

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
BALERNO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

held on

Thursday 2 NOVEMBER 2023

at BALERNO HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENT : Tony Allen; Kathleen Fiddes; Richard Henderson; Phil Thomas; Graeme Bruce; Ian Hynd; Marion Milne; Dominic Simmons; Hugh Watt; Brian Conway; Jack Kerr; Jim Polasik; Dominic Simmons; Paul Cockburn, Editor, C&B News

APOLOGIES : David Brewster; Emma Galloway; Martin Petty; Ken Shade; Neil Gardiner; Stephen Jenkinson

2. AGENDA : Approved

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST : Richard Henderson, Phil Thomas, Hugh Watt; Ian Hynd - all Balerno Pathways

4. MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING : Approved

5. FINANCE : ££6,878.27; Petty Cash £8.41; TOTAL = £6886.68

6. POLICE ISSUES : PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF BALERNO POLICE STATION :

- AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY, GRAEME BRUCE MADE A DECLARATION OF INTEREST THAT HE COULD NOT TAKE PART IN THE SECTION OF THE MEETING RELATING TO THE DISPOSAL OF BALERNO POLICE STATION.
- Mr Scott offered some dates for a meeting with BCC to be held at St Leonard's Police Station. It was felt preferable to hold the meeting in Balerno Police Station. A request was to be made to Sgt Pickavance.
- Ken said that he would like to be included in the group to attend a meeting.
- Of all the dates offered, 29 November was the most suitable. Hopefully this will be held in Balerno Police Station.
- The meeting arranged by Police Scotland on 26 October was poorly attended as it was announced at very short notice.
- Richard attended the meeting which he found very useful.
- The purpose seemed to be for Police Scotland to develop connections with communities.
- Richard reported that we don't appear to have a police presence here in Balerno

and it appears that there is no breakdown of crime figures for Balerno.

- At the meeting Richard suggested that the police should attend the Farmers' Markets.

7. GOVERNANCE :

- Post-AGM - nothing to report
- **CEC's Community Council Scheme and Boundary Review** - there appears to be nothing which will impact on Balerno.

8. CURRENT ISSUES :

- **1. CHRISTMAS TREE :**
- 10-12' tree has been ordered for the Main Street Light switch on on Thursday 7 December
- Dean Park Primary School choir will sing.
- Pipe Band has been asked if they would like to attend for 6.30.
- BCC tree will be lit at 6.45.
- BVT will provide mulled wine in the Community Centre.
- Stewards will be required for the evening of 7 December.
- Phil is going to be Santa.
- Hugh will ask Paul and Jane at the Grey Horse if he could put on a buffet meal for us on 7 December.
- **5. RESILIENCE :** Is there a plan for warm and welcoming places?
- It was reported that there are only four drain cleaning machines to cover the whole of Edinburgh.
- **7. GREEN BRIDGE :** Phil reported the following :
 - Progress being made slowly - need to be patient
 - The paperwork which has been sent to Balerno Pathways needs to be dealt with.
 - It was suggested that a meeting be held with Stephen Knox of CEC and Phil, Ian and Graeme Bruce.
- **8. Resurfacing of Lanark Road West bends** must be carried out and completed by March.
- **9. SIGNAGE :** Ian reported that CEC has said that they have no objection to the sign being placed at the Community Centre.

PORTFOLIO REPORTS :

- Tony reported that much of the stone wall at Harlaw has been knocked down. CEC has sanctioned dry stone wall repair work.
- Not much work is being carried out at Thriepmuir.

- Phil reported that World Rugby has granted an extension of two years to the Rugby Club.
- Marion reported that 200 children in Pentland Gymnastics are being affected by Edinburgh Leisure cancelling all lets up to January. This means that the children won't be able to compete as they can't train.
- Tony reported that Sunday swimming at BHS will be cancelled because of lack of trainers.
- Tony reported that, since we won't be holding a formal BCC meeting on 7 December, a room at BHS won't be required.
- January meeting - date and venue to be confirmed.
- Congratulations were offered to the Harlaw Land Reclamation group.
- Marion reported that the fire at the church hall roof has now been repaired and that the hall is up and running again.
- Graeme reported that at the full council meeting today it was announced that trams will not be running between the city centre and Newhaven due to maintenance work. No time frame was given.
- Graeme also reported that there is only one pothole killer machine to cover the whole of Edinburgh.

11. COMMUNICATIONS : Nothing to report

12. COUNCILLORS : Nothing to report

NEXT MEETING :

JANUARY MEETING -

DATE, TIME AND VENUE TBC
