

Mayfield and Easthouses Community (MAECC) Minutes of meeting 5 October 2022 7pm - Meeting held in Mayfield Church

ATTENDEES

Robert Hogg (Chair), Judy Thomson, Theresa Morrison, Craig Gallier, George Jackson, Stuart McKenzie, Bryan Pottinger, Sharon Hill, Brian Martin, Peter Smaill, Stephen Liddell, Michele Lindsay, Arthur Blackhurst, Edna Bolton, Marie Allan.

Apologies

Tracylee Armit, Michael Hogg

1. Welcome and apologies

RH welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies (documented above). The only aspect from the previous minutes brought up was from George Jackson who asked Cllr Smaill if there was any update on the new windows being supplied. Cllr Smaill advised that he will chase this up as to what is being done. RH added if this could be chased up to let the community know.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved by Craig Gallier and seconded by Judy Thomson.

2. Police Report

Michele Lindsay discussed the police report where she thanked the community for the increase in calls relating to the bikes, these calls were giving descriptions which in turn helps them try to solve these crimes. She also advised that there is going to be an action week and campaign in October. She added that the session in the park which was a joint venture with police and fire brigade was postponed due to the recent passing of the Queen however this will be rescheduled. RH brought up the issue with yellow lines in Easthouses opposite the park, Cllr Pottinger says this issue has been raised on several occasions.

3. Planning

Stephen advised that the issues regarding NWH and Springfield is still ongoing. Springfield has contacted the Community Council to request a meeting along with Newtongrange Community Council regarding the issues. CC is not against the houses as they need to be done however to the right standard, Newtongrange council don't want to be seen to be taking sides either. It was decided, for the moment, not to attend such a meeting. Stephen stated that when the site gets built, half the houses will be within 400 metres of NWH which could be a massive problem however these concerns have been raised. Stephen doesn't believe the research was sufficient, the noise surveys for example weren't good. However, it's up to the planning department to decide if there has been a breach of planning regulations. We will be kept updates with any new developments. On another subject there are no more update in the Shell development, also no further updates on the Bryan's School.

Brian discussed place plans which the Scottish Government has brought out, local place plans should exist where there are active community councils. 13 of the 32 councils have some statement on local place plans only 15 percent where the actual place plan is a reality and in some cases there are plans that have been relabeled. RH advised that Fife council stuck out as excellent, he also advised that it is important for the local community to have their say. For more information, please see *Appendix i*.

4. In It Together

Sharon advises that the master plan is now done and the next phase is to progress it the only issue is the current economic climate. There will be a need to regroup. The good news is the council are backing it. Fiona Clandillon has shown a great interest in it and has been really positive. Sharon advised that this really needs to get a project manager. It was agreed that overall this has been a fantastic achievement and Sharon has no doubt it will happen the only question being is when? The document will be made public to the community, Cllr Pottinger said there was positive feedback on this and praised Sharon. The master plan has been worked on since 2015. In this the public said they wanted Bogwood Court revamped. Other master plans in Midlothian are

managed by the council, this one is by the community.

5. Environmental

Craig advised that there was fly tipping again at the camp where a large truck load was dumped. The issue regarding lighting was brought up especially with dark nights coming in.

6. Councillor's Report

Cllr Smaill advised that they are facing horrendous cuts, there's huge increases in projective costs. Cllr McKenzie advised that there's a lot happening just now behind the scenes which is confidential, however everything is being looked at and redundancies may happen due to these cuts. He also advised that letters will be sent out regarding rent increases and what it will look like. There was an update about parks, the park at Dougal place will be regenerated. It was also advised that will be another holiday due as the September one was the day of the Queens funeral. Cllr Pottinger looked forward to 'in-person' meetings again at the Council and had suggested a Full Service Review. Judy praised the councillors for their activity. Full reports can be found in *Appendix ii*.

7. Treasurer's Report

Balance £7563.20 with one expenditure of £29 for hiring the Church for our meeting.

8. AOB

RH advised that part of the houses being built are the contributions of artwork, the community council have been contacted to ask what the community council would like the theme to be, RH said it would be good to keep the name Newbattle. Sharon suggested that when the new school is open would be for them to decide.

Sharon informed us that there are recovery funds available to potentially help with heating and if they come and see Sharon she can then refer to get practical help. Sharon was also happy to say that the pantry is doing a roaring trade getting busier each week and they are supporting Dalkeith to help them open their own pantry. Owen Thompson will be in MAEDT on Friday to help challenge poverty. And that the week would have a visit from someone from Social Security to give advice about benefits, etc. SH also advised that the pavilion will be open for the fireworks display which is 5th November. Funding has been secured for the bike project including two public bike stands.

RH added that Easthouses FC got the lease for the pavilion in March 2020, it's been documented about the issues there however the council haven't responded satisfactorily. A meeting has been scheduled with Mark Kenmure next week it would be good if one of the councillors could attend.

Judy has a meeting with Wayne Clark re the grit bins therefore she would appreciate some info regarding where the bins are and not or indeed where they should be, as she would appreciate the information being accurate for the meeting.

RH thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed.