**Minutes of 28th March 2023**

**Present:** Agnes Rothney, Sally Ann Hunter, Pam Hull, Paul Vaughan, Steve Lee, David Buchanan, Neil Davidson. Alex Mackay, Alison Hancock

7 members of public, 2 councillors – Lewis Younie /Norman Work

**Apologies**: - Geoff Crow.

**Welcome**

David thanked everyone for their reports. It was noted to ensure any reports sent when someone has apologised will be minuted.

**Previous minutes** – no amendments. Minutes approved by Steve, seconded by Neil.

**Matters arising** - none

**Police report** –. Suggested to feed back the term “boy racers” be changed as it’s grown men, not boys. Mobile phone use whilst driving is noticed a lot, especially around the traffic lights. **DB** advised police are aware, it has been brought up at the **Almond Partnership Meeting, the** meeting he attended. Go back to police and ask for police to come to meeting.

**Friends of Pike Pool** – All equipment is there, just need people to turn up. The orchard is being planted in phases. Agnes will ask member of South Queensferry group re spare trees. Rubbing plates – was advised to wait until the new budget for replacements. **Tesco community grant approved.** Council and police are aware of wheelie bins being burnt in the park, possible suggestion of fire pits be put in. Wall up side of Gateside Road in need of repairing, **DB** advised that **Miller** was responsible for the wall (factor is looking for money from the residents to repair). Lewis proposed he could chase up the council and Millers for repairing – **Paul** to provide previous communications and **DB** to provide the name of **Miller’s land director.**

**Gateside** -

**Hub** – no correspondence from David Delargie, Paul has repaired the gate himself. Electricity bill is being paid personally by Paul, would cost £250 to remove meter. Paul will be emailing the council re the road order to close the road, Lewis asked to be copied in and will follow up immediately. Man from “roads” going about Gateside, Paul asked what he was doing and he said road conditions survey in Kirkliston. Lewis will follow up plus potholes on the B800 at the old farm.

**Scouts** - Paul asked who repaired behind the hut, confirmed not the Scouts.

**Environmental group** - Litter picking took place last Sunday. Community funding nearly all spent. Paul asked if they can estimate how much they need for plants and can request funds from KCC.

**KPSA** – High school, expecting reports after Easter holidays and hoping positive news (being mentioned in Councillor’s report). Early years development ongoing, nursery expected to be in by Jan 2024. Support request for crossing at front of school – report expected after Easter, **KPSA** asking for a representative to survey during normal school/rush hour times as it’s not clear who has the right of way, so questioning which kind of crossing.  **DB** says **KCC** in contact with **Lloyd Richardson**, council transport rep and has asked for a meeting and will ask that **KPSA** be invited – **DB** will be raising again in 2 weeks if no response. **Speed bump** – not an official crossing but a slowing device however it is being used for a crossing which is dangerous. KCC asked for railings right along the road a long time ago but were denied. In **May** there is a coronation celebration. **Civic week** – **Thu 8 June** having disco at school, asking if anyone knows has any DJ skills and can help out. Last meeting is 12 June with pupil council.

**Orchard Nursery** – will be permanently relocated as unable to get commercial insurance. Owner is thankful for the community support and use of the community centre. Expected to stay in CC until the nursery moves. Agnes Rothney talked about the community centre supporting the Nursery plus all the groups that use the **Community Centre**.

**Jenny Dinwoodie** attended and asked to talk about the **Community Centre** They are here to represent the arts groups and rural – put up in the hotel but if there is an event the hotel say they can’t use the room. Aren’t being charged any money. **Agnes Rothney** is speaking to the hotel on the 29th about venues. Agnes is also sending an email to all groups and hoping to sort out and arrange meetings with the user groups. **Steve** had someone on **Facebook** asking about the **toddler’s group** and when it would be restarting. **Alison H** talked about the **village hall** and trying to get funding to build the hall, could this be the impetus to restart it? The **Kirkliston Village Hall group** bought the land. **Alison** to reach out to the **Village Hall group** and to contact **DB.** **Councillor view** – **Lewis** – money in budget put aside for flooding in the council budget. Pushing for the **Almond River** to be taken as a very high risk – looking at various flood defences, plant trees. **DB** pressed the point that **KCC** is looking at the **councillors** to push for the flooding defences.

**Member of public** noticed tree felling at Foxhall – questioning planning for this tree felling? Lewis not aware.

Asked if West Lothian council can be involved with the flood defences – Lewis says yes the flooding plan will include other council areas. **DB** asked for an update for the **April meeting.**

**Clogged drains** – suggested that any should be reported and cleared. **Lewis** advised money in budget for clearing drains.

**Friends of Pike’s Pool** have suggested if they can clear out the burn, and believes it belongs to **Inverdunning** who own the land. Asks should they just go ahead and clear? **Lewis** will look into and find someone who can advise.

**Edinburgh airport** – community fund - £100k distributed through 2022. **Sally Anne** to send the application form/details to the Secretary.

**Gala** – Money short as being charged a licence fee to include inflatables for a safety rep to come out to inspect on the day. Lewis chased for council response to Gala rep and will chase again. **DB** asked what the shortfall is - **£3.5k.** Confirmed applied to **Edinburgh Airport fund.**  **DB** suggested apply to **Almond Group** for funding asap. Looking for ways to get the bunting crossed over the road. Strongly recommended to arrange a **risk assessment** for the bunting. Various fundraising events including on 12 May in the pub and joining up with other clubs.  **DB** asked for the risk assessment for the road asap. All documentation ready to be shared.

**Secretary’s report & Treasurer’s report** - add separately. Lochend Road pathway email include. QCCC were very grateful for the cheque from the Santa donations.

**Openreach** outside Arthur’s house – asking what it was for. **ND** advised they are replacing old poles, could be that. **Member of public** said there is planning to close **Lochend Road** for a month and no residents in Hallyards have been informed of the closures or details. Could they also sort out pavements at the same time. ND will contact the Roads people.

**Councillors reports** -

**Lewis** – flooding and Orchard nursery covered above. High school – a report is due out on the high school. Next to look at will be land and budgets, letters have been sent out to land owners of potential sites.

Question asked – if can go ahead with a new school – how long would it take to get up and running. Lewis has said they will do everything to make sure it’s on time and on budget. Whether new school in Kirkliston or extension to SQ. Norrie/DB advised numbers of 1200 for new school.

Norman – High school – they have identified the issue and thinks it will likely be an **extension** but will push for a new high school in Kirkliston.

**Chairs report** – DB in contact with McGills, they have said they will put in bus shelter timetables as they are out of date. Asked for a meeting with reps from councillors and reps from KCC. Member of public impacted by bus reliability – childcare issues. Can this be addressed with liaison of the bus companies? K**CC plus 2 councillors will raise this with McGills again.**

**Question asked about what influence the councillors have in the future of the bus service. Lewis advised it’s about the business case and he’s making the case.**

Lewis suggested writing to the transport person, he has the email. Link in with Ratho.

**Planning report** – as read

**Transport report** - none

**AOCB**

**Member of public** asking who is responsible for the steps at the back of the community centre, top of Newmains Road.  **Lewis** said it depends on who owns the land. Lewis said to send him the info and he will look into it.

**Agnes** has proposed Ricky Bentley as a new member of KCC and Pam Hull seconded. Welcome to **Ricky Bentley!**

**Paul** chased **DB** on letter to the **Lothian Health board.**

**No other Business DB closed the meeting and thanked everybody for their attendance**

**Date of Next Meeting-Tuesday 25th April 2023**