

## Lenzie Community Council (LCC)

Minutes of the monthly meeting in Dean House on Wednesday 20/11/2024 at 7.00 pm

		Actions
<b>1.0</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	
<b>1.1</b>	<b>Members</b> -; Drena O'Malley; Jack Cook; Murdoch Wilson; Mark Billington; Aileen Mundy	
<b>1.2</b>	<b>Residents</b> - Margaret Whitelaw; Mohammed Zeeshan; Wendy Stirling; David Cameron; Colin Macdonald; Liz Ibbotson; David Mason Karen Mason; Fiona Kirkland; Emma Donaldson; Mariam Martin	
<b>1.3</b>	<b>Guests</b> – Jude Kerr	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	
<b>2.1</b>	Tom Gray; Chris Gilroy; Laura Henderson; Moira McCafferty	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>A NUMBER OF RESIDENTS ATTENDED AS POTENTIAL NEW LCC MEMBERS</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Welcome</b> - Drena welcomed the residents and all attendees introduced themselves.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Police Report</b> – Aidan Adams is no longer to be responsible for the provision of a police report. Aidan has taken up a new post and will no longer be community police officer for Lenzie. Another policeperson will be appointed soon.	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Minutes of the Meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2024</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	The minutes were proposed by Murdoch Wilson and seconded by Jack Cook that these minutes are accepted as correct	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	<p><b>Place Plans</b> – Jack pointed out that the Local Place Plans (LPP) will help inform the next Local Development Plan (LDP). Drena then invited ideas from the attendees to be considered for inclusion in a place plan both verbally and by writing ideas on the circulated sheets of paper. The ideas will be collated and made available for information at the Lenzie Information Day and at the next LCC meeting. The two verbal proposals were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Create a 3K dedicated cycling/walking/running pathway to include along the old railway line down to Parkview Avenue in a circular route. This will be a Major asset to Lenzie.</li> <li>✚ A senior Co-Housing project for the residents of Lenzie and South Kirkintilloch. There already has been significant work on Senior Co-Housing carried out by Lenzie Community Development Trust and this and the People for Places model will both significantly inform any future Place Plans</li> </ul>	
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Replacement of Lenzie Academy (LA) /Save Whitegates</b>	

