



Broom Kirkhill Mearns Kirk  
Community Council

<b>MEETING OF</b>	Broom, Kirkhill, & Mearns Kirk, Community Council	
<b>HELD ON</b>	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 @ 7.30pm by Zoom call	
<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</b>	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, Rob Jones, Ron Gimby.</p> <p>Also in attendance:</p> <p>Cllr Caroline Bamforth</p> <p>Kirsten Oswald MP</p> <p>Vincent McCulloch</p> <p>Susan Brodie</p>	
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Apologies were received from: Bev Brown, Steve Rutherford	
<b>ITEM DISCUSSED</b>		<b>Action Points</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTE OF MEETINGS</b>	The Minute of the meeting on 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 was proposed by the Chairperson, seconded by Margaret Hinchliffe and approved by the Community Council.	
<b>POLICE REPORT</b>	<p>The Chairperson reported upon the Police Report for the Broom, Kirkhill and Mearns Kirk Community Council area for the period 19th April 2021 to the 14th May 2021.</p> <p><b>CRIMES OF NOTE &amp; CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE</b></p> <p>Crime levels in our community council area remain very low.</p> <p>There have been no reported housebreak-ins in our community council area during the last month.</p> <p>During this period, there has been an increase in reports of thefts of catalytic convertors from vehicles across East Renfrewshire.</p> <p>The community policing team at Giffnock police office continue to run its free bike marking events along with the Bike register. Bike marking is still currently ongoing at this stage and is completed socially distanced, for more information please contact:</p> <p><a href="mailto:GreaterGlasgowLPSTEastRenfrewshire@scotland.pnn.police.uk">GreaterGlasgowLPSTEastRenfrewshire@scotland.pnn.police.uk</a></p> <p><b>LOCAL ISSUES &amp; PARTNERSHIP WORKING</b></p> <p>The community policing team based at Giffnock police office continue their weekend action plan to tackle youth</p>	<p>Janet to put bike marking scheme on Facebook page</p>



disorder within the East Renfrewshire council area. Officers have been engaging with any groups of youths within the area especially during hours of darkness. Many of these youths are travelling to the area but many also live locally.

The community policing team are aware of ongoing issues with anti-social behaviour in and around the Broom shops, Broomburn Park and Mearns Castle High School. However, there were no incidents reported over the last month.

The "youth disorder action plan" will continue to run throughout the summer.

The community policing team continue to respond proactively to local complaints regarding speeding and road safety within the East Renfrewshire area. Officers will continue to police proactively the East Renfrewshire road network.

### **Comments from CC Members**

#### **Police Patrols**

The Police seem to have increased patrols in our area and the BKMCC are grateful for their efforts. The Police reported that children on their way to school have been checked for alcohol in school bags.

#### **Speeding**

Doug Pitt raised several points about speeding on Waterfoot road, particularly the stretch between Mearns Road and Mearns Castle High School:

- Heavy agricultural machinery thunders along this road in excess of the 30mph limit
- Police cars often appear to speed along this road in excess of the 30mph limit, with or without blue lights flashing.

While commending the visibility of police generally, the BKMCC would like to request that they consider being more pro-active in Waterfoot Road.

Cllr. Bamforth advised that a very high proportion of emails she receives is about speeding in this area and explained that the traffic control vans have to go to specifically designated places, and that they are not able to be situated, for example, in that particular stretch of Waterfoot Road.

It was noted that different regulations apply to portable speed cameras.

The BKMCC also raised concern about excessive speed of traffic along the stretch of Waterfoot Road between the Aldton Park CareHome to the Golf Academy. There is currently a National Speed Limit sign permitting vehicles to travel at up to 60mph. Drivers often do not slow down to



