

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

MINUTES of the 339th MEETING of the Humbie, East and West Saltoun and Bolton Community Council held on WEDNESDAY June 2nd 2021 on Zoom 7:30 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

Mrs R Greenhill (RG) Chair  
Mrs M Hodge (MH) - Treasurer  
Mr F Kirwan (FK)  
Mrs S Jamieson (SJ)  
Cllr Craig Hoy (CH)  
Mrs B Roberts (BR)  
Mr I Galloway (IG);  
Cllr S Ahktar (SA)  
Cllr J McMillan (JMc)

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Sandy Wilson (AW), Cllr Tom Trotter (TT), Lyn May (LM), George Rapson (GR)

### **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest was declared.

### **MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

No parents completed the mandate to allow JMcM to access correspondence in relation to **Humbie Nursery**. JMcM reported that a statement is imminent from the education department – he reported that ELC is ‘actively progressing the matter’. FK reported an email to AW from Richard Parker of ELC at 1917 today stating that ‘...*despite a further meeting today the position still remains as it is, however we are continuing to have discussion on the matter and it is very much due to circumstances out-with our control at the moment that no progress has been made. The matter is still very live and I will advise you as soon as I can of any developments*’.

JMcM reported that Bolton has been added to the **R100 rollout** plan. ELC is pressing BT Openreach to develop plans for individual communities – ideally a single point of contact would be identified in each. BR volunteered her husband (David) for Bolton; FK by default for Humbie. MH cautioned that wayleaves would not necessarily be granted in every case.

RG asked whether progress had been made on an East Lothian hutting policy. JMc confirmed that he had not any further update from the planning department.

**Action: JMCM to contact BR’s husband.**  
**Action: IG to suggest West Saltoun single POC.**

## **FINANCE**

MH has circulated an email summarising income and expenditure for the year. The admin budget has been received – the same amount as in the previous year. Cash-in-hand amounts to £8,318.36 post receipt.

SA advised that free packs of cleaning products were available from the Volunteer Centre East Lothian in Tranent for local voluntary and community groups. Phone 01875 615423 to arrange pick-up.

## **TRANSPORT**

MH reported that the 109 Prentice service from Humbie is not currently running through East Saltoun because of road closures.

**Action: SH to clarify if this is a permanent route change**

## **PLANNING**

SJ complained that, only as a result of an FOI request by a third party, the officer's report to the LRB on an application in Bolton Muir had been published, rather than appearing on the ELC planning portal. A further report on another application was still outstanding.

SJ complained that the Planning Advisor's comments to the LRB had in some cases been factually incorrect. JMCM advised that the procedure required the Planning Advisor to report the views of the applicant (while making clear that this is what is being reported) as the applicant is not permitted to speak. He also pointed out that the procedure provided for the Planning Advisor's observations to be challenged by other attendees. LRB decisions, unlike those of the Planning Committee, are not appealable by the applicant.

SJ judged it unsatisfactory that only the owners of plots in Bolton Muir can contribute to the proposed masterplan for the site – JMCM noted that any masterplan must be consistent with principles to be devised by the Planning Department. He confirmed that ELC has not endorsed hutting as an acceptable form of development – he views DC1 as the over-riding framework for any woodland development.

**Action: JMCM to establish why these reports were not on the planning portal.**

**Action: SJ to advise JMCM of the comments she judged factually incorrect.**

**Action: JMCM to get an update on policy for developments such as Bolton Muir.**

## **AREA PARTNERSHIP**

No meeting has been held since May.

## **AELCC**

No meeting since May.

## **POLICE REPORT**

There will be a pop-up in Humbie on 10 June 1000-1045; thereafter in East Saltoun. Speed checks were undertaken in Bolton and East Saltoun. Only two people attended the Police pop-up session in Bolton (on the coldest day in May). SJ reported CAPP priorities – the usual anti-social behaviour; speeding.

FK noted that, despite ELC assertions that it was not policy to install ‘new speed limit in force’ signage, such signs have been erected on roads outside Dunbar, East Linton and Gifford.

**Action: JMc to establish why Humbie has not got the promised ‘new speed limit in force’ signs**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing outstanding.

## **WEBSITE**

IG confirmed that he continues to publish local events on the website. He encouraged members to publicise the link to the Council’s Facebook page.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Questions were asked about the frequency of brown bin collections. JMc noted that a new recycling process (which will involve six different containers/boxes) is to be rolled out in August with a goal of increasing recovery rates. JMc explained that brown bin collections would not be increased in the short-term owing to the need to protect statutory collection and to cope with the impact of covid on the bin collection teams.

SJ queried the purpose of Covid drop-in testing centres. JMc explained that these centre are open to members of the public and are designed to help establish the extent of community infections. He encouraged all to be tested whether or not they had symptoms. A testing site is located at John Muir House.

SA noted that the Green Book was being updated following a consultation and would be issued to community councils.

IG enquired on response times for reports of vermin – JMc expected ‘very quick action’. JMc requested that IG email him with details.

CH reported that, following his election as an MSP, he has donated his councillor’s salary to charity.

BR reported a speedy response from ELC to a problem in the Bolton playpark.

**Action: IG will check whether a response has been received.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the above will be held on 1 September 2021 at 1930 on Zoom.