

# Mayfield and Easthouses Community (MECC) Minutes of meeting

## 7 February 2024 7pm - Meeting held in Mayfield Church

### **ATTENDEES**

Robert Hogg (Chair), Judy Thomson (Treasurer), Stephen Liddell (Planning), Theresa Morrison, Cllr Peter Smaill, Cllr Bryan Pottinger, Cllr Stuart McKenzie, Sharon Hill, Michael Davidson, Katie Brash, Craig Gallier, Cal Haston, Laura Watson, Lisa Smith, Caroline Lille, Emma Stables, Fiona Forrest and Laura McGlashan.

### **Apologies**

Tracylee Armit, Michael Hogg, George Jackson, Susan Ryan

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

RH welcomed everyone, noted the apologies (noted above) and thanked the three Councillors for attending. No issues from last month's meeting minutes, they were approved by SL and RH. We are still waiting for a start date regarding the Scottish Water CSO works in Easthouses. Normal business was suspended as we had a guest speaker – Naomi Knights from Midlothian Climate Action. There will be a launch event held at MAEDT on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024 with speakers, art workshop and planting activities. There will be other events too. She spoke about registering for Community Benefits and about a Volunteer Fair on 29<sup>th</sup> February to be held in St John's Church in Dalkeith.

#### **2. Police Report Highlights**

- RH highlighted some of the issues from the police report.
- RH has tried again to get police attendance at the meeting, even if it's just every couple of months. There has been no word.
- RH asked the councillors if there were any update in the forthcoming CCTV, as Penicuik and Dalkeith area appear to have been completed.
- A few members of public were in attendance to highlight the unacceptable state of the Mayfield Primary School. We heard of safety issues as well as hygiene and sanitation. Parents say there have been no communication about the fencing that has been erected at the school. We heard from the After School Club which had their certificate revoked from Environmental Health due to building issues. It was suggested that Councillors could organise a walk around to see these issues and to compile a list for action.
- The subject of pot holes was raised, specifically the state of roads and the condition of repairs. The Federation had been offered statistics for the work the Pot Hole Pro has been doing which was very impressive compared to where we would have been without it. It can't be everywhere at the same time and we did have to take account of time taken to training staff to use it. It had been confirmed that some repairs are temporary until the Pot Hole Pro can get to them.

#### **3. Planning**

- SL informed the meeting that the development at Scott's Caravan Park has been recommended to be refused. It was discussed that potentially a care home would benefit positioned there.
- SH and SL presented about the Town Centre redevelopment and the Masterplan. SH mentioned that this plan was not a blueprint but more an idea of what people wanted. A money raiding proposal has been prepared and will be presented to Colin Beattie MSP and to

the Chief Executive of the Council.

#### 4. Environment

CG had footage of shocking fly tipping. He passed them on to RH who will forward them to the Council.

#### 5. Councillors Report

- Councillors and Robbie Beattie, from the Council had recently walked around Bogwood court agreeing what tidying and other work needs to be done.
- Cllr Smail highlighted the growing behavioural issues at Newbattle High School. At the same time the school has been commended for their excellence IT.
- Easthouses Primary School is developing on time and on budget. A tour should be available to CC soon.
- There hasn't been information forthcoming about the budget or proposed cuts. Leader of the Council would be meeting with Federation at their Feb meeting. Further consultation after that seems unlikely. Cllr McKenzie was more concerned about next year than this year as there had been some short-term activities that have helped with the budget this year.

#### 6. Treasurer Report

- Only outgoings in January were the room hire charge for the December meeting, but in December there were both incomings and outgoings relating to the xmas lights event (venue hire/cleaning, entertainers, Pipe band, etc). Current balance is £7432.99 and JT went into detail about what monies are ring fenced and how much that leaves in non-restricted funds (*Appendix i*).

#### 7. Other Business:

- Member of the public asked if anything could be done to improve the xmas lights. Fundraising was suggested and also setting up a group for discussion.
- RH thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed.

## Ringfenced money 2023/24

	Shopping	McSence for Nightlights/ exhibition (£250)	Chris Shaw (PFP Ltd) donation	District Grand Priory of South East Scotland (£300)	Grant from Midlothian Council (£600)	COVID-19 Grant from Lottery (£10000)	Notice board (£62.50)	Xmas lights (£2564.77)
<b>Total</b>	£585.84	£250.00	£1,000.00	£300.00	£617.06	£10,000.00	£62.50	£2,787
<b>Used</b>	£185.14	£0.00	£18.77	£0.00	£663.81	£5,956.63	£13.00	£1,884.43
<b>Left</b>	£400.70	£250.00	£981.23	£300.00	<b>-£46.75</b>	£4,043.37	£49.50	£902.57
						<b>ringfenced:</b>		£7,228.17
						<b>total:</b>		7402.99
						<b>misc:</b>		<b><u>£174.82</u></b>