

LENZIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 19th february 2014
in the committee room at Lenzie Hall

ACTION

1.0 ATTENDANCE

- 1.1 Liz Ibbotson, John McFadden, Tony Miles, Suzanne Smith, Tom Gray, Ron Hall, Pat Munro, Donald MacLeod, Christine Morrison

2.0 APOLOGIES

- 2.1 Councillor Jarvis, Rosemary Craig, Sandra Thornton, Councillor Geekie

3.0 POLICE REPORT

- 3.1 Officer Jennifer Murray attended. There had been 17 crime reports since the last meeting of the Council but it was emphasised that this covered over two months including the Christmas/New Year break. Six of these crimes had led to arrests. There had been 78 calls to Police in the same period – a fair proportion of which were in relation to traffic issues. There were some housebreakings – in some cases through easy-entries such as hopper windows and residents were advised to be vigilant with respect to security issues. A member reported a suspected fraudulent caller on an elderly person and it appears that this type of crime is still prevalent in the area. Immediate reporting of such situations is advised. A parked car near to the Station had been stolen and it was noted that this was an older type of car with less secure systems. Officer Murray apologised for the lack of Police support at the Jog event. This had been properly requested and agreed to, but miscommunication on the day meant that no officers were detailed to attend. A member suggested that we might try a reminder notice just before the event on future occasions. Officer Murray was thanked for her report.

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4.0 NEW YEAR JOG REVIEW

- 4.1 Robert Rogerson was unable to attend due to another engagement but had supplied a comprehensive and helpful written review of this year's event. This included several good suggestions for the future and it was agreed to recall these in November or so, in preparation for an event in 2015. There was some discussion of costs and income, which had increased due to the increase in participant numbers. It was decided to reconsider these at the planning phase but the general opinion was that the reputation of the Community Council is much enhanced by the event and it is perhaps reasonable that the Olympians mostly benefit from the income, once all expenses are accounted for.

5.0 MINUTES OF 11TH DECEMBER

- 5.1 These were accepted with two additions, shown in the minutes now posted on the website, at 4.1 (Lenzie Academy Liaison group) and 11.3.

6.0 MATTERS ARISING

- 6.1 Action on Lenzie Academy Liaison is continuing with a meeting scheduled week beginning 24th February.

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- 6.2 **Post Office** – Refurbishment of the present Branch has not been started, as planned for mid-January and unofficial information suggests that the Post Office is considering a different option. The owners of Day Today convenience store, who were to have taken over the present PO Branch premises, do not know what is intended and would welcome the support of LCC. It was agreed that Jo Swinson MP should be informed of the situation.

Also arising from the December meeting, letters of support were sent to the owners of Day Today and Billington's. Both had expressed appreciation of our letters. A similar letter will also be sent to the Wineseller when contact details are available.

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7.0 TREASURER'S REPORT

- 7.1 The Treasurer reported that LCC Funds stand at £3,155.94 after allowance has been made for an issued but uncashed cheque arising from the Jog

8.0 PLANNING

- 8.1 **Applications list** - The list of applications since the last meeting had been circulated and there were no comments on these.

- 8.2 **Housing development at Parkburn Avenue** – It was established initially that this application has been directed only at LCC, although the boundary between LCC and Kirkintilloch CC crosses the site. General comments from members were favourable regarding the need for housing of this type and the appearance of the development as shown in the architectural presentation. No adverse comments had been received from local residents.

However, it was noted that the site proposed is currently a somewhat derelict and apparently unused football pitch and there was some concern that, if the development were to go ahead, open space would be lost without apparent compensation. This concern related to another item to be considered later under 'Correspondence' concerning the high costs to voluntary youth organisations of hiring football pitches. It was established that EDC appear to own the ground which is being sold to a developer and it was agreed Ward Councillors should be contacted to press for some of the income from that source to be directed towards playing field provision, which is in crisis at present.

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9.0 FIELD OF DREAMS

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- 9.1 It had been suggested by a member that LCC should consider giving special support to Deaf Blind Scotland, which is a major charity located within our Community. Their Field of Dreams project takes the form of a resource centre located adjacent to the Link Road and it has received Planning permission. It was agreed that Liz Ibbotson and Ron Hall should meet with Drena O'Malley of Deaf Blind Scotland to discuss support options and determine what might be achieved.

