

Lenzie Community Council (LCC)

Minutes of the monthly meeting in Dean House on Wednesday 18/12/2024 at 7.00 pm

		Actions
1.0	ATTENDANCE	
1.1	Members - Drena O'Malley; Murdoch Wilson; Mark Billington;	
1.2	Residents - Margaret Whitelaw; Wendy Stirling; Liz Ibbotson; Fiona Kirkland; Moira McCafferty	
1.3	Guests – PC Anna McFarland	
2.0	APOLOGIES	
2.1	Tom Gray; Chris Gilroy; Laura Henderson; Jack Cook; Aileen Mundy; Mohammed Zeeshan	
3.0	Welcome - Drena welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
4.0	Wendy's Questions for EDC via LCC - Answers to Wendy's questions from the previous meeting and Wendy also submitted another question.	
4.1	Wendy's New Question – The consultation being led by the education department contained misinformation i.e. Whitegates Park was wrongly named as Whitegates Playing Field instead of Whitegates Park does this invalidate the consultation? The ASN address given was Whitegates Park Initiative Road. McLaughlin and Harvey report 2022 states that Whitegates Park is in Lenzie	
4.2	Answers to Wendy's questions from the previous meeting – Drena then read Gillian Renwick's email reply and it is reproduced in its entirety below including Drena's covering email when the reply was circulated to all LCC members. Hi All Reply recently received from Gillian Renwick to the November request for information on the standard timeline for the LAP, and on why the councillors did not vote for an early consultation. I was pleased to receive an answer and also to see the comments about financing it. As this concurred with opinions I received from a group of local worthies at a recent social event. I am of the opinion that the drawings are not in place and the possibility of an early Pre-App before Christmas has disappeared. The info on that link Gillian sent is also helpful. Best Wishes Drena Dear Drena,	

	<p>Apologies for the delay in replying to you about Lenzie Academy. To be honest the project is at such an early stage and in a state of constant change any answers I can give to you would be out of date before your newsletter would be published. Also there are no standard timelines for any of these things. There are ways they have to be done – like the Education Consultation has to be done during term time when pupils, teachers, and staff are in school. There is a link below on the pre-planning process for big projects like this from the Scottish Governments website which goes into more detail than I could in an email: 2. Pre-Application Phase - Planning circular 3/2022: development management procedures - gov.scot</p> <p>It's within that planning process that the public get their say on the location and planning related issues for a project. At the moment there aren't even any drawings for the school – it is that early in the process. The project is currently so far beyond what the council can afford in terms of capital or the corresponding revenue spending that until the cost of borrowing comes down the council can't afford to front the £100million + cost.</p> <p>I've also had a couple of people concerned about the address of the park – it is within the boundary of Lenzie – at one point the whole of East Dunbartonshire was broken up into catchment areas for schools – every inch. The catchment for Lenzie Moss PS was always on one side of Monkland – the south side – while the north side of Monkland and Parkview Avenue was Lairdsland PS. The middle of the road was essentially the border between Lenzie and Kirkintilloch. The catchment areas haven't been changed over the years, and explains why there are several school catchments for Woodilee Village as the farmers fields were divided some time before the housing was thought of.</p> <p>The Councillors voted against an early public consultation because we had nothing to share – no drawings, no plans for what would go into the school, and none of the ground works which would always be done afresh no matter that they were done previously within 5 years. Ground conditions change all the time.</p> <p>I hope this covers most if not all of the questions. As I said there are no plans – detailed or otherwise – and nothing at this stage to share with the public about the project. It is at that early a stage.</p> <p>All the best for Christmas and the New Year,</p> <p>Gillian Provost Gillian Renwick BA PGDip / Probhaist Gillian Renwick BA PGDip East Dunbartonshire Council / Comhairle Siorrachd Dhun Breatann an Ear Ward 7: Lenzie & Kirkintilloch South</p>	
<p>4.3</p>	<p>Wendy's Reply and other Comments – At the Drop in information event at the school there were drawings on display therefore there are at least overall site drawings of the school in Whitegates Park.</p> <p>In addition, Susan Murray who was an EDC councillor till her recent election to Westminster stated there were drawings and these had changed. The changes moved the location of the school building away from the most heavily contaminated area and the playing fields were placed in the most heavily contaminated area of the park.</p> <p>Wendy outlined the confusion around the area Whitegates Park is recognised</p>	

