

### **Present**

Dr David Houston (Chair), David Bewsey (Secretary), Mike Scott, Nigel Rudd, Bill Alexander, Colin Proctor, Alastair Murray, Lorraine O'Shea (CVE), Cllr Jason Rust, Cllr Richard Lewis, Cllr Elaine Aitken, Major Alex Price (3 RIFLES), PS Chris Richardson, PC Ali Murdoch & 4 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Tom McDonald (Vice-Chair), Gordon Neill (Treasurer), Nigel Rudd, Sarah Stone, Gordon Macdonald MSP, & Joanna Cherry QC MP.

### **Welcome by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

### **Police Report**

PC Ali Murdoch outlined the crime related issues during the past month. He reported that there had been no violent crimes, no hate crimes and no anti-social behaviour. He went on to say that there had been three housebreakings in the area between 6<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April, two of which have been solved. There were also two housebreakings with intent. He also reported two thefts of registration plates. The road safety issue around Bonaly Primary School has been put on hold.

It was mentioned that the South-West Partnership against Rural Crime has a multi-agency meeting to look at antisocial behaviour in the Country Park and around the reservoirs.

It was announced that dog walker had been charged under the Protection of Livestock Act (Sheep worrying) for allowing his dog to fatally attack two sheep in Bonaly Country Park.

A day of action is to be arranged in June.

Councillor Rust mentioned Operation Minerva which is a "No Cold-Calling Zone" initiative. The Secretary drew attention to Redford Avenue being one such zone. There followed a short discussion. It was agreed to obtain clarification on how neighbourhoods should set up "No Cold-Calling Zones" and put this on the website and in the E-Newsletter.

It was emphasised that there would be a core of dedicated community officers within the area with a separate group of officers dealing with other issues. It was clarified that there was a re-balancing exercise going on to answer issues raised in the annual survey.

### **Minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and matters arising:**

The minutes were approved. Proposed: AM, seconded: BA

Councillor Aitken commented that her apologies for the last meeting had not been included in the minutes. The Secretary apologised for the omission.

### **Annual Reports for Action Group & Matters Arising**

The Chair suggested that now an inquiry was being set up to look into the matter, it was appropriate to wait for the outcome of that before writing to the Chief Executive on the matter. The reports were passed without comment.

The Chair mentioned that the Treasurer had suggested that the AGM should in future be held in November and not just in years when there was a Triennial Election of Community Councils.

The Secretary suggested that accounts would still have to be submitted in May and would ask Community Council Liaison if a change of AGM to November would be acceptable.

**ACTION: Secretary**

The Chair asked for comments on reports. He said it had been a demanding role and our main consideration was the planning application for Bridge Road. Reports were accepted. BA asked about acceptance on donations. It was agreed the community council could accept donations. With regard to the Planning Report the Secretary explained that the application for flats at Woodhall Mains Farm had been refused by the Reporter and the house on Torduff Road has been withdrawn.

### **Annual Accounts**

The accounts were formally approved.

### **Tunnel Project**

MS introduced the item saying that Colin Proctor had offered to join the team to take the project forward to the next stage. A motion by MS, seconded by AM, to take the project forward to create a project plan, an engagement plan, and to develop funding applications was unanimously approved.

This was followed by a protracted discussion on what additional insurance cover might be needed and what cover there is currently for normal community council activities.

MS pointed out that as the group had not yet created a project plan as this had just been agreed, they would not be able to make any estimate of additional liability for the community council. AM pointed out that the likely partners in this project had considerable experience in this area and once the next stage had been completed, this matter would become clearer.

Chair suggested that he would investigate the level of insurance currently held and this would be followed up at the next meeting.

**ACTION: Treasurer & Chair**

The Chair pointed out that there would be a significant amount of time before the next meeting and there might be key decisions that need authority. It was agreed that the Tunnel Group would keep members apprised of any significant progress.

**AOCB**

AM criticised the Secretary's response to a Twitter comment about the junction of Spylaw Street and Bridge Road as being inappropriate. He suggested the phrase "not the right forum to discuss the matter" should have been to email the Community Council. It was agreed that AM should obtain the email address of the complainant and it would be followed up.

**ACTION: AM**

A communication from a resident suggesting that the CC should be acting to redress the loss of shopping facilities was raised. BA declared an interest. It was agreed that the Secretary would write to the Royal Bank to ask what plans they had for the building and a timescale. He would also try to find out who owned the former flower shop Amethyst which CVE use as a store. BA declined to provide any information that he held.

**ACTION: Secretary**

A final decision on meeting dates for the coming year was not made, but a tentative list will be published on the website.

The Secretary announced that the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership Annual Review meeting would be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7pm in Pentlands Community Centre. As this was the same night as the next CC meeting a decision on who would represent Colinton CC would need to be taken. This would normally be either the Chair or Vice-Chair.

**Public Questions**

None

**Date of next meetings: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7:30pm, at Colinton Bowling Club**

01 June 2016