

Meeting of Wallyford Community Council 28 August 2012

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

Apologies J Caldwell

Minutes were approved and seconded

PC Jeff Lowe delivered the police report for the previous month. The next CAPP meeting will be on 10 September 2012. Dog fouling continues to be a major issue,

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. A quote should be obtained from Hughie Muir for the repair of the church wall and a quote from B Doherty for the repair of the church Hall window.

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. The developer has now requested an extension to the planning permission and a public consultation will take place in October 2012.

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. The hutch will be installed in the next 2 weeks.

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 has 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

12. The plaques with the names of the miners who lost their lives in Wallyford Pits have now been erected onto the newly

installed replica coal mining hutches placed beside the mining memorial stone. .

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 this has now been dealt with.

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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 Higgins 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.

20. It was agreed that the sum of £50 should be donated to the East Lothian food bank.

21. The Annual Archery tournament was successful and a thank you letter was received from Stuart Durham. A special thanks was given to Cllr Forest who organised for Alan Blair from the Queens Archers to attend the event. Mr Blair spoke to the finalists and allowed the youths to use his professional bow and arrow.

AOB

- Events commemorating the battle of Pinkie Cleugh will take place 1-16 September 2012.

- 2 wreaths will be ordered for remembrance Sunday. L Hughes will organise a piper.

- Community Councillors will attend the Association of Community Councillors meeting at the Town House in Haddington on 27 September 2012.

- Elections for Community Councillors will take place on 4 October 2012

- A meeting has been arranged for 24 September 2012 with other community groups to discuss the switching on of the Christmas Lights Preston Lodge High school pipe band should be asked to lead the procession.

- It is with sadness that the Community Council has learned that St James Oratory will close in the near future. This church means so much to so many in our community.

- It has been agreed that to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of one of our residents that flowers and a card should be presented from the community. J Bourhill to organise.

Next meeting will take place on Wednesday 26 September 2012 7.00pm