

HUMBIE, EAST & WEST SALTOUN AND BOLTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes 362nd Meeting

Tuesday 9th April 2024

19:30

Humbie Village Hall

Present: Iain Galloway, Frank Kirwan, Margo Hodge, Alexander Wilson, Derek Logie, George McGuire, Tom Trotter, Kerrie McIntosh, Mandy Harrington, Carla Ward

Agenda
item

Action

1. Apologies

Carrie Murray, John McMillan, Shamin Akhtar, Robin Grenfell

2. Disclosure of Interests

Nothing declared.

3. Approval of previous minutes and action update

The minutes were approved.

4. Finance

Spreadsheet was shared ahead of the meeting.

MH noted that the account will be audited in the next month.

There is nothing outstanding from previous financial year.

The £500 requested was sent to Bolton Hall, they will confirm when the work has been done and will provide an update on the final costs. They were very appreciative of the donation.

IG stated that he would like a photo once the work is complete so that it can be added to the website.

5. Mothballing of Humbie Primary School

IG stated that he had tried to get someone from the Education service to attend, but unfortunately, there was no one available.

TT said that we should speak to Tom Reid as regards the use of the mothballed building.

IG raised a question as to the children being sent to Pencaitland Primary School rather than Saltoun Primary. TT said that Saltoun is a Grade C school and Pencaitland has better facilities. He further noted that Nicola McDowell had confirmed that there were no other schools under scrutiny for mothballing.

DL noted his concerns that Saltoun would continue to be under threat as they do not have a decent hall.

KM stated that the Saltoun parents are concerned about the numbers of the pupils at the school and fear that they will be the next school to be mothballed.

GM pointed out that none of the parents of the Humbie school children asked for their children to attend Saltoun.

TT requested that the parents be informed that there are no other schools under scrutiny - we don't want children being pulled from the school.

DL stated that Education wasn't looking at Humbie school till a month ago and there was nothing in their minutes about shutting/mothballing the school.

IG asked that when TT or GM speak to the Head of Education, they invite her to our next meeting.

FK stated it would also be useful to get someone from Estates to attend to discuss the use of the building.

DL wondered whether the Council should have a Rural Schools Strategy.

IG will try to contact Nicola McDowell and Tom Reid.

IG to email/call
TR and NM

SA asked whether there was a timeline as to when we would be able to make a proposal for the use of the building. After the 12-month review, when on the timeline will they say it won't be a school again?

TT noted that the building would be maintained to ward off deterioration.

6. Policing

Margo noted that she had not attended the last CAPP.

It was noted that the ELC funding for the 2 full time police had been withdrawn. It's concerning that we've lost 2 full time staff and it's clear that they will not be replaced.

DL stated that the Policing and Schools Issue are rooted in the budget issue, and it was a shame that there was no representation from the Administration.

7. Planning Applications

CW will share the letter received as regards Planning Application No. 23/01388/P and FK will draft a response.

8. Correspondence (since last meeting)

9. Website - no additions from this meeting

Cycle Race on the 4th May from 11:00 - 14:00. Will be added to the website and to Facebook. **IG**

10. AOB

Charities

MHa noted that she looks after the Haddington, Lammermuirs and Musselburgh areas and is therefore unable to attend all of the meeting. She said that Charity Law is changing, and she is currently assisting Charities with their governance. People will be looking for funding in the new financial year and she asked that if anyone needed anything, they please get in touch. She is also running Trustee Training and MH has signed up for one of the sessions for fundraising.

Heat Solutions

IG had spoken to Martin Hayman from ELC as regards heat solutions. If anyone would like more information, they can get in touch with him.

Saltoun Kirk

KM noted that Saltoun Kirk would be going up for sale in June. Anniko reached out with the hopes that the space could be retained for the community. They met with Fraser who had put together some options, but she noted that there is a lot against us. The shape of the building isn't straightforward, it would require drainage and heating etc.

JM has previously mentioned that there might be funding available.

SA said that it depends on how hard the deadline is as it has already been extended. It might now be too late.

DL suggested applying for funding through Scottish Feasibility.

IG indicated that the Community Council could provide £1000 for the survey, and we could involve JM and see if there is any funding available from council.

IG will speak to the surveyors etc. and DL will follow up as regards the Scottish Feasibility Funding.

IG and DL

LDP

DL asked when the new Local Development Plan would be available. TT stated that consultation was still open.

NHS 111

FK noted that if you call NHS 111 and they can't contact you after 2 attempts, they close the call. This is an issue due to the poor mobile and landline reception in the area.

Would it be possible to arrange a referral to the GP or have the district nurse visit?

This is something that needs to be considered in terms of resilience.

ALECC

MH attended the meeting.

There was a presentation as regards the battery storage units - there were concerns about the batteries being close to housing.

There is an appetite to work with Community Councils and to share funding from wind farms. They have set up a charity to receive and share funds.

Keith Dingwall (Planning - ELC) attended and is happy to share information.

11. Date of next meeting

7th May 2024

19:30

Bolton Village Hall