

MURIESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9 OCTOBER 2014
held at Williamston Primary School at 7 pm
web: <http://www.muriestoncommunity.com>

1. Present:

Chris Dryden, Ron Skirving, Davidson McQuarrie, Ian Brown, David Cooper, Lorna Cooper, Carol Hallesy, Frank Mustard; Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick; Superintendent Kevin Kerr
Apologies: Arthur Marris, Kim Vance, Tania Armstrong, Alex Hendry, June Keddie, Nick Lansdell

Guests: Matthew Hallesy

Bellsquarry Community Council: Mrs. Christine Hay, Peter Jeppeson, Jim Wilkie
Chris Dryden assumed Chair tonight in the absence of Arthur Marris

2. Minutes of the Meeting on 11 September 2014:

Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting on 11 September was proposed by Carol Hallesy and seconded by David Cooper. Carried.

3. Matters Arising:

A minor change was agreed and will be made for publication.

4. Finances:

Ron Skirving reported that the bank account stands at £1,912.53.

Ron is arranging online banking for the MCC account.

A resolution was proposed by Davidson McQuarrie and seconded by Ron Skirving to arrange the online banking account.

The resolution was carried by the meeting unanimously.

The online bank account mandate forms will be completed by each of the nominated signatories and submitted to the Bank.

5. Community Policing:

No report is available tonight as there is no officer representing Livingston Police Office.

6. Councillor's Report:

Councillor Fitzpatrick gave a short report :-

Councillor Fitzpatrick imparted the sad news that Councillor Danny Logue's wife had died last week and her funeral had been held yesterday.

Several houses at the new Cala estate at Wellhead Farm are now being occupied and Councillor Fitzpatrick has asked Council officers to ascertain when the pedestrian refuge on Murieston Road will be installed. Cala Homes had agreed to fund the traffic island.

A paper is going before the Council's Education Committee covering planning for projected requirements for children requiring additional support needs. Currently additional support needs for children are provided at Dedridge Primary School which has an autism centre, Ogilvie School at Knightsridge, Connolly School in Blackburn, St. Mary's Primary at Polbeth and Burnhouse School in Whitburn.

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

No-one representing MEG is at tonight's meeting and no report is available.

8. Windfarms:

Ian Brown advised there was no report tonight.

Ian had represented Murieston Community Council at the West Lothian Development Trust AGM on 24 September at the Fauldhouse Partnership Centre. We will be involved in apportionment of future community benefits.

9. Community Website - www.muriestoncommunity.com :

Copies of minutes for all meetings and the current agenda are being posted there.

10. Community Allotments:

Ian Brown reported to the meeting.

Funding is still being sought to pay for soil testing of the meadow land beside Murieston House.

The allotments are Killandean are progressing. The Scotsman had an article recently on this scheme.

11. Single Outcome Agreement:

Ron Skirving asked for feedback from community councillors on issues and experiences they, family and friends have.

12. Local Development Plan:

Ian Brown reported.

The Local Development Plan is now being prepared by the Council to provide an updated development strategy and planning policy framework for the period up to 2024.

The Council has published their Main Issues Report for public consultation (closing date 17 October).

The MIR is the main engagement stage in preparing the Local Development Plan and is primarily a discussion document designed to highlight a series of key issues and stimulate debate about where future development should and should not go. The Council has set out a *preferred* development strategy for the area as well as an *alternative* strategy. These include the identification of preferred development sites together with alternative options.

Our planning consultant, Malcolm Inkster earlier today forwarded his draft response which will form the basis of our submission to the consultation on the Main Issues Report. Ian had met with Malcolm Inkster last week and they visited a number of sites which are proposed for the development strategy.

A number of the development proposals affecting Murieston, Bellsquarry and Adambrae were discussed at the meeting. These included the proposals for 100 houses at Wellhead Farm and 250 houses at Linhouse and Murieston Castle Farm as a preferred alternative site for 375 houses.

It was agreed that officers of both Murieston and Bellsquarry Community Councils will meet this Saturday to finalise our joint submission to the Main Issues Report.

The Secretary confirmed he had asked the Council's Chief Executive for an extension of time to enable a consultation with the residents of Murieston and requested a public meeting at which the Council planners can set out the options affecting south Livingston. These requests were declined by the Chief Executive.

13. Planning Applications:

There is no further update on the planning application to build one house in Murieston Valley beside Moriston Drive (0264/FUL/14).

14. Correspondence:

The Council has asked community councils to review proposals to update the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in West Lothian. The Secretary will review the proposals and respond. Individual community councillors are also invited to respond.

15. Any Other Business:

Chris Dryden advised there were fourteen responses to the questionnaire distributed last month to residents in Murieston Valley re. the factoring service provided by the Scottish Greenbelt Co.

The Meeting closed at 8.30 pm

The next Community Council meeting will be on Thursday, 13 November 2014 at 7 pm in the Staff Room at Williamston Primary School