

# Mayfield and Easthouses Community (MAECC) Minutes of meeting 5 April 2023 7pm - Meeting held in Mayfield Church

## **ATTENDEES**

Robert Hogg (Chair), Judy Thomson, Stephen Liddell, Arthur Blackhurst, Peter Smaill, Cal Haston, Bryan Pottinger, Craig Gallier, Theresa Morrison, George Jackson, Susan Ryan, Paul McCallion, Michele Lindsay

## **Apologies**

Tracylee Armit, Michael Hogg, Stuart McKenzie, Brian Martin, Sharon Hill

### 1. Welcome and apologies

RH welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies (documented above).

The minutes from the last meeting were approved by Craig Gallier and seconded by Judy Thomson. RH advised that in mid-June there will be discussions held with council departments looking at different fees, potential closures and cuts. The information will be available on the Midlothian Council website nearer the time.

### 2. Police Report

Michele Lindsay read out the police report for March. She highlighted the ongoing issues with the bus services and that the worst areas appear to be Hardengreen, Gorebridge and Rosewell. The police are liaising with the schools, bus providers and kids to get it sorted. Michele confirmed that anyone found causing damage will be charged. RH asked about the recent large fire next to the shell garage and wondered if there were any outcomes from this - there wasn't unfortunately. Michele then went on to advise that she was retiring at the end of May and she's not aware as yet who will replace her.

### 3. Planning

Stephen gave a slideshow and an update on timescales for the local development plan (there were delays due to Scottish Government). There was a workshop with the planners a week ago which was useful. The planning department are going to consult the community for the Local Development Plan (MLDP2). The Community Council will also need to consult in a similar way for the Local Place Plan. The original deadline for this is October 2023 but with a secondary deadline of January 2024 when the planning department has to present their report to the Scottish Government.

Stephen also discussed the Midlothian Housing Land audit figures and the approx 40 individual planning conditions on the South Mayfield site (which is approved in principle). George asked if there was any update on the old leisure centre site, however there is nothing to update. RH was happy to say that the plans are looking fantastic for the new Easthouses Primary school and also Mayfield Campus. Easthouses Primary School is due to be finished by August 2024. There will be a presentation at our June meeting from Officers at Midlothian Council to give more information about the new Easthouses Primary School.

### 4. Councillor's Report

Councillors are campaigning against the rules on Gladhouse reservoir and also discussed the Hillend project. The latter stands at a cost £33million and it is going to take years to retrieve this cost back. Bryan mentioned the football parks needs assessment. He said Sundays are just too busy with demand and has asked SFA if some of the games could be played on Saturdays instead. He also stressed the importance of the Local Development Plan.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

The only expenditure in the last month was £30 for the hire of the church for CC meeting. This leaves a balance of £7019.44 for the end of March and the end of financial year 2022-2023. CC meetings could take place in Council venues without charge, but each provides its own challenges; location, accessibility, etc. Not trusted with the key like at the Church.

Also, treasurer has submitted an invoice to Midlothian Council for Xmas lights and has asked how we can get the money out of there for good.

## 6. AOB

RH offered condolences of the recent passing of Peter de Vink and added he will be sadly missed.

Susan highlighted the pathway between Scotmid and Mayfield Park. RH advised that there had been site visits to discuss this further. A lot of the mess has been made by barriers being left by recent works by the water board. RH advised that Councillors are coming around to check out all these issues. Important to consider the new Local Place Plan as a vehicle to help with issues like mess, damp at Bogwood Court and general regeneration.

Arthur told the meeting he has arranged for someone to come to cut the hedge back at Easthouses Court.

CLLE (Communities, Life-long Learning and Education) has provided CC with an induction pack for members and revised office bearer role definitions. These will be sent out by email to members after the meeting.

Paul raised Gala Day and the possibility of a Festival of Football on the day of the Gala.

RH thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed.