

## **HUMBIE, EAST AND WEST SALTOUN AND BOLTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the 330<sup>th</sup> MEETING of the Humbie, East and West Saltoun and Bolton Community Council held on WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 on Zoom 7:30 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

Mrs R Greenhill (RG) Chair  
Mrs M Hodge (MH) - Treasurer  
Mr F Kirwan (FK)  
Mr D Smith (DS)  
Mrs S Jamieson (SJ)  
Mrs B Roberts (BR)  
Cllr J McMillan (JMc)  
Cllr T Trotter (TT)  
Cllr C Hoy (CH)  
Cllr S Ahktar (SA)

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Apologies were received from PC C Duncan (CD), PC C Boyd (CB), A Beck (AB) and I Galloway (IG).

### **MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING**

- The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed without amendment

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- No conflict of interest was declared

### **MATTERS ARISING**

1. Location for Saltoun Meetings – it was noted that only the Tithe Byre and Fletcher Hall are available. Given that meetings are on zoom, it was agreed that finding suitable meeting places in East Saltoun was not a priority.
2. Treasurer's duties had been transferred to MH. DS noted that he was content to be a signatory on the account.
3. IG is making progress with the website. He has arranged to get full access to the website from Rhona. Once complete, he will update the website with more information on what the Community Council does.

### **FINANCE**

1. MH noted that the Community Council's funds stand at £5,654.68. This reflects payments to East Saltoun Community Association for legal costs associated with the creation of a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).
2. MH noted that the Community Council usually supports the cost of Saltoun church Christmas lighting. It was agreed that a grant of £200 should be provided.

### **TRANSPORT**

1. **A68 Closure** - The impact of the closure of the A68 was discussed. It was noted that it took 5 days to install a chicane in Humbie to reduce the speed of vehicles. It was noted that

the road was due to reopen shortly. In discussion, MH noted that traffic didn't know where they were going as the signage was poor, many simply ignored the diversion signs and that damage had been done to the Windymains Road.

2. It was noted that the Council had sought to alleviate the problem through the Windymains Road by re-routing through East Saltoun. Whilst the roads are more suitable for such traffic, the Community had complained about the volume of traffic now entering the village, often at speed.

3. JMc noted that he agreed that the chicane arrangements were unsuitable and ineffective – and illustrated so well by Al in his song. He also recognised that the diversion of traffic had caused issues for Pencaitland and East Saltoun.

4. **30mph in Humbie** - FK noted that he had analysed traffic count 2016 and noted that there are significant numbers of vehicles exceeding the 40mph limit predominantly in the mornings and evenings. He asked, again, why the speed limit could not be reduced particularly given the universal decision of the Council to reduce 30 limits to 20mph. He noted that he had asked repeatedly for the most recent data and had not received it. He had requested it in an FOI. He had received a response that the FOI would be treated as an EIR for which a fee was payable.

5. JMc recognised that there was a problem and noted that at a recent meeting to discuss the A68 closure had noticed children playing on the grass adjacent to the road where HGVs were travelling at 45mph. He agreed that this was unacceptable. He suggested that a motion should be put to Council in October in support of a reduction in the speed limit. TT, SA and CH agreed to support this action.

6. JMc noted that he had spoken to the police and that they had not supported the reduction in the speed limit, but clearly more effort was required to convince them otherwise. He would raise the matter again when he next met Neil Mitchell. He noted that he would also speak to Tom Reid about the data and also find out why Humbie was not covered by the "Spaces for people" programme. FK noted that Police Scotland had confirmed in writing him in December 2018 that it was ELC which determined the speed limit and that enforcement measures were then a police matter - and that this letter had been copied by the Police to the Council's Senior Roads Manager

7. SA noted that she was following up emails for the data and would arrange for this to be forwarded as soon as it is received. She had also spoken to Skene about the numbers and speed of lorries.

8. CH noted that he had spoken to people living along the route affected by the diversion of the A68. He noted that other locations had similar issues such as at Boggs Holdings. He also noted that efforts had to be made to resolve the damage caused.

9. TT agreed to support the motion and noted that this would be the first time that there was cross-party support for an action to be taken by the Council.

**Action: JMc and SA to speak to Tom Reid about data**  
**Action: JMc to seek answers as to why Humbie is not covered by "spaces for people".**

10. **Potholes in Bolton** - SJ noted that recent resurfacing of a minor road at Kirklands had been poor in quality. A number of potholes had not been filled properly. JMc suggested that pictures be forwarded to him.

## **PLANNING**

1. **Chicken Shed at Howden** – SJ noted that there was an application for a further chicken shed at Howden. She noted that this was on a different site to the existing ones. It was noted that no major concerns had been raised by local residents.

2. **Haydean** - SJ noted that this planning application had been approved subject to conditions on short-term lets.

3. **Bolton Muir Woods** – SJ noted that a new planning application had been submitted for a hut. It was noted that this area of land is registered as DC1. SJ noted that there are a number of plots on the site and therefore a risk that there would be many applications for huts. It was agreed that the matter should be considered further and an objection submitted.

**Action: SJ to consider Application for hut in Bolton Muir Wood**

## **AREA PARTNERSHIP**

- It was noted that no meeting had been held or was scheduled. SA noted that a meeting was to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> September. MH and RG confirmed that neither of them had received an invitation. [Note that it was subsequently confirmed that this was a meeting of a sub-committee].

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- All correspondence had been received by email and circulated.

## **POLICE REPORT**

1. The police report had been circulated. SJ questioned how the CAPP priorities had been agreed given that the CAPP had not met. It was noted that the Council had offered to host the CAPP.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. FK and MH noted that children had been discouraged from attending the Humbie Primary School. SA noted that the recruitment for a new head teacher would start on the 15<sup>th</sup> September.

2. MH noted that she had reported fly tipping to the Council. She wanted to note that the wardens had been extremely helpful and she wished to thank them for their efforts.

3. DS noted that the Community Council should recognise and thank Al Beck for his services to the Community Council. All agreed.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the above will be held on **WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020** – venue or zoom to be agreed in the light of prevailing guidance and personal circumstances.