

**DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING OF  
BALERNO COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
held on  
Thursday 6 February 2020  
In BALERNO HIGH SCHOOL**

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**PRESENT** : Tony Allen; Brian Conway; Kathleen Fiddes; Emma Galloway; Richard Henderson; Ian Hynd; Jack Kerr; Marion Milne; Dominic Simmons; Hugh Watt; Graeme Bruce; William Wallace; David Brewster; Graeme Bruce; Neil Gardiner

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** : None

**APOLOGIES** : Jim Polasik; Phil Thomas; Martin Petty; Ken Shade; Ian Hynd; Ricky Henderson

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** : None

**MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING** : Approved with slight amendment - from "Risky" Henderson to Ricky Henderson

**AGENDA** : Approved

**POLICE REPORT** : No officers present; printed report submitted :-

- **HOUSEBREAKINGS** : Addiston Crescent - male seen entering driveway with ladder - suspect not identified; Cockburn Crescent - bodily force used to open door, pushbike stolen
- **ASSAULTS** : None
- **ROAD SAFETY/INITIATIVES** : None reported; Police looking to attend March BCC meeting to discuss the Community Speed Watch and what it entails.
- **THEFTS** : Ravelrig Quarry - items taken from fenced area within the quarry - enquiries ongoing to identify suspects from CCTV; Harlaw Road - pushbikes stolen - padlock cut and removed from the fence; Mansfield Road - tractors and farm machinery; Currie Rugby Club Car park - motorbike stolen, found in Water of Leith
- **HATE CRIMES** : none
- **ASBs/INCIDENTS OF NOTE** : None
  
- Community Speed Watch starting soon
- Complaint through Facebook page re rubbish, bins, etc. at Balerno Inn. Richard will write to the owner; Graeme will check with Environmental Health

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME** : None

**BUSINESS HANDLING MEETING 31.1.20** : Richard gave a brief resume of the meeting :-

- Anyone who might like to be involved with the new Planning Committee should contact Tony.
- The Pathways Group will be revived in the next few weeks - provisional date for meeting 12 March TBC
- **Environmental Casework** : Jack dealing with this. Marchbank Park area - need to get the council to use decent equipment and to regularly maintain the grass cutting, weeding, trimming and edge cutting throughout the whole park and the grassland areas. Homeowners should be encouraged to maintain their own gardens and fences and onto the park side. BCC could put a piece on Facebook and in the C+B News in March or April, suggesting to householders to look after their hedges, fences, weeds, etc... This should NOT be aimed at a specific area of Balerno.

- Business Community : Jim + Dominic : it would be helpful if the business community took ownership of this issue.
- Communications : Peter Reekie pays the annual fee for the domain name, about £20 p.a.. We need to contact Peter to ask if we could take this over from him. Social media needs to be enhanced. Dominic, Phil, Richard, Ian, Hugh and David will contribute.
- Portfolios : One person would liaise on various topics; others would be PHRP - Hugh; Sport - Phil; Communities, Education, Children - Marion; Transport + Environment - Jack; Balerno Business Forum - Dominic and Jim

#### PLANNING :

- Meeting next Thursday (13 February - date to be confirmed as the school may be closed for half term) to discuss the following two plans :-
- Current City Plan which will run from 2022-2032
- City Mobility Plan which is out for consultation at the same time.
- Responses to be in by ?? March
- Two meetings should be sufficient to prepare our responses.
- On the plans and maps provided with the City Plan document the A70 doesn't seem to have any traffic on it.

Ravelrig Road PAN : new PAN includes a medical centre.

572 LANARK ROAD WEST: Main reasons for objecting to this application :-

- the site is within the Green Belt
- the location and the site are not suitable for housing
- sight lines at entrance to site are very poor
- entrance is between two very dangerous bends
- impact of more traffic on the A70/LRW
- water and mud running across and down the road in both east and west directions

#### PROJECTS :

- Green Bridge : this should be put back on our Action List; Neil will look into this.
- Fairtrade Gateway signage :
- Scottish Government argument doesn't seem to make sense - that the sign is commercial is ill-conceived.
- Go back to Gordon MacDonald to thank him for what he has done.

#### PORTFOLIO REPORTS

- Education : 2032 likely date for the rebuilding of Balerno High School
- Balerno Business Forum : Waiting for money

#### COUNCILLORS' REPORTS :

##### NEIL :

- MARCHBANK PARK :
- Trying to obtain TPOs on the trees in the Park - resource issue
- In order to protect the trees in the long term, listing them as "Fields in Trust" provides more protection.
- City looking to plant more trees - Marchbank Park could have some.
- Next meeting of PHRP is to be held on 24 February at Hermitage.
- 63 BUS : Neil will find out at committee this month - the service could start in March or April.

##### GRAEME :

- QUARRY BLASTING :
- There will be a quarry blast on 14 February.

- Tarmac to place a measuring device at 582 LRW
- CEC to place their own measuring device at 577 LRW - Brian Fleming from CEC to contact the residents of 577 LRW before 14 February to obtain their permission.
- Kathleen to contact the British Geological Survey at Riccarton to ask if the quarry blast could be measured by the Survey and the results emailed to her.
  
- WHITE LINES IN "SCOTMID" CAR PARK : "this might happen in three months" - resources!

**TREASURER :**

- Bank Balance : £3,199.54
  - Petty Cash : £8.28
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DATE OF NEXT MEETING  
**THURSDAY 5 MARCH**  
**@ 7.00 p.m.**