<p><b>Park</b> – Colin Macdonald spoke first and requested clarification on the issue of protected Greenspaces. Would any current protected Greenspaces have their protection carried over into any newly created Local Development Plans? The clarification was that current protected Greenspaces may have their status retained in new place plans, but this is not guaranteed, and their status may change.</p> <p>Wendy referred to the perceived flaws in the feasibility studies that were carried out on all the possible site options for the new Lenzie Academy School and stated she has a paper trail for all her evidence on the feasibility studies. There were 11 options of which 4 sites were shortlisted to be considered by the council and a preferred site identified. The 4 options were 1) The existing site, 2) Boghead Road, 3) Whitegates Park and 4) Lenzie Academy plus part of the Rugby Club ground.</p> <p>Wendy stated that most large projects in their selection process use a scoring matrix to aid in the decision making and a scoring matrix was used in an early survey for the Additional Support Needs (ASN) School in 2017. A Freedom of Information (FOI) request was submitted to East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) requesting their decision matrix for the new Lenzie Academy and the reply was that there had not been a scoring matrix compiled for this project. The technical officers advised the councillors to vote for option 3 at the council meeting when the decision was made. Wendy stated that the Whitegates site scored the lowest opportunities and the highest challenges and appeared to be the least preferred site. In light of this Wendy had two questions that she requested LCC to ask EDC formally. They are: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why would technical officers advise council to approve the site with the most challenges and least opportunities?</li> <li>2. Why was there no scoring matrix applied as was the case for the Additional Support Needs (ASN) School in 2017?</li> </ol> <p>LCC will ask the council these questions and are awaiting responses to Wendy’s questions to the council that she raised at a previous meeting. Drena as acting chair affirmed that she would ask these additional questions and press the council for answers to all Wendy’s questions.</p> <p>A formal complaint had been lodged with the council regarding the question that a scoring matrix was not created and used. The answer was that the council looked at the 4 sites and vetoed some of them. An example was Boghead road was vetoed as there is a drainage outfall from the Gadloch to the Park Burn and this drainage system will not tolerate any engineering work above it.</p> <p>Both Jack and David Mason (a geoenvironmental officer) stated that not all projects can be decided upon with a scoring matrix and the final decision is not just a simple mathematical decision on which site scores best. There are judgements that have to be made that do not fit into any mathematical scoring system. It was also stated that traffic management at Boghead is not competent enough to support a school site.</p> <p>David Cameron stated that the education questions were poorly structured which were against the children’s rights, and he has complained to the EDC Education department.</p> <p>EDC have stated they will provide mitigation for the loss of the park by building a football pitch, but this will not save all the plant, animal and insect life in Whitegates park. Also, this may involve moving contaminated</p>	<p>Drena O’Malley</p>
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	<p>ground. His advice was not to focus on technical issues but focus scrutiny on whether EDC followed correct planning procedures. David will supply a question for LCC to include in their questions to EDC regarding the decision to site the school in Whitegates Park.</p> <p>Drena stated that LCC will ensure that the agreed planning consultation steps happen.</p>	David Cameron
<b>6.3</b>	<p><b>Lenzie Town Hall</b> - Emma Donaldson raised the issue that the town hall has been lying empty and unused for some time. Emma highlighted a number of excellent community uses the town hall could be used for and the stalled arrangements to refurbish the hall were also discussed.</p> <p>Drena requested that Emma prepare and submit a paper to LCC covering all the points raised and this issue will be fully discussed at a future meeting with LCC members informed by Emma's paper.</p>	Emma Donaldson
<b>6.4</b>	<p><b>Westerhill Development</b> – This project has been scaled back due to lack of funding. The budget was £2.2 million short however the central part of the development is going ahead. Paths for walkers and cyclists are still shown in the plans but these paths will not be created until further funding becomes available. In October 2025 the Planning Application Note was submitted to EDC and the public have the next 3 months to submit comments. There was a consultation meeting on 10/11/24 and members of the public can access the information and plans on the EDC website. A further consultation meeting will be held in February 2025 and the date and venue will be on the EDC website.</p>	
<b>6.5</b>	<p><b>Chair and Secretary Roles</b> – Drena raised this issue but there were no volunteers for the chair role nor the secretary role at present,</p>	
<b>6.6</b>	<p><b>Information Day</b> – This will be held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November and David Cameron will take a table with information on Crime stoppers.</p>	
<b>6.7</b>	<p><b>Christmas Lights Switch on</b> – Volunteer Marshals are required for the Christmas lights switch on. Volunteers should meet outside the church at 4.30 pm on 30/11/24. 11 businesses supported the lights switch on this year.</p>	
<b>6.8</b>	<p><b>Lenzie Jog</b> – Volunteer Marshals are required for the Lenzie Jog. David Cameron will ask if the police volunteers and specials would like to marshal at the Lenzie Jog. Mark will supply the catering and is contacting the community police person. David Cameron volunteered to marshal at the jog if he is free at that time.</p>	
<b>6.9</b>	<p><b>Christmas Tree at the Vauxhall Garage</b> – Murdoch contacted Steven Egan, and he replied saying EDC could not supply a tree this year as the budget and plans were set. But he would look into supplying a tree at the garage for next year and the electrical outlet for the lights would have to be replaced with a modern outlet. LCDT also raised this issue with EDC.</p>	
<b>7.0</b>	<p><b>Planning</b></p>	
<b>7.1</b>	<p><b>Summary</b> - Jack gave a summary of the planning work LCC to the new residents. Explaining LCC have a statutory role in the planning process</p>	
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>Westerhill Development</b> - this was discussed previously in the meeting and the telecoms tower in Bishopbriggs will have little effect in</p>	

	Lenzie.	
<b>7.3</b>	LCC objected to the proposed house to be built in Laxton Drive. Jack had emailed EDC 2 days ago asking for an update and was awaiting a response.	
<b>8.0</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<b>LCC Meeting Schedule</b> – Aileen will book Dean House for the LCC meetings for the last Wednesday of every month in 2025 at 7.00 pm to 9.00	
<b>8.2</b>	<b>Councillors not responding to constituents</b> - Fiona expressed concern that councillors are not responding to their constituents communications to them. A number of other attendees in the meeting agreed with Fiona’s comment. Councillors are also not attending the LCC meetings at which they have a standing invitation. All agreed they wanted good working relations with the councillors.	
<b>8.3</b>	<b>Spray painting on Post Office Letter Box</b> - Mark raised this issue and undertook to raise the issue with the local police.	
<b>8.4</b>	<b>Involving Young People in Local Democracy</b> - Margeret raised this important issue, and Drena will raise it at her arranged meeting with the Head of Religious Studies in Lenzie academy. She will also ask if young people getting involved in local democracy could be part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award	
<b>8.5</b>	<b>Date and Time of Next Meeting – Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 7.00 pm in Dean House</b>	