

HUMBIE, EAST AND WEST SALTOUN AND BOLTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the 310th MEETING of the Humbie, East and West Saltoun and Bolton Community Council held on WEDNESDAY 2nd May 2018 in Bolton Village Hall, Bolton at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mrs R Greenhill (RG) Chair
Mr A Beck (AB)
Mrs M Hodge (MH)
Mr F Kirwan (FK)
Mrs S Jamieson (SJ)
Mrs B Roberts (BR)
Mrs R Wilson (RW)
Mr D Smith (DS)
Cllr J McMillan (JMc)
Cllr B Small (BS)
Cllr T Trotter (TT)

Members of the public attended for the Ironman presentation.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE PC L Black (LB), Councillor S Ahktar (SA)

IRONMAN 70.3 Presentation

Richard Pearson (RP) from Ironman was welcomed to the meeting. It was agreed that he would give a short presentation followed by time for Questions and Answers from CC members and members of the public.

RP noted that Ironman event is becoming increasingly popular and that the Edinburgh event attracts over 1000 athletes. In 2017, there were over 1500 athletes from 35 different countries. The first athlete is expected to complete the race in some 4 hours and the last in 8.5 hours. Competitors spend at least 3 nights in local accommodation and, according to the survey on the 2017 event, each attracted 5 spectators. The survey also confirmed that some £1.5m was spent by visitors to the event and £0.3m on pre-event visits.

RP clarified that participants must abide by tough rules on littering, abusive behaviour, road etiquette etc. Compliance is overseen by a professionals. Blue light services are contracted to oversee the event to ensure the safety of competitors and spectators.

There will be road closures from 7:30 to 12:30 with specified crossing points including at the Bolton crossroads. Access to closed roads will be arranged for residents with special requirements. RP confirmed that he was visiting all community councils, community groups and businesses along the route. He requested that he made aware of those residents requiring special assistance so that access could be prearranged.

Q1 – Humbie is marked on the map as closed although it is not on the route.

A1 – RP to check and amend the website as necessary

Q2 – Crossing at Bolton Crossroads (B6368/B6355) is not marked – why?

A2 – The map for 2017 had been used. RP would update the website. Information would be circulated to residents to confirm that the cross-roads can be used.

Q3 – There is a church service at 9:30 in Gifford and Humbie. Residents across the area will attend these. How will they reach these?

A3 – RP to take forward discussions with the Humbie Session Clerk on arrangements for church services.

Q4. Communications must take place much earlier so that local events can be adapted. Gifford Golf Club has a special event that day.

A4. RP noted that he would be visiting the Golf Club. He also noted that Ironman expected this to be an annual event.

Q5. Could a circular route be put in place through this Community to minimise the length of the road closures and avoid the disruption?

A5. RP confirmed that Ironman would look into this for future events.

Q6. It was noted that one resident is due to give birth that day – what should she do?

A6. RP requested that she contact Ironman so that suitable arrangements can be put in place.

Q7. The map is confusing – can it be simplified? It is not clear how residents in Bolton, East Saltoun and Humbie can enter/exit their villages during the event or where they might watch the event should they wish to do so.

A7. It was noted that the map cannot be changed at this late stage. However, FAQs could be prepared for each community.

Q8. How will Ironman collect feedback?

A8. RP confirmed that he would like feedback on the event. It was agreed the Community Council would collect views and, based on these, write to Ironman and East Lothian Council.

Q9. How is the event tracked?

A9. RP confirmed that live updates are provided on Facebook and Twitter on the event and road closures. He noted that roads would be reopened as soon as the last competitor is through. He noted that Ironman was due to appoint contractors to provide stewarding services.

Q10. What will Ironman contribute to local Communities? Gifford, for example, had received a bench.

A10. RP noted that Ironman has a £500 budget to support local projects. He requested that communities apply for this. He is hoping this budget will grow in future years.

Q11. Is this a money making venture?

A11. RP confirmed that the event broke even in 2017. He confirmed that Ironman pays for blue light services, road closures etc.

In discussion, it was commented that the economic benefit survey/ assessment undertaken by Ironman took no account of the loss of income/visitors to other East Lothian businesses and events caused by the partial closure of the county. Furthermore much of the suggested economic benefit was gained by Edinburgh and not East Lothian communities such as those represented by this Community Council. It was also suggested that, if the event is to be annual, it should utilise different routes in the future and not lead to the annual “closure” of certain parts East Lothian.

RG thanked RP for his attendance. She hoped that Ironman would be a successful event and would appreciate a discussion to review feedback and to make improvements for future years.

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting, which had been circulated, were taken as a true record.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

MATTERS ARISING

(1) Local Directories

RW confirmed that the Local Directory was complete and had been circulated. RW was thanked for the time and effort that she had put into this.

