**KIRKLISTON** **COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Community Council Minutes 28/11/23

Present David Buchanan (DB) Neil Davidson (ND) Steve Lee (SL) Paul Vaughan (PV) Alison Hancock (AH) Jane Richardson (JR) Alex McKay (AM) Agnes Rothney (AR) Ricky Bentley (RB) Councillors Norman Work, Louise Young.

Apologies: Sally Ann, Geoff Crowe

**Previous minutes 31/10 – minutes agreed.** No matters arising from the minutes. Noted bus no.73 is running smoothly, buses are quiet. Armistice service went very well.

Police report: Ewan Sinclair, new community police officer. Police report has been provided previously, PC Sinclair provided a summary of the report. Mentioned house break-ins occurring in SQ, allocating resource to it, plain clothes officer also around. Mainly after the high powered vehicles in the drive way. Highlighted that people should make their property is secure, suggests putting up floodlight/ security lights, cameras. Literature on security has been provided by the police, the Chair has copies plus can be emailed. Advised the majority of house break-ins are empty properties. Be aware of what is put on social media.

**DB** brought up the traffic on the main street, advised that the police are not to enforce the 20mph limit. Happy to go out with the speed gun.

**DB** – community centre incident – asked for an update. Police will report back if there’s anything they can advise.

**AR** asked why Christmas in Kirkliston event was not supported by the police this year. Advised to let the community officer via email for help with the event for 2024. Will try if possible.

**ND** asked for an update on the Dundas Golf Club break-in. With community investigation team, will report back at the January meeting.

**Pikes Pool:** nothing provided.

**Gateside**: Update provided. Water and drainage completed, cooker has been supplied and fitted. First event on 9 Dec, 2-4pm (Santa’s grotto). Gateside kids are free, anyone else is welcome (£2 per kid), refreshments available.

**DB** and **PV** having a walkabout on 1 Dec pm through Todshill, **Almondside**, **Glebe** and **Gateside** with a Council Housing Manager

**Scouts: DB** thanked Alison for the representation at the Remembrance Sunday service/parade. **KPSA market** – selling tablet this weekend. Lots of events for the kids happening in run up to Christmas. Have received funding from the airport (28/11).

**DB mentioned that Almond Partnership funding is still available, Upon application**

**KEG**: community fridge 1st anniversary celebration on 1 Dec, 2pm – various activities happening. Community garden – no update. Railing planters have been replanted, barrels nearly done. Waiting on new bench on Path Brae, then barrels placed at each side. Recently had a litter pick and another one will take place in the new year, 1000 crocus bulbs have been planted on Path Brae.

Community fridge collections are mainly from Tesco, picked up on a Wednesday evening. Alison Hancock wondered if **KEG** should contact the **Scouts,** **Guiding** for any unopened food products after their events.

**KPSA**: xmas market on 2 Dec, followed by walk down the pavement. **Stirling Road crossing** – spoke with **KPSA** and **Head Teacher,** and want to suggest the crossing Patrol at the Nursery is moved to Stirling Road when the nursery children are moved. **DB** mentioned that this crossing guard is for the primary school children to cross and not the nursery children.

There is evidence that some of the parents are now using the lollipop lady at the lights but not many.

Lady councillor: one option is to extend the railing further down the road but the council won’t do that. Removing the island was the right thing to do due to it being dangerous. The crossing didn’t meet the criteria. Agreement was to have a raised table to slow the traffic down, but the issue is the ambiguity over what the raised table is. An island within the raised table would still not work. Has been speaking to road officers to try and get signage in place but no luck. Asked the police to help, they went out with the children and had some speed stops but they didn’t endorse her concerns. Other routes could be going via the transport committee and has flagged to Kevin who is on the committee.

**DB** mentioned that **Dave Sinclair** and some colleagues will come out to have a look at it. Also **KCC** have the ear of **Paul Lawrence**. Excutive Ditrector

PV mentioned that it’s not the drivers, it’s the pedestrians that need to have the signage.

Drinking water in school – council maintenance team will clean out the tank twice a year so the water is drinkable.

When pods are removed, play park items will replace. (*is this right?)* Robbie Crockart is leading this. **KPSA** check with the Local Authority

**Book drive** – the school has raised money for replacing books, also for paint for the tarmac. Louise responds – council budgets are dire for local authorities. The school gets an allocated budget but due to rising costs, the council does need to cut money somewhere. It’s good schools are finding ways to fundraise. **DB** suggested funding through Almond Partnership and apply via the KPSA, also the **Airport.**

**High school** – no minutes from meeting on 12 Oct as yet. 15 Nov some KPSA members and parents met with John Laird, Scottish Education who will speak to the education committee. Awaiting January’s decision from the committee.

