



EMERGENCY MEETING OF	Broom, Kirkhill, & Mearnskirk, Community Council	
HELD ON	Monday 14 th June @ 7.00pm by Zoom call	
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting	
	<p>In attendance:</p> <p>William Maxwell (Chairperson), Janet Olverman (Secretary), Jane Royston (Treasurer) Margaret Hinchliffe, Anne Lithgow, Doug Pitt, Steve Rutherford, Bev Brown</p> <p>Also in attendance:</p> <p>Cllr Caroline Bamforth</p> <p>Susan Brodie, Gillian Gallagher</p>	
APOLOGIES	Apologies were received from: Ron Gimby	
ITEM DISCUSSED		Action Points
OVERVIEW OF PLANNING APPLICATION 2021/0420/TP AND COMMENTS FROM ATTENDEES	<p>Planning application 2021/0420/TP – Upgrade to Mearns Castle High School sports facilities, Broom Park.</p> <p>Prior to the meeting the Chairperson had circulated the Powerpoint showing images of the planning application.</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and gave an overview of the planning application.</p> <p>Images were displayed showing the outline plan, layout details, car parking (for 3 vehicles), lighting, fencing and drainage.</p> <p>The BKMCC were advised that the access and car parking is only for 3 vehicles. There will be a 2m high steel mesh fence outside the running track, a 3m fence on the sides of the football pitch, and 5m at each goal end. The proposed fences are fairly dense and substantial.</p> <p>There will be 10 flood lights, 4 each side and one at each end.</p> <p>Drainage will be installed but the hydrodynamics is questioned in the light of established flood risk at the Broom burn.</p> <p>One tree will have to be removed.</p> <p>Comments from attendees:</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area in question is actually the school playing fields land and not part of Broom Park. • The upgrade to Mearns Castle’s sports facilities is 	



very much in demand by parents. The school's Parent Council is writing to planners to recommend acceptance of this.

- Currently, Mearns Castle is the most poorly served of any High school in East Renfrewshire for sports facilities.
- Williamwood, Barrhead and Eastwood High schools all have running tracks and 4G pitches.
- Mearns Castle children have to travel by coach to Linwood in order to participate in their sports days.
- LED lighting does not bleed as much as normal lighting and the lighting can be turned off at certain times. Residents could ask for obligatory time limits for the flood lighting.
- Re Drainage: Cllr. Bamforth advised that there currently is no drainage in this area. The proposal should improve the drainage.

Following discussion questions were raised about:

- drainage proposals
- flood lighting
- car parking
- ERC's proposals for renting out the facility
- hours of use
- access for residents wishing to use the running track
- no changing facilities
- no toilet facilities
- no access to drinking water
- who is paying for this?
- Are the steps leading down to the track going to be upgraded
- Affected residents should have been notified and consulted
- Why was BKMCC not consulted

The Chairperson suggested drafting a letter to the Applicant Alan Hook in the planning office requesting information about the above concerns.

The BKMCC is a statutory consultee in matters of planning applications in our area and are very concerned that we have NOT been advised or consulted about this planning application.

Residents are concerned that this development is going to



	<p>take over the Broom Park, like the proposal for Crookfur Park. However, this is not the case, the land concerned is actually the Mearns Castle High School playing fields and not part of Broom Park. This is an improvement to an existing, very poor facility which badly requires upgrading.</p> <p>Comment was made that the Eastwood High running track is showing a lot of wear, bikes, scooters, dogs etc. use this track that now has holes in it. The fencing may help to prevent miss-use and prolong the life of the track. It will also prevent dogs fouling the long jump pit.</p> <p>BKMCC commented that perhaps the appearance of fencing might be improved.</p> <p>The Chairperson proposed to draft a letter to the applicant Alan Hook, who is ERC's Principal Officer Technical Services, asking for more information about the above queries. Once these questions have been answered, it will be possible to formulate an official comment to this planning application. Since the BKMCC is a statutory consultee for the area, the opportunity to make an official response is a statutory requirement.</p> <p>The BKMCC will then be in a position to inform local residents about this application with a high degree of accuracy.</p> <p>Doug Pitt commented that the BKMCC should insist ERC consult with local residents on planning which affects them.</p> <p>Bev Brown advised that the original notice was sent to an old Community Council which ceased to exist years ago. Possibly an administrative error?</p> <p>ERC have a legal obligation to consult the BKMCC for planning applications in their area.</p> <p>Because of the lack of notice, the BKMCC requests that more time be provided to allow proper scrutiny of this Planning Application.</p>	
HOW DO WE RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS	<p>The Chairperson advised that during the COVID pandemic, the Chief Executive agreed to introduce temporary emergency decision making powers of ERC such that all council meetings would be closed to the general-public (Agenda Item No. 3, East Renfrewshire Council 21 May 2020). There have been a number of major decisions taken where the public had no ability to discuss or participate.</p> <p>Bev Brown advised that National newspapers are reluctant to take on local councils about planning issues.</p> <p>It will be important to obtain answers to our questions about PA 2021/0420/TP before notifying or alerting the</p>	



Broom Kirkhill Mearns Kirk
Community Council

	<p>general-public.</p> <p>Once we have more detailed information, an article can be written for the Community magazine.</p> <p>This Planning application has been included within the Agenda for our next monthly meeting on 21st June that has been advertised on our Facebook page.</p>	
AOCB	Janet reminded everyone about the litter pick in Broom Park on Saturday 19 th June at 11am. Meeting in the car park.	
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	Monday 21 st June 2021 7pm via Zoom	
	The Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and drew the meeting to a close.	