



Broom Kirkhill Mearnskirk
Community Council

MEETING OF	Ordinary Meeting of Broom, Kirkhill, & Mearnskirk, Community Council	
HELD ON	Tuesday 7 th March 2023 @ 7.30pm at Mearns Castle High School	
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting	
	<p>In attendance:</p> <p>William Maxwell (Chairperson), Jane Royston (Treasurer), Margaret Hinchliffe, Anne Lithgow, Janet Olverman (Secretary), Asif Majid</p> <p>Also in attendance: John Semple (East Renfrewshire Council), Cllr. Caroline Bamforth, Cllr. Andrew Anderson, PC Eric Joiner and PC Emma Eck, (Police Scotland).</p>	
APOLOGIES	Elnara Alderson, Cllr Paul Edlin, Susan Brodie, Doug Pitt, Steve Rutherford (Vice Chair)	
ITEM DISCUSSED		Action Points
APPROVAL OF MINUTE OF MEETINGS	<p>Minute of Ordinary Meeting 7th February 2023</p> <p>Page 5 insert word 'little' before 'Avenue' 4th paragraph</p> <p>The Chairperson proposed the minute as a true record of the meeting seconded by Jane Royston and approved by the Community Council.</p>	
MATTERS ARISING/	<p>Cllr. Bamforth clarified</p> <p>Page 5 BKMCC Response to Budget Consultation 2023-24</p> <p>£71m was excluding Education and HSCP that are ring-fenced. HSCP budget comes from the Health Board and is separate.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth asked the Secretary to forward a copy of the email The Chairperson sent to Cllrs about the budget consultation in December 2022</p>	JO send copy of budget email to Cllr Bamforth
POLICE REPORT	<p>Constable Eric Joiner and Constable Emma Eck from Giffnock Community Policing attended the meeting and presented the Police report for the period 7th February 2023 to 7th March 2023.</p> <p>Since the increase in break-ins and relay thefts of vehicles experienced over the Christmas period, crime has been quieter over past month. There have been significant arrests in relation to these incidents.</p> <p>Residents are urged to remain vigilant – keep houses locked and lights on in the evenings. Try to make the house looked lived in which will deter criminals.</p> <p>Question:</p>	



What can residents do to prevent relay thefts?

Constable Joiner suggested keeping car keys away from the front of the house or as far away from the car as possible. Put keys in a metal tin or a Faraday Pouch that will block the signal and prevents relay to the car.

Advice is available on the Police Scotland website. High valued cars most frequently targeted.

The latest arrests have resulted in the recovery of many of the recently stolen vehicles.

Constable Joiner to send the information to the Secretary for distribution - see attached below from Police Scotland Website.

Question:

May a numerical breakdown of crimes be provided to BKMCC? – How many cars stolen, how many house break-ins etc.

Crime statistics are published quarterly on the Police Scotland website and can be found at:

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/>

Question:

Could the Police recommend a GPS tracker to help with recovering a vehicle if stolen?

Most GPS trackers are inbuilt in vehicles but thieves know how to disable these.

The Police do not have the resources to monitor local Facebook group pages. The Police urge residents to always phone the police if they spot anything suspicious. It is only if the Police are alerted that any response may be mediated.

Relay theft information is available on Police Scotland Facebook page – JO to Share: see below

Police Scotland explain this, saying: "Each of the thieves carries a 'relay box' – a device that relays the signal from the car key to the **car**. One thief gets near enough to the key (in the house) to pick up the signal, relays it to the second box carried by the second thief who's near enough to the car for the signal to be transmitted to it and trigger the unlocking. The criminals can then drive away in the stolen car."