	<p>30mph by the time they reach the Aldton Park turning. Residents are extremely concerned and would like to request that the speed limit along this entire stretch of road is reduced to 30mph.</p> <p>Kirsten Oswald MP suggested that we should notify police if we have a particular concern about an area.</p> <p>The Chairman mentioned that he has noticed recently the general speed of traffic has fallen along the Ayr Road and credits some drivers for observing the new speed limit.</p> <p>The BKMCC agreed to submit a special request to police to be more pro-active in Waterfoot Road and the Chairman offered to draft a letter to Police about these matters.</p>	<p>Will to draft letter about speeding</p>
<p><b>BROWN BIN COLLECTIONS</b></p>	<p>The Chairperson advised that the ERC Cabinet on 26th November 2020 considered a report outlining proposals to introduce a Charging for Garden Waste Scheme for 2021/22.</p> <p>The proposal to implement the charging for garden waste scheme will generate income for the Council that will allow additional staffing and the purchase of a further refuse collection vehicle for the scheme to obtain improved reliability. It should be noted that three new operational posts and one administrative post will be created within Neighbourhood Services.</p> <p>Participation in Garden Waste Scheme will be voluntary.</p> <p>All households participating in the garden waste scheme will pay an annual charge of £40.00. Payments may be made online or through Customer First. The charge will be reviewed annually.</p> <p>There are no exemptions. However, in exceptional circumstances ERC may be able to consider payments over four instalments through direct debit.</p> <p>The implementation date this year will be Monday 5th July 2021 up to which point residents will continue to receive a free uplift of their garden / food waste.</p> <p>All householders will be circulated with a letter, inviting them to participate in this scheme. Once the fee is paid, bin stickers will be issued.</p> <p>The majority of Councils in Scotland are now charging for garden waste collections or considering not collecting this waste at all.</p> <p>Food waste will continue be collected weekly. However, if there is any evidence of garden waste in a brown bin without a sticker, it will not be emptied until a fee of £35.00 has been paid.</p> <p>Residents may choose to put their garden waste into their household (grey) bin. However, this will be discouraged as</p>	



poor recycling practice. The Council will not uplift any additional waste caused by the overfilling of grey bins.

If a resident employs the services of a gardener, the waste will then be classified as commercial waste. The gardener should take this away with them after finishing their work and dispose of it as commercially generated waste.

The proposed scheme will generate some £800,000 of revenue per annum and was approved in principle at the cabinet meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

The Chairperson advised that the BKMCC had received a notification from the Chairperson of an old Community Council, stating that there was no public consultation about the introduction of this charge and it unfairly affects elderly residents who have no other means of disposing of garden waste.

Questions:

Doug Pitt asked if the £800k will fund the three extra members of staff and an extra bin lorry. He also commented that the current scheme does not segregate food and garden waste so bins will have to be inspected on the kerb.

Margaret Hinchliffe mentioned that a petition has been started against the extra charge. People think it should be our council tax that pays for this and the charge will encourage more fly tipping.

Cllr. Bamforth advised that there is not a legal requirement for the council to collect garden waste. More people are using brown bins for garden waste and approximately 180,000 tons are collected annually, which costs ERC a considerable amount of money to have recycled. Resources are becoming stretched. The additional income will pay for extra operatives who will provide an enhanced service.

Cllr. Bamforth responded to the comment that there was no public consultation. This proposal was approved at a full cabinet meeting. 17 councillors attended and none of them objected. It was approved unanimously.

The question of additional fly-tipping was asked of other councils and it would appear that they haven't experienced an increase in fly-tipping of garden waste.

Kirsten Oswald MP confirmed that this scheme appears to be working well in other Council areas and there is no problem with stickers falling off bins.

It was noted that the charge is less than £1 a week and it would cost more to have waste removed commercially.

