

**MEETING OF  
BALERNO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Thursday 7 JUNE 2018  
In BALERNO HIGH SCHOOL**

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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**PRESENT :** Brian Conway; Kathleen Fiddes; Andre Groenewald; Richard Henderson; Ian Hynd; Marion Milne; Jim Polasik; Dominic Simmons; Hugh Watt; Graeme Bruce; Susan Webber

**APOLOGIES :** Tony Allen; Jack Kerr; Ken Shade; Emma Galloway

**AGENDA :** Approved

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT :** This had already been circulated to BBC members and was approved.

**ELECTIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS :** The following office bearers were appointed :-

**CHAIRMAN:** RICHARD HENDERSON - nominated by Brian Conway, seconded by Hugh Watt  
**SECRETARY :** TONY ALLEN - nominated by Jim Polasik, seconded by Kathleen Fiddes  
**TREASURER :** HUGH WATT, nominated by Ian Hynd, seconded by Dominic Simmons  
**VICE CHAIR :** IAN HYND - nominated by Jim Polasik, seconded by Hugh Watt  
**MINUTES SEC :** KATHLEEN FIDDES - nominated by Richard Henderson, seconded by Jim Polasik

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS :**

- Total Funds on Account	£2,182.03
- Total in Bank	£2,810.24

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**PRESENT :** Brian Conway; Kathleen Fiddes; Andre Groenewald; Richard Henderson; Ian Hynd; Marion Milne; Jim Polasik; Dominic Simmons; Hugh Watt; Graeme Bruce; Susan Webber; P C Wray

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC :** Douglas MacMillan re 1 Cockburnhill Road application; Tim Johnson re youth problems in Balerno

**APOLOGIES :** Tony Allen; Jack Kerr; Ken Shade; Emma Galloway

**AGENDA :** Approved

**MINUTES OF MAY MEETING :** approved

**POLICE REPORT :** PC Wray in attendance :-

- Police presence in Balerno 25+26 May in response to complaints of youths gathering at weekends. Successfully engaged with youths and reduced the number of calls made to police.
- No house breakings
- No hate crimes
- No road safety initiatives
- Minor assault at Malleny between youths and a member of the public
- Three shopliftings at Scotmid, Main Street
- Person found at Harlaw Reservoir in possession on cannabis - charged
- Male arrested for threatening and abusive behaviour at Scotmid, Main Street - linked to shoplifting at same time
- Vehicles on Harlaw Road had wing mirrors damaged

**TIM JOHNSON** spoke about the problems of youths in Balerno and the assault on him and his property on 5 May and expressed his appreciation to BCC for its support.

- Youths seem to be coming from Saughton; generally problems are at weekends - there were none the middle weekend of the Gala.
- Feels that youths are deliberately coming to Balerno and that they keep coming back as they are always “getting away with it”. They catch buses home about 10.30/10.45, later at weekends.
- There needs to be increased police visibility at weekends in Balerno.
- Where is BCC going to take this? Richard said that he was waiting for a response from the Chief Constable.
- Graeme Bruce has had a meeting with the Chief Inspector and Susan Webber has correspondence from the Chief Constable.
- General feeling that Balerno is “the end of the line” and “out of sight out of mind”
- ASBOs will be looked inTO.

**PLANNING :** 1 COCKBURNHILL ROAD, BALERNO - PLANNING APPLICATION

Douglas MacMillan attended representing his father, Alan MacMillan, the applicant.

- Richard has submitted comments to the Planning Department objecting to the application. He read this out to Douglas MacMillan. He then read out the letter to BCC from Alan MacMillan.

The following comments were made :-

- This is not included in the LDP.
- The area is in the Green Belt.
- Special Landscape Area
- Prominent position - house would be seen as you come round the corner on Johnsburn Road.
- The proposed garden area is within Simon Thompson's land and would therefore have to be purchased from him.

**SIGNAGE** : the following signs have been agreed :-

- BALERNO - GATEWAY TO THE PENTLANDS
- FAIRTRADE VILLAGE - if CEC allows this
- BALERNO BOWLING CLUB - fingerpost sign
- Submit application to SUSTRANS for funding for Pathways, Signage and Green Bridge. SUSTRANS will match 50% of the funding on delivery.

**EDUCATION - SCHOOLS REVIEW** : Briefing tomorrow at 1.30

**TRAFFIC SURVEY** : Susan will circulate the summary. Two more students will carry out a further survey.

**TRANSPORT** : CEC talking to West Lothian regarding the 40 bus service. This would provide a link to both hospitals but not directly to the Gyle.

- The number 20 bus costs £420,000 per annum to run.
- The number 63 bus costs £250,000 per annum to subsidise.
- There are seven supported bus routes across the city and Balerno has two of them.

**GOVERNANCE/DATA PROTECTION** : Dominic provided data on GDPR, website statistics, social media statistics, etc... For example - There are 331 Twitter followers; 164 Facebook likes and 180 Facebook followers

**COMMUNICATIONS** : Consultation period comes to an end in August. Suggest contact with the Rugby Club, Bowling Club, churches, etc... with a view to holding a meeting to discuss the plan with them.

**BALERNO BUSINESS FORUM, PHRP, CULTURE & SPORT, HEALTH, PHNP, BVT** : nothing to report

**COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** : GRAEME BRUCE reported the following :

- resurfacing of Bavelaw and Harlaw Roads will possibly take place mid-July, depending on the contractors
- Rusty railings on LRW near junction with A70 and Bridge Road - will be replaced in about 2-3 months' time, when a contractor has been sourced.
- £25 per annum per garden waste bin charge will come into effect in October.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING :**

**THURSDAY 2 AUGUST @ 7.00 P.M.**

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