

WATERSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

Online meeting held on Tuesday 15 Sept. 2020

Present: (Chair) J Herriot, (Secretary) J Whyte,
(Communications) C Lilly, (Treasurer) K Chesney-Bathie,
(Events) L Bateman.

Cllrs. S MacDonald, J Jamieson.

Also: C Quigley, C Willson, L Renshaw, D McFadden.

Apologies: (Vice-chair) S Wilson

- 1) Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.
- 2) **Updates on issues from minutes of last meeting:**
 - i) **Concerns about estate management, weeds and hedges:** Cllr MacDonald had taken up the various issues with EDC's deputy chief executive, who had organized a walkabout by council officers. Updates re action plan in due course.
 - ii) **Tenant/paedophile incident:** EDC head of housing Grant Mackintosh happy to attend a WCC meeting to explain council policy on tenant checks. The person concerned had not been on anyone's radar at the time, though he would be from now on. He wouldn't be returning to Waterside. His outing by a vigilante group had been a really upsetting experience for those in same block. This incident was one of two involving EDC tenants living there, though the previous person had only been in residence for a few days. Word spread very fast round the village about what was happening, with shouting audible from a long way away. Attendees felt that Facebook publicity of this kind does little but harm.
 - iii) **Speeding and antisocial behaviour:** Complaints had been made about the tenants at a particular property, who were clearly running a car business from their drive and causing congestion. There was household rubbish in their garden too. One continued to drive at excessive speed through the village. Cllr MacDonald to look into planning/licences in relation to the property (Do they have permission to run a business from home?). Police are monitoring speeding issues in relation to this.
 - iv) **An EDC Local Development Plan online meeting** about a forthcoming consultation (probably starting at the end of September) had been attended by C Lilly. It concerned nine additional sites put forward by developers for housing, two of particular interest to Waterside: the cow field between Pit Rd and the Luggie, and the unspoiled meadow between the Luggie, the Dam Braes path and Chryston Rd. EDC Planning does not currently support these proposals, but residents should make any views clear during the consultation, since developers are certain to pursue their case and to appeal any decision that goes against them. Once we have further details, WCC will publicize the consultation on the WCC website and Facebook page. It was noted that other sites are also under threat around Waterside but won't be consulted upon this time since there was a consultation last year: the horse's field, land beside Gartconner Primary School...
 - v) **ASN school.** The proposal to build on Waterside playing field had now gone to Planning. Details about the objections deadline to be shared on the website and Facebook page. It was asked whether the council's support for the retention of green belt status by Dougalston golf course (Milngavie) in the LDP might set a useful precedent. However, the golf course case is more similar to the horse's field situation, in that the proposal to build on it comes from developers rather than EDC. Cllr. Jamieson mentioned that, because of severe overcrowding at Campsie View School, part of Gartconner School was to be used. However possible traffic problems had been raised. Cllr. MacDonald asked if

WCC had spoken to neighbouring community councils about the ASN plans. He suggested gauging opinion. Many Rosebank residents share traffic concerns.

- vi) **Bulbs:** D Carmichael is endeavouring to purchase crocuses as part of the Rotary Club End Polio Now campaign. J Herriot asked if she were going to buy tulip bulbs too, as there had been some discussion about this.
- vii) **Miners Club:** Nothing to report yet.
- viii) The minutes were approved by those present.
- 3) Police hadn't yet responded to invitations to online WCC meetings.
- 4) **Events team:** L Bateman said events should not be completely stopped by COVID, though they would need to be tailored to what could be done (assuming there wasn't another lockdown). She hoped Santa could still drop by. The light switch-on wouldn't happen (live-streaming only). Halloween planning was happening. House decoration could go ahead. It might be possible to put buckets out with packaged sweets for children to pick up, but there would need to be protocols if so; regulations would have to be followed; hand sanitizers and supervision would be required. C Quigley mentioned Window Wanderland, for which we had received a CRT grant. Could be Halloween or Christmas. Perhaps Window Wanderland for Christmas and competitions for Halloween: window dressing, online fancy dress. Other Christmas ideas included an online market promoting local businesses and organisations; an online choral event with prior rehearsals; and a Christmas quiz – an online quiz had proved very popular at the start of lockdown, with over 40 participants. East Dunbartonshire Community Response was doing very well and was about to become a Scottish charitable incorporated organization (SCIO). Well done to L Bateman and to everyone involved. L Bateman was hoping for funding for a full-time and part-time post.
- 5) **Waterside addresses:** Some tenants and residents had received letters from Grant Mackintosh about a 'data cleansing' operation giving them a new 'correct' address which didn't include 'Waterside' in it. C Lilly had written to point out that, even if strictly speaking only the postal town and postcode were required, the name of the village was perfectly allowable and residents would prefer it as a) it is part of our identity and b) it is less liable to delivery mistakes where street names are identical in neighbouring settlements (e.g. Moss Road, Lenzie vs Moss Rd, Waterside; Cairnview, Milton of Campsie vs Cairnview, Waterside). Some of the addresses given had other mistakes in them too. Cllr. MacDonald said the local authority determines street names, and Waterside residents are all listed as Waterside on the electoral register; we should highlight the problem to the council as he agreed there could be confusion – Waterside was a very distinct village in its own right and that could not be changed. He also said he would talk to Grant Mackintosh about it. C Lilly mentioned that Postcode Finder in general appears to give the postal town rather than the complete address. Questions to be asked. Two of those present mentioned mix-ups over Moss Rd, Lenzie and Moss Rd, Waterside.
- 6) Council house rendering was ongoing.
- 7) Three food bins on Moss Rd had not been emptied for three weeks.
- 8) Lamp outside D McFadden's house was not working.
- 9) Those present asked if there had been any update on E Wilson, who was undergoing a very serious spinal operation; thoughts and very best wishes went to her and her family.
- 10) J Herriot thanked everyone for 'Zooming in', and particular thanks were extended to D McFadden for hosting the meeting, which closed at 8.45pm.
- 11) Date of next meeting: Tuesday 20 October.
- 12) Stay safe.