<p><b>TREE PLANTING PROGRESS</b></p>	<p>The Chairperson thanked members of the CC for attending on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May to assist with the tree planting. We planted approximately 200 saplings, but there are still about 100 left.</p> <p>The Chairperson offered to write to Mark Brand and ask him for advice on a suitable place for the remaining 100 trees.</p> <p>Janet to advise a new date for planting the remaining trees.</p>	<p>Janet to advise new tree planting date</p>
<p><b>AYR ROAD SPEED LIMIT</b></p>	<p>Cllr. Bamforth was pleased to report, that ERC Roads Dept. has agreed to put up larger speed limit signs. This should be happening imminently.</p>	
<p><b>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b></p>	<p>The Chairperson has obtained copies of leaflets for the Neighbourhood Watch scheme and offered them to CC members. There are also some stickers available.</p> <p>Janet offered to see if the leaflet is available in a .pdf version for adding to our Facebook page.</p>	<p>Janet to find pdf file of leaflet</p>
<p><b>QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR</b></p>	<p><b>Mearns Kirk Co-op Sight Lines</b></p> <p>Doug Pitt advised he had visited the new Co-op and noted concerns about poor sight lines for traffic manoeuvring and pedestrians. He raised an issue of concern that the roundabout is not visible when exiting the car park.</p> <p>The Chairperson suggested taking photographs of the sight lines and incorporating them within a revised letter to Roads Department.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised that she sent a copy of the original report of handling to Janet. Roads Department were content with the road safety aspect of this development. The building had been altered subsequently to include the overhang and dropped kerbs. ERC have instructed the contractors to remove the dropped kerbs because they are not in a safe place.</p> <p>Kirsten Oswald MP advised that she had not received a response from Roads Department to her letter asking about safety in this area. She will let us know as soon as she has received a response.</p> <p><b>Post Office Provision</b></p> <p>Kirsten Oswald MP advised that a member of her staff will be attending a meeting tomorrow, 18<sup>th</sup> May at Westminster, with an All Party Group on post offices and will inform the CC of any developments.</p> <p>The Chairperson to send her a copy of our letter to Roads Dept.</p>	<p>Will/Doug to take photos of sight lines</p> <p>Will to redraft letter</p> <p>KO to keep CC informed of Post office developments</p> <p>Will to send KO copy of Roads letter</p>



<p><b>AOCB</b></p>	<p><b>Langrig Road footpath</b></p> <p>Rob Jones enquired if there is anything that can be done about the mess contractors have left along the footpath. There is still an area not tarmacked. Concrete spillage has been left and surplus tarmac has been dumped at the top of the quarry. Workman's rubbish has also been left behind.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth asked Rob to send photos and she would take up the issue with Roads Department.</p> <p><b>New BKMCC Member</b></p> <p>The Chairperson welcomed Susan Brodie to the meeting and explained that her co-option would be ratified at the meeting on June 21st.</p> <p><b>Future BKMCC Meetings</b></p> <p>Vincent McCulloch said that, all things being well, hopefully, in September we can resume face-to-face meetings at Mearns Castle High School.</p> <p><b>Eastwood Park Development</b></p> <p>Anne confirmed that the Eastwood Park Allotments will be retained and are not going to be turned into a car park.</p> <p><b>MYSP new member</b></p> <p>We have received an email from Josh Parker our area representative at the Scottish Youth Parliament. It was suggested that we invite him to give a short presentation to our meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June.</p> <p><b>Litter Picking</b></p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised that due to the lifting of some COVID restrictions, litter-picking may now recommence. There is an email address to contact for uplift of rubbish collected by litter pickers.</p> <p>It was suggested that BKMCC purchase our own litter pickers for up to 8 people. Jane Royston offered to price suitable litter pickers.</p> <p>Vincent McCulloch suggested contacting local businesses to sponsor litter pickers and offering them to local community groups (Scouts etc.).</p> <p>Kirsten Oswald advised she has a number of constituents who are keen to work with others to support a litter picking initiative. Janet offered to copy her in on our litter picking dates.</p> <p>Margaret suggested that it may be an idea to pick-litter when the people are using the playing fields at Mearns Castle. Visibility might make people think before leaving</p>	<p>Rob to send photos to Cllr. Bamforth</p> <p>Janet to invite Josh Parker to our meeting in June</p> <p>Janet to copy KO into litter picking email.</p>
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	<p>their litter behind.</p> <p>Vincent McCulloch advised against engaging people who are dropping litter, you stand a chance of retaliation. However, if groups are using council property the people hiring the pitches should leave it clean and tidy. If they leave it in a mess their let can be cancelled.</p> <p>Susan Brodie mentioned that the litter left behind by Mearns Castle pupils along Broom Road East is appalling and asked if it would be possible to ask the school to get the children to clear it up.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised it might be worth emailing the school and mentioning this problem. The Campus cops might talk to the children.</p> <p>The Chairperson offered to draft a letter to the school.</p>	<p>Will to write to Mearns Castle about litter problem.</p>
<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2021	
	<p>The Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and drew the meeting to a close.</p>	