

MINUTES OF MEETING OF
BALERNO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
Thursday 7 November 2019
In **BALERNO HIGH SCHOOL**

PRESENT : Emma Galloway; Graeme Bruce; Ian Hynd; Phil Thomas; Kathleen Fiddes; David Brewster; Richard Henderson; Tony Allen; William Wallace; Martin Petty; Jack Kerr; Marion Milne; Graeme Bruce; Ricky Henderson; Neil Gardiner; PC Oliver Ford; PC David Moran; one member of the public

APOLOGIES : Jim Polasik; Ken Shade; Hugh Watt; Brian Conway

MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING : Approved

AGENDA : Approved.

FORMAL ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION, STANDING ORDERS, CODE OF CONDUCT - scheme for CCs

POLICE REPORT :

- **HOUSEBREAKINGS** : Roadworks at Bavelaw Green - personal items stolen from rucksack; attempted break in at Malleny Arms - no entry gained
- **ASSAULTS** : Minor assault, Dean Park - complainer and suspect, both youths, are known to each other; minor assault , Harmeny School - resident assaulted staff member.
- **ROAD SAFETY/INITIATIVES** : speeding complaint raised for Cockburn Crescent - issue raised with Council who will be conducting a Speed Survey in the area in the coming months.
- **THEFTS** : Shoplifting, Scotmid, Main Street - youths stole alcohol; theft of diesel stolen from building site at Bavelaw Green; theft of delivery van (with keys) in Bavelaw Gardens whilst on delivery
- **HATE CRIMES** : none
- **ASBOs/INCIDENTS OF NOTE** : Vandalism to car, Bavelaw Road; wall knocked down in relation to ongoing neighbour dispute, Ravelrig Park; Sexual Offences Scotland Act 2005 - coercing a person into being present during a sexual activity, woods on Cockburn Crescent - description of male 40-50 years old.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME : Member of the public present wished to comment on Scottish Water/MacKenzie project at Bridge Road and Lanark Road West.

MATTERS ARISING : SCOTTISH WATER

- There followed a general discussion about the Scottish Water project.
- Many complaints about the lack of progress - why is there never any evidence of anyone working?
- Why are the temporary traffic lights not being monitored and managed more efficiently?
- Many very lengthy queues of traffic in both directions, east and west.
- Class One Traffic Management staff just seem to be sitting in their van, not monitoring the traffic build ups.
- It was noted that the area of grass on the north side of the road, where there is a large number of daffodils, has been completely churned up. It was suggested that we should ask SW/MacKenzie to replace and replant the daffodils.

PROJECTS :

GREEN BRIDGE :

- Meeting was held last week.
- As Amey is now no longer on the City Fibre project, Richard had written to City Fibre regarding their possible involvement with the Green Bridge project. To date no reply has been received.
- A meeting had been held with Alan Montgomery of MacKenzie - no reply received yet. Richard recommended going back to CEC as it is their bridge.
- Scottish Water's Community Benefit programme would not include the Green Bridge.

PATHWAYS PROJECT :

- Pathways Group will look at all paths and produce a report and map and include work which needs to be carried out. This will include a tourist feature.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND DECORATIONS :

- CALA has donated £500 for the purchase of two trees. These will be delivered on 2 December.
- Lights switch on will be on Thursday 5 December @ 6.30/6.45.
- Balerno Inn will have trees and decorations and will be involved in the switch on.
- It was suggested that a short BCC meeting could be held at approximately 8.00 p.m..

PORTFOLIO REPORTS :

PLANNING : RAVELRIG ROAD

- Rapley, who is representing the landowner, will hold an exhibition showing their plans for between 700 and 1,000 houses. This will be held in the afternoon of Wednesday 20 November at the Bowling Club.
- Neil Gardiner commented that there are very few new streets named after women.
- GLENBROOK GLAMPING PODS : decision expected shortly.

TRANSPORT + ENVIRONMENT:

- There seems to be a lack of clarity at CEC regarding the sale of public green space, e.g. the land at Marchbank.
- Jack Kerr commented that one department didn't know what the other department was doing and saying. The CEC says that it maintains the land at Marchbank but doesn't own it.

BALERNO INN :

- It has been noticed that the Balerno Inn fence makes the gap very narrow between the Inn and the Community Centre.
- This path is an established Right of Way.
- Has permission been granted or the fence?

BUSES AND BUS LANES :

- Proposal to extend the bus lanes to 7.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. seven days a week
- 63 BUS : Meeting of Transport Committee later this month to discuss subsidising the bus service out to Balerno.

PENTLAND HILLS REGIONAL PARK : Nothing to report.

BALERNO BUSINESS FORUM : Brochure nearing completion.

COMMUNICATIONS :

- There should be a press release re the Christmas Lights switch on.
- The two existing catering establishments in Main Street - Carlyle's and The Grey Horse - will be affected by Balerno Inn.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS :

GRAEME BRUCE reported the following :

- **QUARRY BLASTS :**
- There have been complaints from Balerno residents about blasting at Kaimes Quarry over the years and most recently on 23 October.
- These come on top of a number of complaints over at least the past two years which have been

investigated and where the explosions have been found not to have exceeded permitted levels.

- The most recent incident however does seem to have given rise to real concerns about safety.
- Graeme had requested information from the Environment Department. The response was “extraction of minerals will cease not later than 21 February 2042 and restoration of the site, including removal of all buildings and structures, is to be undertaken within 24 months of that date, or cessation of extraction of minerals, whichever is the sooner.”
- The culvert which was blocked, pouring water on to Johnsburn Road, now has a channel taking the water into the burn.
- Rigg Road and Cockburnhill Road have now been resurfaced. However, drainage now needs to be installed.

NEIL GARDINER reported the following :

- SCHOOLS IMPROVEMENT :
- It is to be hoped that building of the new Currie High School will start in two years, and by 2024 at the latest.
- The new Balerno High School should be built after completion of CCHS

TREASURER :

- Bank Balance : £4,036.38 - includes £500 CALA donation for christmas lights
- Petty Cash : £8.28

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER
@ 8.00 p.m. Approximately
following christmas lights switch on