(2) Speed Reactive Signs

AB reported that the additional NAL socket for Gifford Road entrance to East Saltoun had been purchased. He was making enquiries about an additional Speed Reactive sign. The Council had advised that permanent signs are, in general, not recommended. However, it had been unable to clarify the policy as regards siting such signs outside schools. AB and RW would contact the Headteacher of Humbie/Saltoun schools and make further enquiries with the Council.

Speak to Headteacher about Speed Reactive Signs outside Schools – Action AB

(3) Ironman event – Council contribution

SJ confirmed that the Council had given Ironman a grant of £12,500 for the 2017 event.

(4) Humbie Parking

AB confirmed that despite reports at the last Area Partnership, the Gifford path project had been taken forward using AP funds, so there were none for the parking. However, ELC has confirmed that it will fund the Humbie parking from general funds.

CORRESPONDENCE

- RG circulated a letter from Tom Shearer who is due to retire from East Lothian Council.

PLANNING

- (1) The Mansefield House application had been considered by the Planning Committee on 1 May and had been approved.
- (2) It was noted that Leaston House is being marketed as wedding venue suitable for 400 guests, fireworks, etc. Neighbours have not been consulted and are concerned about vehicular access and noise given the single track road and the use of a marquee. AB agreed to write to Environmental Health (Derek Oliver) to ask what permissions are required for such venues.

Enquiries to be made about permissions for wedding venues – Action AB

- (3) RG noted that the Association of East Lothian Community Councils had written to the CEO of East Lothian Council about planning issues and that a meeting was scheduled for 14 May. All confirmed that they had received a copy of the letter.
- (4) It was noted that the Local Development Plan was due to be signed off by Ministers by the end of May. It was noted that this would not contain sites at East Saltoun or Humbie. In discussion, it was noted that improvements are required to future the LDP processes. In particular there was a need to: engage better with communities; provide

training so that communities could provide more meaningful input into the process; and improve communications with communities.

TRANSPORT

(1) Cycle races

SJ reported that she had attended a meeting with the Council, police, organisers of the Gifford road race and Gifford Community Council. It had been agreed that: the police would attend next year's event; there would be better notification of road closures; and more volunteers to oversee the race. However, some had commented that rolling road closures do not work owing to the tightness of the circuit; there are still issues about car parking, cars idling, anti-social behaviour, litter and cyclists cycling on the wrong side of the road.

In discussion, it was noted that three cyclists were disqualified for cycling on the wrong side of the road at The Cockles. However, this did not recognise the wider Health and Safety issues that arise in relation to these events. SJ would continue to work with Gifford Community Council.

Further updates on road races: Action SJ

(2) RELBUS

AB had attended the meeting and noted that there was a proposal for a bus to Humbie on two days of the week. This bus would connect Humbie to Tranent and would work on a similar basis to the Haddington bus. Nothing had been confirmed in writing.

FINANCE

AB confirmed that £1840 had been allocated to the 2018-19 Local Priorities Budget. The Administration budget of some £500 was the same as last year. This was for stationery and secretarial costs. In total there was some £6000 in the bank.

POLICING

(1) Police Report

- The police report was received after the meeting and indicated that there were no issues to report for this area.

(2) CAPP Priorities

No meeting had been held.

Attend next CAPP meeting – Action SJ

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Community Resilience from Sandy Baptie

RG reminded the Community Council that Sandy Baptie, Resilience officer at ELC, would attend the next meeting.

(2) Fletcher Hall

RW reported that a meeting had been held with East Lothian Council to agree the plans so that these could be submitted for planning permission. Some 30-40 residents had attended. She noted that the community would need to raise £170,000, in addition

to the £400,000 allocated by the Council to deliver the needs of the Community and the school. All noted that this seemed very high. TT requested a copy of the costings.

Costings to be provided to TT – Action RW

(3) **Drainage Issues in West Saltoun**

DS noted that following further drainage problems, the Council had carried out investigations and were developing plans. DS thanked the Councillors for their support.

(4) **Lorries at Windymains**

DS noted that there had been an incident in West Saltoun with a timber lorry. Owing to a wrong turning, the lorry had damaged telephone cables and poles. Openreach had been contacted as had Windymains. It was agreed that DS should write to Windymains to ask them to remind contractors about access routes.

Letter to be sent to Windymains - Action DS

(5) **SEPA charges for Septic tanks**

DS noted that he had received an invoice from SEPA for charges despite querying the fact there are fewer people using the septic tank than it is designed for. He noted that charges are based on the size of the tank not the numbers of people using it.

(6) **Website**

It was noted that the Community Council does not have a website and that this might provide a convenient way of publishing minutes rather than requiring emails to be circulated. RW offered to create a website. AB noted that any costs of developing the website could be met from CC budgets.

Develop website: Action RW

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the above will be held on WEDNESDAY 6th June 2018 in the Humbie Village Hall, HUMBIE at 7.00 p.m.