

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
BALERNO COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
Thursday 1 February 2024
in BALERNO COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT : Tony Allen; Kathleen Fiddes; Richard Henderson; Phil Thomas; Graeme Bruce; Ian Hynd; Jim Polasik; Ian Hynd; Neil Gardiner; Hugh Watt; Jack Kerr; Paul Cockburn, Editor, C&B News

APOLOGIES : Ken Shade; Martin Petty; Fiona Glasgow; Stephen Jenkinson; Emma Galloway; David Brewster

2. AGENDA : Approved

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST : Richard Henderson, Tony Allan, Phil Thomas, Hugh Watt, Ian Hynd – all Balerno Pathways

4. MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING : Approved with one slight amendment

5. FINANCE : £6,886.68, includes £8.41 petty cash

- **POLICE ISSUES : NATIONAL CONSULTATION OF POLICE STATION CLOSURES**
 - Consultation response has been submitted
 - Nothing to report re outcomes
 - Ian has prepared our Note of Interest. There are two main routes which could be pursued :
 - Community Asset Transfer – there would be no charge for this or any charge would be heavily discounted.
 - Community Right to Buy – market value would have to be paid.
 - The Scottish Land Fund provides grants up to the value of £1m.
 - **NEIL** reported that Lothian Health does not want the Police Station and that CEC is unlikely to want it.
 - Communities can prepare their own Place Plan which would then become part of the Local Development Plan.
 - It was suggested that local groups should be asked what they would like to become of the Police Station building.
 - It was reported that the Grey Horse pub and the chip shop are both up for sale.

8. CURRENT ISSUES :

- **PLANNING** : Ken Shade wants us to look at the Kinleith application for housing. There appears to be no real difference between this application and the previous one which was refused. The land in question is not within BCC boundary.
- **QUARRY** : The plan for the expansion of the quarry runs right down to the A70.
- Tarmac has planned two exhibitions in the Community Centre – 4 and 25 March.
- It was suggested that we should invite Tarmac to attend our March meeting.
- **GREEN BRIDGE** : There followed a general discussion about the Green Bridge and the difficulties experienced in reaching a resolution with CEC.
- It was suggested that Stephen Knox, the council officer dealing with the Green Bridge issue, should be invited to attend BCC's March meeting
- **RESURFACING OF LRW FROM BRIDGE ROAD WEST TO RAVELRIG HILL BEND** : this work is going well.
- Neil commented on the very bad state of the **road to Malleny Garden** – the road is owned by CEC.
- **PHRP** will not be meeting until the end of February/beginning of March.

12.COUNCILLORS :

- Pavement along the whole length of **Johnsburn Road** is to be resurfaced.
- It is important to **report POTHOLE**S to CEC – take photographs, give details of the location and email to CEC Roads and Pavements.

**NEXT MEETING :
THURSDAY 7 MARCH
@ 7.00 p.m.
in BALERNO COMMUNITY CENTRE
Balerno High School
NB Changed Venue**