**DB and Keith Giblet** looking to have a meeting with THE City of Edinburgh Education Chair and also the Director of Educationand ……, not successful as yet.

**Early Years centre** – should have been open early 2024 but very unlikely, will check with the nursery. Meeting for parents took place on 27/11. Likely to be Easter.

**Edinburgh Airport**:

**DB** asked for **AR**’s home address/email/phone to be sent to the Secretary,at the Airport

**Kirkliston Heritage**:

**AR** advised working close with the **Gala.** **AR** and **RB** in creating a gala walk for 100 year anniversary. Has promised videos, photos, programmes to the gala. Women’s Guild book should be launched around Easter time. DB advised he had arranged printing for the original book.

**Miner’s bridg**e – ND asked RB if the screws had been tightened as he had been in contact with the council. RB doesn’t think they have.

**Secretary’s Report and Treasurer’s Report**:

Report provided.

**PV** advised that the broken rodding cover at the ATM is now missing.

**Caithness stone** – update is the contractors are speaking to **Dundara** to ask if they should do it. **DB** advised it should be the council who are leading this, and the contactors should not be speaking to Dundara. **ND** is liaising with Patrick but **DB** suggested raising with **Dave Sinclair.** **Louise** suggested copying in the Ward councillors to correspondence.

ND and AR to meet up and sort out the Treasurer’s role.

**Councillors**:

**Norman** – fencing around football pitch – unsure what is happening. **Louise** said it has been noted it will be compliant. The fence was requested by Sports Scotland. **DB** asked how much it was costing, Louise said it’s within the nursery budget.

**JR** asked Louise re planter repairs. Louise will chase up.

Planter across from CC, Louise is following up, however RB said various people have agreed to remove it. RB will speak to Arthur, owner of the house.

Louise - Crossing guides – there should be certain distances between them so unlikely to have one.

Update on Secondary school:

**Chairs Report**

**Outcome of Paul Lawrence meeting** – will issue a briefing statement to all CCs with an organisation chart for roads and structures, with names and responsibilities.

NESPA project – bowling green lane, any others advise DB and he will add to list. Will confirm current funding arrangements.

S75 list of projects for Almond, going over the last 16 years as DB maintains Kirkliston is being shortchanged. Money was allocated for 4 fancy signs coming into Kirkliston but it disappeared. Paul Lawrence has advised will try to get to the bottom of this.

Armistice parade – very successful and good turnout, ND had the KCC wreath. DB thanked the police on KCC and the Church’s behalf for attending. There was an issue getting a piper but managed to get a youngster from Heriot’s to come along.

**DB** advised the community council is 5 members short. **AR** would like to nominate **Scott** **Christie** – will forward on the required information to and **Louise** seconded.

**DB** advised he is in consultation with Ratho CC for Hallyards to come into Kirkliston CC boundaries. This would enable **RB** to become a member. This change will be advised by the Boundaries Commission

**DB** asked **Louise** when the elections should take place, **Louise** not sure but will be after the boundary review, possibly Autumn 2024.

**Public Transport update:**

**DB** asked why the 73 bus is a double decker. Louise Young advised that it’s because they don’t need to avoid any low bridges.

The direction finders are working now. SL mentioned the app is working well with the times.

**Planning Report:**

Nothing to report.

AR asked when KCC would hear about the Nursery plan and what the KCC commented. Advised don’t know but agreed and commented about the possible traffic. Issues with parking on the road, if anyone wanted to bring up yellow lines, they would support this but would also affect residents parking.

With the pavement parking law changing, Louise has flagged to Dave Sinclar about pinch points that might need emergency lines put down or there will be traffic jam issues. Norman raised if there could be any exemptions for pavement parking but told no (except for delivery drivers).

**RB** advised there could be issues for local businesses if people find they are unable to park.

**Christmas Eve:DB** requires a meeting before Xmas eve and suggested a meeting on Tue 19th at the Library to discuss arrangements for the sleigh. ND and DB will speak to Geoff Crowe. DB proposed the contributions from the collections go to the QCCC. This was agreed bythe CommunityCoucil

**AOCB**:

**Christmas Lights**: happening Sat 2nd, starting at school at 3.45pm. Kids being given light up batons to walk down. Tree will be up by the weekend. There will be fire pits, possibly a brass band and the pub should be open. Gateside will give out chocolates to the kids.

AR will put forward to the Lights committee, to ask the council about closing the road for 10 minutes for next year’s event. DB said would need the bus gate to be opened.

**RB** said Betty Hamilton has asked if the hedge at the Glebe could be cut back as it’s overhanging the pavement. JR suggested asking the pharmacy for the contact details of the owner.

**RB** asked how the community council proposes to get new members ?

**Date of next meeting Tuesday 30th January 2024 in the Library at7pm**

The Chair wished everyone a Happy Xmas and A Good New Year