

East Calder & District Community Council Minutes
East Calder Partnership Centre, 143 Main Street, East Calder, EH53 0EP
Tuesday 4 June 2019

Chris Davidson welcomed all residents to the meeting and asked that no one records the meeting as after the May meeting we found out through social media the voting by elected members of a co-opted member was recorded.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest
None

Present
David Philip (Chair), Chris Davidson, Kenny Ireland, David Ogg, Morag Lyall (Minutes)

Attending
Councillor Carl John, Alan Wright, 15 residents

Apologies
Janet Davidson, Neil Lovett, Councillor Dave King, Councillor Damian Timson, Rev Alistair Cowper, Dr Ian McLeod, Ray Kirk

Minutes from Last Meeting - May 2019
Proposed - Kenny Ireland
Seconded - David Ogg

Matters Arising
Alan Wright asked if there had been any repercussions from the social media post. Chris Davidson advised there were none and the recording wasn't posted on social media.
Alan Wright asked what the reason was for the Community Council not donating to the soup and sandwiches at The Grapes after the Litter Pick? Chris Davidson advised that we checked with Lorraine McGroarty at West Lothian Council who confirmed that the Admin Grant is for administration and a little funding could be used however the Council wouldn't look favourably if the grant was used and then we asked for additional funds for admin later in the year. Councillor Carl John advised previously the community council didn't use funds for litter pick. Alan Wright expressed he felt it was unfair that in the past the piper who does the remembrance service received a bottle of whisky but can't fund litter pick. Chris Davidson advised that the elected members / chair make the decision and had we been asked a few months prior to the Litter Pick taking place we could've discussed. The remembrance is a token every two years with Kirknewton Community Council, in 2018 we have a book token to the teenager who did the Bugle/pipes.

David Philip (Chair) joined the meeting at 19:15.

Councillor's Reports
Councillor Carl John –
Attended Community Transport Forum, Chris Davidson also attended and advised that the forum initially were only looking at the Bus Transport. Six or seven community councils attended.
Triangular Community Bus - Kirknewton where gifted a bus by Horsburgh. If charge fares for using then the insurance is very high however an honesty box could be option where those using the bus give a donation rather than a set fare.
Park & Ride Kirknewton - Objection received from Stirling Developments appealing.

Noticeboards - disturbed to see that sticky tape is being used to put items on the Noticeboard. David Philip said that he'd be formally looking into this and it was raised at the ECCRA AGM on 28 May 2019.

Road closures - partial will share with community council for them to include on website and Facebook page.

Education Quality Review - Carl John advised that Mid Calder Primary has improved in the last 18 months and the new Head Teacher attended every Gala Day event.

David Philip received an email from Councillor Damian Timson advising there will be a Litter Pick in Mid Calder tomorrow (Wednesday 5 June 2019).

Police Report

David Philip advised the next LAC meeting (Local Area Committee) is Thursday 6 June as they meet every 3 months. Will circulate when received.

Treasurer's Report

Current balance - £2,110.23 credit no credits / debits due.

Wilkieston Village Improvement Fund

East Calder funds have been fully allocated.

Wilkieston - Chris Davidson updated that application for Noticeboard, Kevin Paxton did the previous Noticeboard for East Calder has been approached and look to have in place by end of the year. Location Bus Stop on Linburn side to be agreed with West Lothian Planning and Linburn. 2 x 5 ft. benches £850 each, 1 x 4 ft. bench £700. The benches would have Lest We Forget on them currently no timescale.

Ian Inglis from the Military Museum is setting up a Man Shed.

Connie Crawford (Wilkieston Resident) asked if the entrance to Linburn be better for the Noticeboard?

Kenny Ireland asked if Linburn would consider match funding?

David Philip asked if we should invite Rebecca Barr from Scottish War Blinded to the Community Council Meeting in September?

Connie Crawford (Wilkieston Resident) suggested rose beds for the village? David Philip advised that it would require volunteers to manage upkeep/watering etc. as West Lothian Council have cut back on garden maintenance. Morag Lyall advised that Ann who was previously on the Community Council spoke to Linburn around 2-3 years ago who agreed to adopt the two planted areas on the Linburn side of Wilkieston.

