

MURIESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9 APRIL 2015
held at Williamston Primary School at 7 pm
web: <http://murieston.communitycouncil.org.uk>

1. Present:

Kim Vance, Ian Brown, Davidson McQuarrie, David Cooper, Lorna Cooper, June Keddie, Frank Mustard; Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick; Superintendent Kevin Kerr
Kim Vance assumed Chair tonight as Arthur Marris was unable to attend.

Apologies: Arthur Marris, Chris Dryden, Ron Skirving, Tania Armstrong, Alex Hendry;
Councillor John Muir; PC Alan James

Guests: Mrs. Jackie Johnston, Mrs. Diane Rae

2. Minutes of the Meeting on 12 March 2015:

Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting on 12 March with a minor change was proposed by Frank Mustard and seconded by Lorna Cooper. Carried.

3. Matters Arising:

None.

4. Finances:

No expenditure. Finances are as reported at the previous meeting.

5. Community Policing:

No report is available tonight.

6. Councillor's Report:

Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick gave a report.

The new build of Murieston Medical Practice will now be built on a different footprint to avoid utility services running under the site. There is no date for the start of the build.

No response yet from Abellio about the need for an extra carriage on morning commuter trains on the Shotts line'

No response yet from Network Rail about the planned work for the two road bridges, on Murieston Road at Bellsquarry Road South and at Brucefield Park West, required for the electrification of the Shotts line

No response yet regarding the proposed pedestrian refuge on Murieston Road beside the new Cala estate at West Cairn View.

Councillor Fitzpatrick confirmed that the Council takes a neutral stance on informal memorials and this applies to the memorial at Campbridge Pond.

7. Murieston Environmental Group (MEG) - <http://meg.btck.co.uk> :

Kim Vance reported.

The annual Toad Patrol rescue evenings for toads and frogs was run regularly over 10 days at Murieston Road. MEG are providing mesh for drains.

All planned work funded by the Blue Green Network has now been completed on the stairs, banisters etc. Dog and multi-purpose bins have been provided. A snagging list is being prepared.

A waste bin has been burnt out in the Lane. It is awkwardly placed for replacement.

8. Murieston Local History Group :

Nothing to report.

9. Land Strip between Rothies Drive and Tarbert Drive:

Mrs. Johnston and Mrs. Rae were attending tonight to raise problems they were having with the use of the land strip of Rothies Drive and Tarbert Drive. This land had been sold by the Scottish Greenbelt Company to a contractor from Edinburgh who has stated tipping commercial waste there and is cutting down shrubs etc.. The residents in Rothies Drive have spoken to the contractor several times regarding unneighbourly activities but he has failed to engage with them. Councillor Fitzpatrick advised that there were regulations regarding tipping of commercial

waste which will probably also apply regarding this use of private land. He will ask the Council's environmental and planning officers to investigate and initiate appropriate action.

10. Windfarms:

Nothing to report.

11. Community Website - murieston.communitycouncil.org.uk

No report this month.

12. Community Allotments:

Ian Brown reported to the meeting.

Ian has received a quote of £2,000 from the Scottish Agricultural College for the cost of testing the soil and restorative work.

Blackridge Primary is also proposing to set up a similar garden scheme for outdoor learning.

Ian asked if it is OK for the Community Council to seek funds specifically for costs of the soil sampling and analysis. This approach was agreed by the meeting and Ian intimated he would contact Michelle Kirkbride to discuss funding possibilities.

Ian handed out copies of a recent report by Scottish Natural Heritage about a study on outdoor learning in schools and pre-schools.

13. Local Development Plan:

The Main Issues Report will be considered by the Development Scrutiny Committee in May.

14. Planning Consent to build one house in Murieston Valley beside Moriston Drive (0264/FUL/14):

Councillor Fitzpatrick left the meeting before this item was discussed.

The meeting debated what further action was appropriate.

15. Planning Applications:

Ian Brown reported.

Starbucks have made a planning application for a drive through restaurant and shop in the town centre.

16. Correspondence:

None.

17. Any Other Business:

We will be attending the Terrace Restaurant at Wesr Lothian College following the AGM in June.

The Meeting closed at 8.35 pm

The next Community Council meeting will be on Thursday, 14 May 2015 at 7 pm in the Staff Room at Williamston Primary School