

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
BALERNO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

held on

Thursday 3 OCTOBER 2024

in BALERNO COMMUNITY CENTRE

PRESENT : Kathleen Fiddes; Richard Henderson; Ian Hynd; Jack Kerr; Emma Galloway; Graeme Bruce; Tony Allen; Ken Shade; Hugh Watt; Neil Gardiner

APOLOGIES : Stephen Jenkinson; David Brewster; Paul Cockburn

2. AGENDA : Approved

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST :

- BALERNO PATHWAYS : Richard Henderson, Phil Thomas; Hugh Watt, Emma Galloway, Ian Hynd
- CURRIE RUGBY CLUB : Phil Thomas
- PURCHASE OF POLICE STATION : Ken Shade
- BALERNO VILLAGE TRUST : Emma Galloway
- ST MUNGO CHURCH : Emma Galloway

4. MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER MEETING : Approved

5. FINANCE : £3,670.80 in bank; £8.41 petty cash; Total : £3,679.21.

6. POLICE ISSUES : Nothing to report

7. GOVERNANCE : Ken outlined certain matters regarding unfounded accusations about him which had given him cause for concern. BCC agreed that there was no suggestion in any discussions or proceedings of BCC which suggested any malpractice on Ken's part.

8. COUNCILLORS AND OFFICE BEARERS :

GRAEME REPORTED THE FOLLOWING :-

- Graeme has received complaints about the state of the surface of Warriston Farm Road - he will push to have this resurfaced.
- 32 Bus : It has been suggested that there should be a warning sign of the 32 bus exiting on to Curriehill Road at the west exit from the Heriot Watt campus.
- Complaints about car parking in the lower car park (by Scotmid) - cars can be parked there all day. Car park land owned by CEC.
- It was suggested that residents of Main Street could be issued with Parking Permits.
- Railings on LRW opposite Newmills Road are in a very bad state - badly need to be painted or replaced.
- Concerns were expressed about parking in Main Street. Neil and Graeme would deal with this in conjunction with Richard.

NEIL REPORTED THE FOLLOWING :-

- **CITY PLAN** : Scottish Government had no issues. Plan will go to full council in November.
- **PENTLAND HILLS REGIONAL PARK** : An event had been held in the Park for John Stirling. A map had been installed just outside Harlaw House.
- There will be a meeting of the committee to decide on the charging regime for the car parks - how much to charge, which system to use, how the money will be collected, will RingGo be used?

9.. CURRENT ISSUES :

- **PLANNING** : Nothing to report on the Ravelrig Quarry application. However, out of interest, it was noted that an application to change the conditions at Ratho Quarry were rejected by the Planning Committee - “Air Over Pressure”.
- **BVT UPDATE :**
- Farmers' Market - Apple Day will be held on Saturday 12 October.
- Markets in November and December are fully booked.
- Community Centre - landscaper will have a look at the beds to see if they need to be pulled back because of damp.
- BVT has received money to install solar panels.
- It is hoped that an air source heat pump will be installed by February.
- Placed Based Investment Fund application to fund disabled access has been delayed.
- BVT has a ten year lease on the Community Centre with a view to purchase in 10 years' time.
- **CHRISTMAS TREE** : Lights Switch On will be on 5 December; the tree supplier has offered to put the tree up for £50. It was agreed that we should accept this offer. Cost of tree is £120.
- **GREEN BRIDGE :**
- CEC had required an “Approval in Principle” document - this was sent to the CEC engineer on 30 September 2024. All documentation is now in order and with CEC.
- There is a £16,000 shortfall in funding. An approach has been made to the city councillors.

AOCB

- **DEAN PARK PARENT COUNCIL** has expressed its concerns about traffic behaviour in relation to pedestrians, particularly primary and high school pupils, crossing the road at the junction of Bridge Road and Bavelaw Green.
- It was agreed that BCC should let the Parent Council know that we are aware of their concerns, that we are fully supportive of their concerns and suggestions and that we will be in touch with our CEC councillors.
- **JACK** reported that the verges at Hannahfield had been cut. He hasn't yet checked on the verges at the SSPCA bends.

- He has written to the Head of Greenspace regarding the lack of back up when staff are on holiday and/or when the machine is damaged - there appears to be no back up machinery.
- **AGM** : It was agreed that our next AGM will be held at our November meeting on Thursday 7 November, prior to our business meeting.
- BCC expressed its thanks to BVT for providing our meeting room in the Community Centre free of charge.

NEXT MEETING :

BCC AGM FOLLOWED BY BUSINESS MEETING

THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER

@ 7.00 p.m.

in BALERNO COMMUNITY CENTRE