

DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING OF
BALERNO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
Thursday 6 June 2019
In **BALERNO HIGH SCHOOL**

PRESENT : Marion Milne; Emma Galloway; Richard Henderson; Graeme Bruce; Hugh Watt; Ian Hynd; Kathleen Fiddes; PC Simon Wotton; Jack Kerr; Scott Simpson for Balerno Parish Church/Andre Groenewald; Marion Milne; Susan Webber; Ricky Henderson; PC Ali Murdoch; Derek Lawson and Phil McCulloch - CALA; Eamon Carlin - AMEY; John Sherwood, Member of the Public

APOLOGIES : Tony Allen; Dominic Simmons; Brian Conway; Gordon Lindhurst; David Brewster; Ken Shade; Neil Gardiner; Gordon Lindurst; Andre Groenewald

MINUTES OF MAY MEETING : Approved with no amendments

AGENDA : Approved

POLICE REPORT report for May : Only two crimes in May, both thefts. Theft of meat from Scotmid in Main Street; theft of an iPad from within Balerno High School. This has now been solved. The owner of the two vehicles wrongly parked for several weeks now seems to have moved the vehicles to different spaces.

REMINDER : The Community Police Officers hold a “Coffee with a Cop” on the 2nd Monday of each month at Carlyles at 9.00 a.m.

PRESENTATION BY CALA : Derek Lawson and Phil McCulloch, Technical Manager to give an update on both sites.

- Two years since work on the developments was started.

NEWMILLS/KINGFISHER PARK

- More than half way through building - due to complete in September 2021.
- Affordable housing block to the south of the site - 24 houses have been completed and handed over to Dunedin. These are a mixture of Social Rent and Golden Share.
- Section 75 money to CEC : £833,00; £228,000 paid to date

RAVELRIG HEIGHTS

- Between a third and a half way through
- Four and Five bedroom houses
- Affordable houses will be 24 mid-market rent and 12 Golden Share.
- Within catchment area for Balerno High School
- Section 75 money to CEC : £914,000; £243 paid to date

- Section 75 money is supposed to be “ring fenced” by CEC.
- Final payments will be made when the developments are completed.

- A member of BCC asked CALA the cost of building a road. This is £1.6m per mile. This does not include drainage, lighting or pavements.
- CALA said that they would be happy to support the BBF brochure with a logo “Supported by CALA”

- Richard mentioned that AMEY was offering assistance with the replacement “Green Bridge” and wondered if CALA might be interested in being involved with the improvement of the paths through what used to be Barnardo’s land, bearing in mind the additional children from Ravelrig Heights who would be attending Balerno High School and Dean Park Primary School.

GREEN BRIDGE : PRESENTATION BY EAMON CARLIN, AMEY CUSTOMER LIAISON MANAGER FOR BALERNO

- Ownership has now been established and CEC is happy for work to go ahead
- Need to write to CEC with support from Local Councillors, Gordon Lindhurst and Gordon MacDonald
- Put out a programme for removal of the old bridge and replacement with a new bridge
- Put in place a programme of work
- Get the ball rolling during the first half of June
- Cost of a hardwood bridge is approximately £10,000

PLANNING

- 44 Harlaw Road rejected by the Review Board

GLAMPING PODS AT BANKHEAD FARM

- John Sherwood who lives adjacent to the proposed site and came to represent his neighbours highlighted the following points :
- The area has been used as a farmyard for 15-200 years.
- This current application is only one of several for this site over the years.
- 13 years ago when Mr Sherwood bought his house Simon Thompson promised to landscape the farmyard. However rubble, stones, concrete blocks, etc. are still there.
- The residents paid themselves to have the rubble removed however, when Mr Thompson developed some properties on Cockburnhill Road some time ago, the rubbish from these properties was dumped back in the courtyard at the Bankhead properties.
- The proposal is for very large kit houses.
- There will be no management of the “pods” on site.
- Potentially there could be up to 24 occupants on site at one time, leading to a turnover of 72 persons per week.
- There will be no-one on site to regulate what goes on, i.e. noise, security, rubbish, privacy of Bankhead residents.
- All the residents/neighbours will be objecting.
- Simon Thompson has put Bankhead House as his address, which it isn’t.

SESPLAN 2 : Scottish Ministers have rejected the plan

BUS SERVICES : No progress

SUSTRANS : It was suggested that we should apply for a grant when the scheme opens again this time next year.

PATHWAYS PROJECT : It is hoped that this project would get underway during the summer.

TREASURER : Bank balance £2,676.44; petty cash £32.28.

TRIBUTE TO KEN STEPHEN

Balerno Community Council noted with sadness the announcement of the death of Ken Stephen. Ken was a valued colleague over his many years of service to the community and as a member of Balerno Community Council.

As a hydrologist he had a particular interest in the Water of Leith and especially in the various endeavours over the years to develop an effective flood prevention plan. He was never afraid to speak his mind to the highest authorities and he did not give up the fight to secure what he considered to be the best possible outcome.

On his retirement he continued to monitor situations including the operation of the development planning process on which he would occasionally intervene with his customary understated criticism. His death is a loss to the community at large.