East Calder & District Website, Facebook & E-Mail Address Admin

Alan Wright gave update on the stats over 28 days 435 unique users, Gala page had 432 visits, followed by Home Page and East Calder Local News Page.

1st - Google Search, 2nd - Direct to pages, 3rd - Facebook David

Philip suggested adding a Planning page to the website and it was thought that this was a good idea so long as it is kept up to date. Could have a brief synopsis and Kenny Ireland suggested link with the weekly planning list.

Would also be good to have information from Community Groups as website is for the benefit of the community.

Lindsay & Gilmour chemist have a new service which they wanted to advertise through our website and Facebook page however Alan Wright advised it was more a commercial service they are offering rather than community.

Alan Wright advised that the activity on website and Facebook is decent, will keep an eye and report monthly.

Planning

Kirknewton Park & Ride - Objection from Stirling Developments to the Appeal.

Broompark - Awaiting Planning Application from Malcolm Jones (agent for Mr Dalton).

3G Pitch - Friends of the Park Becky Plunkett, Environmental Health looked at it from a housing point of view. The Community Council raised that parking is an issue and suggested extended from the Partnership Centre and that we would like more transparency. Ian. (Resident) expressed not happy that wasn't consulted over the 3G pitch location. Tony Irving as replied advising that 27 Raw Holdings is more than 20 metres from the application. David Philip mentioned that the Community Council paid for an advert in the Konnect Magazine in respect of the survey and there was an advert in the Courier on 16 May 2019. Councillor Carl John will speak to Tony Irving on 5 June 2019, Ian has no issue with the 29 metre rule if it's from his fence, however the lighting would be an issue? David Philip advised that there was a Halliday survey pushed for in respect of the lighting at night and this had been undertaken.

East Calder High School Proposed Meeting

David Philip suggested that it would be good to have a closed meeting with the key decision makers from West Lothian Council, Councillor's, Community Council and Other Community Council's (Kirknewton, Mid Calder, Pumpherston) to ascertain facts / figures along with what is potentially going to happen in respect of High School provision etc.

Some of the questions discussed –

Could we ring fence the money from the Calderwood contributions?

Whilst the primary school looks great the negative is more around the High School (Winchburgh for Calderwood and West Calder High for East Calder residents) would mean dividing the community.

Mr Veitch's land was ring fenced for East Calder High School zoned for educational. A request from Colin Grieve was sent to Tony Irving (West Lothian Council) three months ago for the space to be rezoned to date no response. Steven Kiakowski advised that the latest email has expressed will take higher. Colin Grieve asked if Councillor Carl John could take forward?

Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board Update

Neil Lovett will update at next meeting.

Neighbourhood Watch / Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board Community Meeting

David Philip proposed we facilitate in the Main Room of the Partnership Centre at our AGM in October.

Raw Holdings (Mr Euan Robertson, Billy Clifford's Agent)

David Philip advised that we have asked for an extension and affects the Raw Holdings residents more so than the Community Council. As a Community Council we can only facilitate the meeting between residents and Mr Clifford's Agent as it is a civil dispute. Alan Wright suggested Raw Holdings residents consult their individual lawyers to check the title deeds for each property.

Any Other Business

East Calder Hub - Steven Kiakowski updated by advising still awaiting response from Tony Irving (West Lothian Council). The area is zoned for High School and there is an Educational Plan for the future. Funds and Backers for the Hub are all in place will support Retail / Social Services. Will keep community council updated.

Alan Wright advised that the Section 75 Calderwood commitment is to provide two primary schools and one high school there is nothing to stop Euan Veitch or anyone else submitting a planning application. The Council could refuse, unofficial of you go ahead with application, then goes to committee, office refuse, give evidence right to appeal.

There being no other business the meeting was closed.

Next Meeting -

Venue - East Calder Partnership Centre, 143 Main Streets, East Calder,
EH53 0EP Date - Tuesday 6 August 2019 Time - 19:00