- **Steps to take to prevent relay theft**
 - Keep your key device in a 'Faraday pouch' (signal blocker) which has a lining that prevents the items inside from receiving or transmitting radio

JO to share
Relay theft
information



	<p>frequency signals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look for a type which is Secure By Design approved.• Check vehicle doors are locked before walking away Listen for the central lock engaging and watch for indicators flashing when locking the car.• Do not store keys near windows or doors.• If you buy a second-hand keyless car, get the key reprogrammed Make sure the key and any spares are stored securely and safely.• Use a steering wheel lock.	
<p>REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ERC</p>	<p>Presentation by John Semple, Regeneration and Economic Development, East Renfrewshire Council.</p> <p>Getting about Mearns</p> <p>This project concerns ONLY the town centre of Newton Mearns Access and Design Masterplan. How to access the town centre on foot, by bike, improvements to parks, pavements, junctions etc.</p> <p>The Project Area diagram covers the area on West side of the Ayr Road from the Avenue to Crookfur Road and includes Crookfur Park and Fairweather Park as indicated by the area limited by the red line on the map below</p>	



A drop-in event, at the Market Place at the Avenue Shopping Centre, between 3 to 7pm on 23rd March is scheduled. This will provide local people with the opportunity to put forward their ideas for improvement.

Funding for this project comes from external funding through Sustrans. (An organisation funded by the Scottish Government to promote sustainable transport). They will fund the development, design and actual construction.

Funding has been provided to ERC for development work. Once designs are complete, an application will be submitted for development and construction.

Question:

Jane asked why Shawwood Greenspace and Broom park are not included in this project.

John said this particular project is about accessing the town centre, there will be opportunities coming off the back of this one. A project list will be published in April.

Question:

Why can't ERC provide waste-baskets in Maidenhill?

The roads in the Maidenhill development are owned by the developers and will be so for two years after estate completion. The Council do not legally own the roads so they cannot put baskets on them. Bins may only be installed once ERC has adopted these roads.

Question:

What is the status of the Aurs Road straightening development and station?

They are not part of this project and have been delayed

Cllr. Bamforth advised one of the problems encountered is



	<p>that Central Station does not have enough long platforms available.</p> <p>Question:</p> <p>Margaret asked if Sustrans are involved with re-routing buses that are important forms of travel.</p> <p>Not at the moment, but this is a topic ERC could discuss with the Sustrans consultant.</p> <p>The Chairperson asked CC members to make a list of ideas for improving town centre and thanked John Semple for his presentation.</p>	
<p>DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL TO CHANGE NAME OF BKMCC</p>	<p>Our Community Council area now includes Maidenhill and the Chairperson put forward the Motion:</p> <p>“To include the newly recruited members of the Broom, Kirkhill and Mearns Kirk Community Council, the Chairperson puts forward the Proposal that the name be changed to the Broom, Kirkhill, Mearns Kirk and Maidenhill Community Council (BKMMCC)”</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>It is proposed to add Maidenhill, but to be consistent we should also add other residential areas: Whitecraigs (part of), Mearns (round the old church), Hazeldene and Floak, making us BFHKMMWCC.</p> <p>Our CC area lies within Ward 5 Newton Mearns South and Eaglesham – It was suggested to change the name to ‘Newton Mearns South’. Cllr. Bamforth advised this name could be confusing because Ward 5 Newton Mearns South area includes Westacres.</p> <p>It was agreed to consider this more carefully and to approach Vincent McCulloch for advice.</p>	<p>JO/Will to contact Vincent for advice</p>
<p>ERC BUDGET CONSULTATION 2023-24</p>	<p>ERC Budget Consultation and Budget of 1st March 2023</p> <p>The Chairperson provided a summary of the report:</p> <p>The papers relating to this meeting were 538 pages in length.</p> <p>More than 1700 people shared their views.</p> <p>Plans to increase Council tax by 6% (originally budgeted for 5%). This additional increase still left a deficit of £18m.</p> <p>To close the Budget gap using only Council Tax, it would have to increase by more than 50% over the next three years.</p>	