	<p>as being in. It is in the geographical area recognised as Kirkintilloch but the park is within the area delineated as the Lenzie Community Council catchment area.</p> <p>The technical officers decided to make Whitegates Park the preferred option but there was no scoring matrix.</p> <p>The main concerns are the contamination and peat bands.</p>	
4.4	Final comments on Questions for EDC – Drena updated the group that Alan Bauer has responded to the questions she had sent to him as chair of the LCC. These were additional questions Wendy had requested LCC to ask on the Save Whitegates Park behalf. He responded, stating the questions will be treated as an FOI request and will be answered in the statutory time.	
5.0	<p>Police Report – PC Anna McFarland reported on a number of issues.</p> <p>There have been a number of house break ins in the Lenzie area. The method the criminals employ is to knock on the front door and if it is answered they make up an excuse for calling. If there is no reply they go round the back of the house and break a window to gain entry.</p> <p>There are also thieves targeting people who leave their car engine running in the morning outside their house to defrost the car windows. The police have caught some criminals but are asking Lenzie residents to be aware of both current dangers.</p> <p>There will be 2 or 3 police officers attending the Lenzie Jog.</p>	
6.0	Minutes of the Meeting on the 20th of November 2024	
6.1	The minutes were proposed by Mark Billington and seconded by Drena O'Malley that these minutes are accepted as correct	
7.0	Matters Arising	
7.1	Resignation – Drena reported that Mark is resigning tonight and this will be his last meeting. Mark has been in LCC for 10 years and Drena thanked him for all his service and hard work for the community over the years. Mark replied that he would still be around and happy to help out occasionally.	
7.2	<p>Alan Bauers reply to additional questions – Drena reported she has sent the two additional questions Wendy had raised at the last meeting. These were the scoring matrix and the advice from the technical officers.</p> <p>Alan Bauer replied that he will treat these two questions as FOI request, and they will be answered in the standard time. He also stated that he has an established ongoing communication with LCC. This is not accurate as there has only been one meeting with LCC which there is no written record. Any further LCC meetings with agencies an agreed record of the conversation must be made and retained. Drena will write to Alan Bauer correcting his inaccurate statement.</p>	Action Drena
7.3	New Members needed to join the LCC – Drena asked for volunteers to join the LCC. She will discuss with Jude Kerr if she wishes to be co-opted onto the LCC. There are 5 people who may join who have attended	

	<p>recent previous meetings. At present LCC cannot carry out all its desired functions due to the small number of people active in the LCC. Fiona was happy to join LCC with the caveat that she works full time and has other commitments and therefore does not have much free time to devote to the LCC.</p>	
7.4	<p>Chair and Secretary Roles – Drena raised the unresolved issue that there is no one taking on the chair and secretary roles for an agreed term. These roles must be filled in some form but there were no volunteers for these roles at present,</p>	
7.5	<p>Urgent Tasks – Social Media, Publicity – LCC urgently needs someone who can post LCC messages and information on the LCC Facebook and Instagram although Facebook is the main platform for LCC.</p>	
7.6	<p>Website Manager – There is an urgent need for a website manager and Fiona suggested LCC puts out an appeal on Lenzie Chat asking for someone to help with the website either as a one off or ongoing basis. The website is hosted on wordpress.</p>	
7.7	<p>Planning and Place Plans – These items were carried over to the next meeting due to time pressure. Margaret stated the place plans must come from the community and time is short as in June 2025 the third local improvement plans will be published which will inform the local development plan.</p>	
7.8	<p>Lenzie Jog – Laura or Nick will create a poster advertising the jog. Due to the multigenerational of the Jog it requires a high number of Marshalls. Fiona will come with 3 friends who will all be Marshalls. Moira also said she would come and be a Marshall. The contact to register for the Lenzie Jog has to be circulated to the community perhaps on the poster. Mark stated Billingtons are happy to supply the catering for the jog. Lenzie Jog Marshalls to meet at Lenzie Union Hall at 10.15 am on 02/01/24</p>	
7.9	<p>Christmas Lights Switch on – Mark reported the event had been a great success with the local community enjoying the event. The event ended up with a credit of £98.10 and there may still be another £150 to come from the Coop. If the Coop have missed the deadline for donation they will donate it to another event. Mark has already booked the event on 29/11/25 with the council, Santa and the taxi for next year and the details are on the shared drive. Mark, Chris and Jack have access to the drive. For next year it is important that Santa does not miss out any children and that there are sufficient sweets that all children get some.</p>	
7.1 1	<p>Lenzie Gala/Community Festival – There was a suggestion from Mark that LCC could Liaise with the Rugby club to organise a joint Gala. Drena reported that the recent community festival format had been really popular with the community and a festival could be arranged for the end of the summer in the church halls.</p>	
7.1 2	<p>Lenzie Public Hall – Margaret raised the point that the Lenzie public hall was an important venue and must be retained. There are a number of celebrations and events that are more suited to the public hall than the church halls although all the halls in Lenzie will be used in a cooperative and complementary fashion.</p>	

8.0	AOCB	
8.1	Sending Information Flyers to Local Schools – The authorisation to send flyers to the local schools has run out and needs to be renewed	Action
8.2	Lenzie Map – Drena talked through the large Lenzie Map on the wall making the points that the East part of Lenzie only has Whitegates Park as their only greenspace and the West part of Lenzie has far greater access to Greenspace in Lenzie Moss and a walkway/cycleway into Kirkintilloch in Christine’s Way. The map also shows how the east of Lenzie is bounded by 4 busy roads which small children could not cross safely to get to greenspace. An additional point is that there are already approximately 3,000 people in the East of Lenzie and if the School is built there that would bring in another 1,500 people daily coming into an area with no greenspace.	
8.5	Date and Time of Next Meeting – Wednesday the 15th of January 7.00 pm in Dean House	