

HUMBIE, EAST AND WEST SALTOUN AND BOLTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the 317th MEETING of the Humbie, East and West Saltoun and Bolton Community Council held on WEDNESDAY 6th February 2019 at Humbie Hub, Humbie at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mrs R Greenhill (RG) Chair
Mrs M Hodge (MH)
Mr A Beck (AB)
Mr D Smith (DS)
Mrs B Roberts (BR)
Mrs S Jamieson (SJ)
Mr F Kirwan (FK)
Cllr J McMillan (JMc)
Cllr S Ahktar

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mrs R Wilson (RW), Cllr T Trotter, Cllr B Small, PC C Duncan.

MINUTES OF MEETING

- The Minutes of the previous meeting, which had been circulated, were taken as a true record subject to one amendment. JMc subsequently confirmed that the replacement bridge noted in the minutes was at Humbie Station, not Leaston, and cost £60k.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- None declared.

MATTERS ARISING

(1) Speed Reactive Sign, East Saltoun

It was noted that the Saltoun Parent Council had not registered any concerns about moving the sign. It would therefore be moved to the Petersmuir Road. AB would arrange this.

A meeting would be sought with Road Services (Alan Stubbs) about measures to slow the traffic outside the school including better signage. It was noted that there is already lots of signage on entry to East Saltoun – making it clearer would be helpful. In discussion it was noted that other schools have permanent speed reactive signs and 20mph limits. It was agreed that advice on speed limits outside schools was required. DS and RW would seek a meeting with Alan Stubbs.

Arrange for Speed Reactive sign to be moved to Petersmuir Rd – Action AB

Arrange meeting about Speed Reactive Signs outside Saltoun School and follow up with Road Services – Action RW/DS

(2) 30 mph speed limit through Humbie

FK noted that an article about the speed limit had appeared in the Courier. Despite the letters from the traffic police in Dalkeith, the Council continued to deny that it is their responsibility to set the policy. JMc noted that the Council's position was not correct. He would seek to arrange a meeting with Road services and the police to take the matter forward.

30mph speed limit to be raised with Roads officials and the police – Action JMc

(3) **123 Bus**

DS confirmed that the 123 bus is following the diversion as agreed with the Council to avoid the closed road in Pencaitland. There have been no complaints.

(4) **Ironman**

JMc confirmed that the benefits of Ironman were calculated using a model which allocates the overall revenues generated to various regions. It was not based on actual benefit in particular areas of East Lothian. It did not consider whether some businesses had experienced losses. He noted that the Council has no money to support any further events. If these events proceed, they will be required to consult communities.

CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) A meeting arranged by the AELCC would be held on 26th February with social workers to learn how they deal with people on the sex offenders register. SJ agreed to attend.

Attend AELCC event – Action SJ

- (2) The AELCC is arranging a meeting to mark Lillian's retirement. This will be at the beginning of March. The Chair of the AELCC will meet Sharon Saunders to discuss the arrangements for Lillian's replacement on 20th February.

PLANNING

- (1) There were a few planning applications, but none of any concern. MH noted that the application from Windymains was to provide a shed over the woodstore. This was to enable the woodyard to reorganise operations and to reduce the levels of noise.
- (2) AB noted that he had written to Ralph Averbuch, Chair of the AELCC to note that the suggested improvements to the planning portal on the Council's website to enable comments to be seen had not materialised. The chair had written to the Head of Planning.

AELCC

- No meetings had been held since the last meeting of the Community Council.

AREA PARTNERSHIP

- The next meeting is on the 21st February. MH will attend

CONSULTATIONS

- RG noted that Brett Associates had emailed to request a meeting with Community Council to discuss future traffic challenges in East Lothian. They were taking forward this work on behalf of the Council. SJ noted that she would be interested in attending. RG would forward the invitation.

TRANSPORT

- (1) **Humbie Parking**

AB reported that the parking is nearly complete and is already being used. The Council planned to return in the next few days to paint the white lines. AB noted the Community's thanks for the efforts made by the Council. AB reported that he had written to thank Road Services.

FINANCE

- (1) AB reported that contrary to what had been reported in January, no carry forward had been permitted. The Local Priority Budget had therefore been £1840 for 2018-19 not £3500. Once expenditure is deducted, only £1215 remains. It is expected that this will be transferred to the Community Council's bank account. It was agreed that it would be best to spend this money rather than lose it. AB requested projects to be brought forward for consideration.

POLICING

- (1) **Police Report**
A police report had been provided by PC Charlie Duncan. No incidents of note were reported for the last month.
- (2) **CAPP Priorities**
SJ noted that at the last meeting it had been reported that some speeding tickets had been issued. The police would continue to do speed checks in the Villages. CAPP priorities remained unchanged since the last meeting.

Attend next CAPP meeting – Action SJ

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (1) **Humbie Primary School**
AB reported that an email had been received from the Headteacher notifying parents that the nursery would be closed for 2019-20 owing to a lack of pupils. AB confirmed that the PTA had been very concerned about the email and were worried that this might have an impact on the rest of the school. The Parent Council would be writing to the Council to note their concerns and to complain about the manner in which the parents had been notified. SA confirmed that she had spoken to the family that was due to send their child to the nursery to discuss options available.

JMc confirmed that Councillors had not been pre-warned or consulted about the email. He noted that the Council is committed to keeping rural schools open and that this was not an attempt to close the school. He noted that this was a temporary closure although had seen no evidence of efforts to attract more families to the school. AB noted that a family in Humbie might be requiring a space shortly but the child was too young to be registered.

In discussion, it was noted that there needs to be confidence that the school will remain open. As witnessed in East Saltoun, a lack of confidence means dwindling school role. Schools are vital part of the Humbie community.

AB agreed to write to the Chair of the Parent Council to note that the issues had been raised and to ask the Parent Council to provide more details on the likely need for spaces in the Nursery.

Write to Parent Council – Action AB

(2) **Community Council Website**

AB would ask RW to upload the recent minutes of the Community Council to the website.

(3) **Humbie MX Track**

AB confirmed that the MX track at Bughtknowe had been moved and that events were taking place. It was noted that licences are required for each event and that only 28 can be held in any one year. Complaints had been received from neighbours and there is no evidence that neighbours have been notified and the required licences have been obtained. JMc agreed to raise the issues with SAG.

MX issues to be raised with SAG – action JMc

(4) **Snowplough Driver**

MH noted that the snowplough driver who clears the roads in Humbie is due to retire. She noted that he has a very good knowledge of the small rural roads and asked what arrangements were to be put in place for the training of new personnel. JMc would make enquiries.

Arrangements for training new snowplough drivers – Action JMc

(5) **Traprain Silver**

JMc reported that National Museums of Scotland has agreed to lend the Traprain Silver to East Lothian Council. It is on display at the John Gray Centre. He encouraged all to go and view it.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the above will be held on WEDNESDAY 6th March 2019 at Bolton Village Hall, BOLTON at 7.30 p.m.