

## Meeting of Wallyford Community Council 27 June 2012

Present: E Ditroia, E Hughes, A Hadden, (Cllr) Andy Forrest, Councillor John Caldwell, Thomas Hughes, Beryl Stevenson, Janet Bourhill

Apologies, PC Jeff Lowe, Councillor Stuart Currie

In attendance: James McAbraham, Kaela Scott (East Lothian Council), Catherine Doyle, Nan Steele

Minutes were approved and seconded

Kaela Scott Community Planning Officer demonstrated the new website Musselburgh.info and asked if Wallyford Community Council would consider having a website linked to this site. The community council have been hoping to create a website for some considerable time and it was agreed that we would take up this offer. Alister Hadden and Janet Bourhill will attend a future training course. It was also agreed that Gary Bourhill would be asked to attend the training as the technical expert for the community council.

The costs for the first year will be free but subsequent years would incur a small cost for the hosting of the website.

The Chairperson thanked Kaela for her useful presentation.

1. Wallyford Main Street - the old co-op has been demolished the stone has been preserved and is in the church grounds. This site is now unsightly and has been unused since 2007. The wall between the church and the site is in a state of disrepair. The Council has added a wooden fence to the eastern boundary which screens the area from the entrance to the school.
2. The CC will contact the owner to ask if he would consider selling this site. The CC could then consider applying for grant funding to purchase this ground for a community building for example a new library with bigger and better facilities for school children along with a small history and heritage centre. This could also include a day centre with café. Alister Hadden has written to the owner but is currently awaiting a response.
3. The hutches at St Clements Crescent have been replenished with new plants. A rota has been agreed for watering the plants.
4. Planning permission has been granted for the Goose bay Development. The Council is currently in discussion with the developer to see how this can be taken forward. Financial issues are delaying the development.
5. Greyhound stadium ELC Planning meeting did not give their approval for the Barbachlaw houses to go ahead. The CC are concerned that the planning meeting was not conducted fairly. The planning application is currently with the Scottish Government for a decision but a decision will not be made until the pending court action has taken place.
6. Planning permission has been granted for an additional replica coal mining hutch and a litter bin which will be situated at the bottom of the brickwork road. A frame has been made and we are currently waiting on the blacksmith to progress this project.
7. Goshen farm development - J Bourhill has sent in the CCs objections as part of the planning process. J Bourhill and E Di Troia are keeping in touch with the Hands Off Goshen Group that has been formed in opposition to this development. A pre determination meeting will be held by the council later in the year. No date has been set for this meeting.
8. WCC have been given assurances that Salters Road will be fully resurfaced in 2012. The CC will be fully consulted on the proposed traffic calming measures.
9. There are concerns over the lack of progress and the poor state of the pavements surrounding the new build house at the back of the Post Office Andy Forrest will investigate this further. This area where the pavement has been dug up should be properly repaired for public use to avoid pedestrians having to come onto the road to get past this poorly repaired area of pavement. This is currently with an enforcement officer.

10. Bill Laird of ELC Transport had been in touch with wcc to enquire if they wish to consider purchasing reactive sign for Wallyford for a cost of £2.400 Whitecraig cannot commit to this. It has been agreed that this should be a priority and we should go ahead with this. AH has sent an E-mail to Bill Laird and to date has had no response

11. On 3 June 2012, as part of the Jubilee Celebrations, the community council prepared lunch for villagers who attended the church service and memorial service dedicated to the Miners. Around 10 people attended the lunch. A wreath was laid by John McNeil who is one of the oldest surviving miners in the village. This was a successful event which was enjoyed by all. It was agreed that a donation of £30 should be made to the church to cover costs. £25 was paid to the piper £141.37 in total was paid for the wreath and the buffet.

12. Alister Hadden received a quote of £1100 to put the names of the miners that died in Wallyford Pits onto the newly installed replica coal mining hutches placed beside the mining memorial stone. It was agreed that we should proceed with this.

13. The Fa'Side Inn - Mr Paul Kane (owner) indicated at a meeting with WCC that he was closing and selling the Fa'Side Inn Pub to possibly the Co-op for turning into a general store. He is also applying for permission to ELC to have a telephone receiver mast installed beside the gable end of the garage of the adjacent property.

WCC has indicated that if the sale of the Fa'Side Inn Pub was to go ahead and planning applied for change of use of premises that councillors should endeavour to encourage the adjacent properties Post Office, Betting Shop, Village Shop & Chip Shop to commit to having this whole area revamped and upgraded. This may be the only opportunity that will arise to upgrade this area.

The CC had previously discussed the planning application for the mast and agreed that objections should be made as this will make the area even more of an eyesore as well as the concerns about the health risk to neighbouring residents. This application has now been granted. Catherine Doyle and Nan Steele both adjoining proprietors of the mast site informed the Community Council that only one of the proprietors had been informed of the planning proposal and therefore the correct procedures had not been carried out. The CC advised that, the proprietor of the adjoining property should contact the Director of Planning at East Lothian Council for advice.

The proprietors also informed the CC about their concerns over the lack of maintenance of the Fa'side Inn.

14. Residents at Inchview are concerned about the amount of fly tipping taking place on the old road that went to St Clements Wells and lots of litter lying around.

15. Mr Keir Hamilton from Hamilton Waste attended the meeting to discuss the problems from the waste disposal plant including dust and litter. He informed the committee that he is aware of the situation and will be relocating to Whitecraig in the next 18 months, Meantime he has agreed that the litter will be collected more often and he will review the situation with the fences surrounding the plant.

The CC also informed Mr Hamilton about his vehicles speeding in the village and again he agreed to look into this.

16. AH also pointed out that we should be endeavouring to have a cash machine in Wallyford that has free withdrawals and not having to pay charges to the one at the post office

17. Arthur Higgings has agreed to try and contact as many former golfers from the Wallyford Welfare Golf Club so that WCC can arrange a reunion for the former players of the club.

18. A planning application has been received for affordable houses and flats in Salters Road. The CC has responded that we have no objection to affordable housing but have concerns about the lack of crossings and the volume of traffic at the eastern edge of the village.

19. A post box is required for elderly and disabled people at Miners Terrace. J Bourhill will look in to this.

AOB

A letter was received from Fiona O'Donnell MP updating the Community Council on the meeting that took place regarding the East Lothian food bank and asking for help with either volunteers or a financial contribution. The CC agreed that this was an excellent cause and further information would be requested.

A letter was received Stuart Durham who runs an Archery Tournament for the youth in Wallyford requesting funding for a new trophy. It was agreed that the cost of £51.99 would be met. The CC also conveyed their appreciation to Mr Durham for all the work he does in Wallyford Community Centre.

Next meeting will take place on Tuesday 28 of August 2012 at 7.00pm