

Waterside Community Council

Minutes of Meeting Held on

Present: M. Todd (Chair), J. Whyte (Secretary), C. Lilly (Comms. Coordinator),
F. Gilmour (Village Improvements);
Cllr. S. Murray.

Also in attendance: A Thomson, B. Sewell, E. Harris (Remembering Together project)

Apologies: K. Chesney-Bathie, C. Notman, J. Marks.

No Police Presence.

- (1) Meeting commenced at 7.35pm.
- (2) **Woodland View School update:** There had been a visit to the school (to discuss community use of facilities) by Cllr. Murray and a WCC group. The interior was impressive, with breakout areas, classrooms giving access to small outdoor areas, hydrotherapy and splash pools, soft play area, sensory spaces, gym hall with bleachers, life skills room, and conference room. Pupils and teachers likely to be delighted with facilities. Details of proposed 'community space' near pond provided (shed, noticeboard, raised beds, two compost bins, bench, hard standing). Questions asked about the following: 1) **community use of the car park for events during out-of-school hours** – the parking area nearest Cairnview can be used (and advertised for this as required); EDC would prefer us not to use the rest of the car park, though obviously there is no gate to prevent access; 2) **use of the conference room for WCC/WMCS meetings and of the changing rooms in Gray Street for small group gatherings, bingo, etc** (with a designated keyholder to ensure changing rooms are left as found) – no decision has as yet been given; 3) **use of swings and MUGA at school by local kids** – this would not be possible because of cost of special disability equipment.
- (3) **Biodiversity area:** B. Sewell asked what was to happen to the pond (only a pond because of faulty drainage). He believes it to be potentially dangerous for children, those retrieving balls, and dog walkers. As it is considered unfixable by EDC, his only recourse is to write to the ombudsman. Emails and paperwork received are being passed on to chair.
- (4) **The football pitch** should be ready for use in September.
- (5) **Wrecked fencing at Bankhead Road** still not replaced. M. Todd contacting Gerry Cornes.
- (6) **Luggie pollution:** The issue of barrowloads of rubbish being dumped beside (and sometimes into) the Luggie on private property was again raised. SEPA to be contacted.
- (7) **Village sign:** A. Thomson requested that her suggestion to have two Waterside signs to improve readability from different directions be minuted (omitted from last minutes).
- (8) **Carmelite Monastery:** This is very sadly for sale.
- (9) **Neglect and disrepair** visible throughout village while other places seem better provided for.
- (10) **Remembering Together project:** Elena Harris reported that the outcome of the project will be 12 benches throughout ED with canopies and etched metal designs. Waterside has been selected to receive one. Four designs to choose from. There will be QR codes with music storage for a twenty-minute walk. The bench will be maintained for five years. If it has to be removed for some reason during this period, this will be free of charge. Probable installation: March 2024. Location to be agreed at next meeting.
- (11) **Car boot sale:** One will take place in aid of Waterside Miners Charitable Society at the Miners Club car park on Sunday 10th September (10am-2pm).
- (12) As there was no correspondence or further business, chair thanked attendees, and meeting closed at 9.00pm.
- (13) Next meeting: 12th September.