacDonald, M. Todd, K. Chesney-Bathie, C. Lilly and J. Whyte. Items (7-11) were noted.
- (7) **Overgrowth on school path.** Nettles and other jaggy plants are hazardous to all, especially children. Moss Goat burn is in need of being cleared and dredged. (As T. McMenamin noted, this might help stop some of the flooding on Bankhead Road and Alexander Place.)
- (8) **The gaps in fence at Moss Goat** are felt to pose a danger to kids, who could fall in the burn.
- (9) **Graffiti at Taig Road** needs a proper cover-up.
- (10) **Wall on school path** should be restored.
- (11) **Large hole in pavement at top of school path** with exposed electrical wires; cables and electrical equipment in field alongside. One of the barriers is now beside the burn.
- (12) **Speeding** was again raised as a concern in Waterside. Police have been informed.
- (13) **Road rage incident beside Subscription School.** A driver, who had been asked by bus driver to slow down, apparently followed bus from Newdyke Road and fired shot through windows; fortunately passengers had already got off. Driver shocked but unhurt.
- (14) **Addresses for Waterside.** The Royal Mail is happy for Waterside to be put back in the 316 addresses affected, though there will need to be a ballot. Owing to more than one Moss Road in the area and other address similarities, there have been delivery mix-ups. [Action?]
- (15) **Waterside and Rosebank Greenspace Improvement Plan.** £150,000 is to be spent on open-space mitigation measures in light of the loss of our park. Consultation ongoing amid much local anger at the tiny amount of open space left and EDC council leaders' disingenuous promotion of improvements being made to Waterside without mention of the much greater community loss. Wider greenspace online consultation event on 20 September.
- (16) **Possible event at Halloween.** C. Notman and K. Chesney-Bathie in discussion.
- (17) **Window Wanderland** is going to be advertised for the first weekend in December. C. Notman has yet to be reimbursed for last year's expenses. It was suggested that WCC pay the £150-odd sum if not covered by Waterside Village Events. Proposed by C. Lilly and seconded by D. Carmichael.
- (18) **ASN School.** C. Lilly has been in touch with project manager. Construction company has requested calendar of Waterside events so they can see how they can help. WCC hopes

construction firm/workers won't be seen as the enemy in the village as they are not responsible in any way for EDC's choice of site.

- (19)**Gray Street parking problems.** Turning vehicles in the area is difficult due to fencing that has been erected. M. Renshaw is having problems with lorries etc. using her driveway for this purpose. Cllr. Jamieson investigating what can be done to alleviate the problem.
- (20)**Football pitch.** In the face of rumours to the contrary, we were assured by Cllr. Murray we would be getting a 60 x 90 pitch.
- (21)**Miners Club.** Efforts ongoing to acquire club for the community. Meeting set up with G. Branscombe of EDVA. We need a community centre for the village.
- (22)**Waste not want not.** C. Lilly to set up Facebook page where members of community can advertise items they no longer want that might be of use to someone else.
- (23)**CRT grant.** The CRT Village Improvement Project money has not yet been spent because of lockdown and so on. Members of the wildflowers group had suggested a feature at Craig Crescent as well as planters and so on, but the plans must be reviewed in light of our different open-space circumstances.
- (24)**CALA Homes.** Survey work is being carried out to detect mining works. Questions asked about whether CALA might fund any mitigation measures.
- (25)**Macmillan Funds.** Margaret and Mhairi Todd are very generously doing a huge bake for this and are selling boxes of cakes and desserts. Orders by 20 September.
- (26)**Plastic bags.** H. Stalker had asked D. Carmichael if WCC could obtain clear plastic bags from the council at a discount for her work with homeless people. [Cllr. Murray secured kind EDC one-off donation of bags]
- (27)**Food bank.** It was proposed and agreed that a mobile food bank service come to Waterside for one hour a week. This promises to have a huge variety of goods including dog food, nappies etc. There would be no restrictions on who could use it.
- (28)**Wrap Up.** D. Carmichael mentioned a scheme for unwanted warm/waterproof coats and jackets (clean and in reasonable condition) for adults and children, for distribution by homeless shelters, etc. There will be a collection point in the village.
- (29)**Dog poo signs.** C. Notman suggested need for these on school path (attached to lamp posts). [Action?]
- (30)**ASN school.** Questions were asked about whether a space might be made available to the community for youth groups and other events. A formal request had been made. Attendees were interested in the cost of hiring facilities and whether there would be subsidised room hire as it would likely be out of our reach otherwise. In general council rates vary depending on whether or not community events have an entry fee. One councillor mentioned that the school would have a cafe and that school gardening projects might like volunteers.
- (31)As there was no further corporate business the meeting concluded at 9.05pm. Date of next meeting 12 October. C. Lilly thanked everyone for their attendance.