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10.0 GALA SUB-COMMITTEE

- 10.1 It had been agreed previously that a Gala sub-committee should be formed. The following members were nominated and accepted:- Pat Munro, Liz Ibbotson, Tony Miles and Christine Morrison.

PM LI
AM CM

- 10.2 Tony Miles suggested an exercise to check out the LCC tent by erecting it in a suitable space in the Hall would save time at the Gala. He was commissioned to make the arrangements and recruit assistance as necessary.

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11.0 FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT AND BAKE-OFF EVENT

- 11.1 Two important events have been planned by the Lenzie Fairtrade Group – a visit from a Nicaraguan coffee producer, who will visit Holy Family and Millersneuk Schools (both Fairtrade Schools) on 25th February and a Bake-Off competition in Lenzie Union Parish Church Hall on 8th March (see LCC website).

12.0 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

- 12.1 **Community Councils' Liaison Committee** – Chairman and Secretary attended this meeting on 13th January. Minutes from the meeting are not yet to hand. However, various points concerning the Scheme of Establishment were made, as noted in 9.3 of November 2013 and 7.2 of December minutes. The Democratic Services Manager agreed that certain aspects of the scheme were inconsistent and required further work, notwithstanding the fact that the Council had approved the Scheme.

- 12.2 **Access Forum** – The Secretary attended this meeting on 13th January, which was mainly concerned with Rights of Way and walking and cycling access. An item of particular note to Lenzie was that a previous recommendation of the Access Forum to create dropped kerbs on Crosshill Road to facilitate access to the Gadloch Path has been acted on by EDC roads. Unfortunately a length of the path is still flooded. A request for information has been submitted to the SEPA enquiry system but no response has arrived so far.

- 12.3 **Active Travel workshop** - The Secretary attended this meeting on 5th February. Most of the meeting was occupied by consultation on a proposed scheme for cycle tracks on a considerable length of the A81 in Bearsden. The main feature of this scheme is that it is totally segregated – vehicles cannot encroach or park on the cycle tracks but

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there is space for householder and business-related car parking. If this scheme is successful, it may be possible to implement similar schemes in our own area.13

13.0 CORRESPONDENCE

13.1 **Communication from Ian Stevenson** – Ian Stevenson is a volunteer who has been running successful youth football clubs in Lenzie for decades and LCC has supported his work with small donations to special events, such as the Primary Schools section of the Youth Football Festival. Teams currently cover 12 age groups. In thanking LCC for this donation, he has explained the crisis which has arisen in locating affordable playing fields. Playing fields at Boghead are unusable due to insufficient ground maintenance and astroturf pitches at schools in East Dunbartonshire cost between £80 and 120. Fees at North Lanarkshire pitches are around £30, which is more affordable. So far he has not been able to gain any relaxation of these costs. LCC members were sympathetic to the situation and agreed to explore the reasons for these differences with EDC and to investigate any opportunities that might be known to Fiona McLeod MSP or the Sport Scotland Active Schools initiative.

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13.2 **Licensing applications** – It was reported via Licensing Board minutes that Day Today store had been granted an alcohol license, subject to certain conditions restricting the sale of certain products commonly associated with alcohol abuse. It was noted that this restriction does not apply to other similar outlets in Lenzie and such products are in fact sold in certain of these outlets. Dialogue with EDC Licensing Officer indicates that the Board would welcome comment from Community Councils and it was agreed to communicate a view that, whereas the Council supports the principle of restricting sales of certain products for the reasons stated, members believe that this restriction should be applied consistently to all similar premises in the district.

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13.3 **Public comment on new Co-op Traffic arrangements** – LCC has received several comments from a local Primary School parent, criticising the traffic arrangements at the new Co-op Store and claiming that they are unsafe. The particular point is that there are no restrictions on the use of the area directly in front of the entrance door and vehicles can move through this area and/or park, potentially affecting the safety of pedestrians and shop users, including children. In the original Planning Application this area was designated for loading/unloading goods but no such restriction is now evident. The area is being used by private vehicles, even when there are parking spaces available in the officially designated spaces on Cedar Drive and there are occasions when drivers sit outside the store with engines idling for considerable periods. LCC agreed to bring this to the attention of the Co-op Manager, Planning, Roads and Police.

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14.0 **Date of next meeting** – 19th March 2014