	<p>Water rates increase is scaled according to Council tax band.</p> <p>The charge for Brown bin has increased to £50 p a.</p> <p>There had been concern before the assessment that some leisure centres and pools might be closed or reduced but patronage of all has come back strongly since the pandemic. Libraries are the exception. There is no risk of library closures this year but this is still a possibility in 2024/2025.</p> <p>Asif suggested promoting the library on our Facebook page.</p> <p>The Chairperson to write to Head of Libraries and invite them to a meeting to promote their facilities.</p> <p>Good news:</p> <p>Funding over five-years has been provided for improvement of pavements and roads.</p> <p>Not so good news:</p> <p>The new pitch at MCHS is still not finished and is unlikely to be completed until August.</p> <p>The full budget speech and presentation can be found using the links below:</p> <p>https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/8850/Council-Leader-s-Budget-speech-2023-24/pdf/Council_Leaders_Budget_speech_2023-24.pdf?m=638132833140070000</p> <p>https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/media/8849/Budget-presentation-2023-24/pdf/Budget_presentation_2023-24.pdf?m=638132832846470000</p>	<p>Will to contact Head of Libraries</p>
<p>PLACE BASED INVESTMENT PROGRAMME</p>	<p>Asif Majid provided an update on the Place Based Investment Programme:</p> <p>Maidenhill residents really need a community hall and playpark.</p> <p>Lorna Wallace sent Asif information about the process of setting up a community group and how to progress an application to the Place Based Investment Programme.</p> <p>Cllr Anderson has made enquiries about this Programme and will discuss in more detail with Asif after the meeting.</p> <p>The main issue is that ERC does not own any of the land at Maidenhill. It is all owned by the Developers.</p> <p>Question:</p>	



	<p>What planning gain was agreed between ERC and the Developers?</p> <p>The Developers built the new Primary School.</p> <p>Asif advised that although the developers have 'set aside' an area to be used for building a religious facility, the developers will charge £1.6m for purchase of that land.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that if no religious facility was built the developers would use this land for building more housing.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised that Maidenhill cannot expand anymore because the school is full. If this land reverts to the developers no permission will be granted for housing.</p> <p>If ERC built a community centre they would have to buy a piece of land from the developers and pay all the upkeep. However, the Maidenhill Primary School is a community facility and one of the churches uses this school for meetings.</p> <p>Question:</p> <p>What happened to the area at the Malletsheugh which developers designated for a commercial facility?</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised that ERC cannot force businesses into an area.</p> <p>Asif said that the plan would be for the community to fund and run the hall but unless they can be given an acre of land it will be a non-starter.</p>	
COMMUNITY MAP SCOTLAND	<p>The Chairperson attended this video-conference on February 10th 2023.</p> <p>Community Map Scotland is a software project to help communities build a Local Place Plan and provides an online facility for generating detailed maps of local areas. It is being offered to CCs free for first year, thereafter will incur a £300-400 subscription. The maps are very detailed but too costly for the BKMCC to fund.</p>	
LITTER PICKS	<p>On Saturday 4th March, the litter pick in the Mearns Castle High School area and around the Co-op and Kirkhill Gate Nursery Broom Road East, collected ten full black bags of rubbish in just one hour. Thank you to all who helped.</p> <p>Our next litter pick will be held on Saturday 1st April – location TBA</p> <p>Margaret advised that the Newton Mearns Community Help Service offered to assist with the litter picking.</p> <p>BKMCC wrote to the MCHS Head teacher, inviting the</p>	



	<p>School ECO committee to attend one of our meetings and also to help with the litter picking.</p> <p>Jane ordered more litter pickers.</p>	
AOCB	<p>The meeting overran - To be discussed at our next meeting:</p> <p>Mearns Road Traffic calming – residents in the houses opposite the Mearns Kirk Co-op have asked if something can be done about the 'traffic calming' chicane in Mearns Road. Since the introduction of these islands, the traffic noise has increased substantially with cars blaring their horns from before 7am each day.</p> <p>When Scottish Water are digging up this road, could this 'traffic calming' please be reconsidered and another less confusing and disruptive solution be introduced.</p> <p>Parking on Bike lane in Ayr road. We have received a complaint from a resident about the persistent parking in the bike lane along the Ayr Road. This causes a hazard to cyclists and should be illegal. Janet to write to our Community Police contact for advice.</p> <p>2 Garrick Avenue, Mearns Kirk</p> <p>Complaint about New fence erected on MOA owned land and unauthorised cutting of protected trees.</p> <p>Biogas plant:</p> <p>Cllr Bamforth to forward to Janet, ERC's response to D. Jesner's request about the Proposed Biogas development.</p>	<p>JO write to PC Joiner</p> <p>JO/Will to formulate letter</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth</p>
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	Tuesday 11 th April 2023 at 7.30pm in Mearns Castle High School	
	With there being no further business, the Chairperson thanked everyone for attending	