

LENZIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH MARCH 2010 IN PUBLIC HALL LENZIE

ACTION

1.0 ATTENDANCE

- 1.1 Rosemary Craig, Liz Ibbotson, Tom Gray, John McFadden, Ron Hall, Suzanne Smith, Anne Jarvis, Alan Jarvis, Donald MacLeod, Rhondda Geekie

Two members of the public attended.

Chair had intimated late arrival and the Vice Chair officiated.

2.0 APOLOGIES

- 2.1 Sandra Thornton

3.0 POLICE REPORT

- 3.1 Constables Ian Marshall and Jennifer Murray attended. This was their first meeting as part of an eight strong Community Police team. Constable Marshall is a supporter of walking patrols and hopes that they will be able to maintain such a pattern. This was welcomed by the Council. The overall crime pattern in the Lenzie part of the Ward remains low at present. Three crimes relating to residential property had been reported since the last meeting and four in commercial property. Theft of petrol from filling stations by driving off without paying and theft of number plates had been reported.

Early notice was given of the need for Police presence at the Lenzie Gala on 4th June, together with a request to have the use of the mobile police office, if available on the day.

Police

4.0 MINUTES OF 16TH FEBRUARY MEETING

- 4.1 These minutes were approved.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING

- 5.1 **Greenbelt Issues** – Planning Convener confirmed that objections to the proposals to move Greenbelt boundaries at Meadowburn and Claddens East had been submitted on time on 10th March. It was agreed that there was no need to circulate members with the final submission and this would be retained on file by the Convener. John McFadden was warmly thanked for his exemplary work on this issue.

Subsequent letter from Development and Infrastructure noted that the Meadowburn proposal had resulted in 62 responses, together with a 292 signature petition and the Claddens East proposal resulted in 160 responses. Responses were also received Scottish Natural Heritage (suggested Claddens East proposed area should be wooded greenspace), Historic Scotland, SPT, Jo Swinson MP, Margaret Mitchell MSP, David Whitton MSP, four Local Councillors and four Community Councils, including LCC.

- 5.2 **Liaison Committee** – In relation to the matter raised concerning difficulties in accessing Planning information, Councillor Geekie indicated she

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would follow up that item.

Email from Councillor Geekie since the meeting reports that the online plans facility should be ready 'over the next couple of months'.

6.0 TREASURER'S REPORT

- 6.1 The Council's accounts have had a considerable boost from the Awards for All Fund to the extent of £2,850 with respect to support for Gala expenses (reported at last meeting). As a result, the accounts stand at £5,530 and £840 respectively.

7.0 PLANNING

- 7.1 **Planning list** – A list of Planning applications since the last meeting had been circulated by the Convener, with associated comments noting that the proposals did not seem to raise any issues relevant to the community as a whole.

8.0 PHARMACY APPLICATION – ALEXANDRA AVENUE

- 8.1 A letter had been received from NHS reporting that the Board's Pharmacy Practices Committee had refused permission for the above application. The reason seemed to be that the Committee had not been persuaded that the existing pharmacy at Queen's Buildings is unable to provide sufficient pharmacy service to Lenzie. The volume of prescriptions dispensed is low relative to the population, but it is accepted that the fact that most residents are using medical practices in Kirkintilloch means that a greater volume of dispensing is being carried out by Kirkintilloch pharmacies. The NHS letter also highlighted the adverse effects of poor parking provision on the viability of the existing pharmacy, but noted that similar difficulties would be faced relative to the Alexandra Avenue proposal.
- 8.2 It was noted in the context of the Queen's Buildings shopping provision that Peckham's has been put up for sale. The reason given related to the company's recent strategy to develop larger shops and three smaller shops have been put on the market for sale. However, the view was expressed that most of the businesses in this shopping area are probably affected adversely by poor parking provision.

9.0 GALA

- 9.1 **Preparations** - The Gala Convener advised that advertising space had been booked in G66 and circulated a draft advertisement which was approved. There has been a good and early response from organisations wishing to take part. Various possibilities for additional entertainment, using the Awards for All funding are being examined and these were discussed. Agreement has been reached for a bigger area of staging (30 x 20 m). There was discussion of electrical power requirements and it was suggested that the Council might consider buying a suitable generator which would be operated by the Scouts. Discussion on the steam train concluded that this is a popular item.

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An action list has been issued and members indicated for actions on that are encouraged to complete as necessary and report status to the Convener.

EI & ALL

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 **Gadloch** – copies of letters from East Dunbartonshire and North Lanarkshire Councils to Lenzie Golf Club and others had been received. The NL letters responded to several points concerning the Robroyston Attenuation scheme, the history of the Gadloch, the possible condition of the outflow tunnel and the reasoning of the Roads Department in recommending against formation of an access road to the proposed housing development at Wester Gadloch Farm. It was also noted that a new Flood Risk Management Act (2009) meant that in future such plans would require to be formulated on a catchment area basis, rather than on a local authority basis. However, the ability of local authorities to address such flood risks will depend on funding. Nevertheless, the Head of Roads and Transportation stated that 'further enquiries will be made regarding an inspection of the tunnel inlet over the short length within North Lanarkshire provided it is safe to do so and water levels permit'. Current observations show that, even when several days have passed without precipitation, the water level reduces only slightly over time, suggesting that the outlet is indeed badly blocked. As a result, the water level continues to rise whenever there has been some rain, above previously unknown levels. Comments from various interested parties, including the Golf Club, suggest that action to clear the blockage can be taken when the level goes down naturally but it seems possible that such an outcome cannot be depended upon according to current observations.

10.2 **Request for funding re Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme** – This request was received with respect to a group of pupils at Lenzie Academy, planning a trip to Morocco this summer. The Committee wished to be supportive of this venture from the point of view of its local origins and the outstanding development benefits experienced by Duke of Edinburgh Award participants. Concern was expressed about setting a precedent which could make future, similar requests difficult to refuse. Given the fact that the Council had previously given some support to individual young persons on similar ventures, it was agreed that a grant of £100 be awarded and that any future requests should be dealt with on a case by case basis.

10.3 **Website contacts re developments** – a request had been received for information on potential developments at Woodilee but at locations not within the current building development consortium control. The correspondent had been advised to contact ED Planning Department. There had also been a report by via the website contact that investigations were being made concerning an alternative route to the Rugby Club via the area near Lenzie Moss School. This was noted.

11.0 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

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- 11.1 **Queen's Buildings clock** – it was noted that it is becoming feasible to complete this restoration, in terms of the weather, but access problems remain. A request was made to investigate hiring a lighting wagon from EDC Roads Department to assist in this task. A cost of £30 had previously been indicated informally. This was agreed if necessary. **TG**
- 11.2 **Proposal for Public Discussion on AV** - a member asked for the Council's response to a suggestion of organising a Public Meeting at which information could be given on the Alternative Vote System of election, which is the subject of a forthcoming national referendum. In format, it was suggested that there might be two speakers from each side of the argument, followed by questions and discussion. Various views were expressed on such a proposal, but there were concerns that promotion of a meeting on such a topic might infringe the Council's non-party-political status, albeit that the issue is to an extent cross-Party. The time-scale to mount such a meeting at this stage was also a factor and it was decided not to proceed with this. Nevertheless, the concept that the Community Council might in future promote public meetings on topics of similar interest was welcomed. **ALL**
- 12.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
- 12.1 The next meeting will be on Wednesday 20th April at 7:00 pm and will be held in Lenzie Public Hall. **ALL**