

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

Community Council		
Name	Position	Present
Charlie Love	Chairperson	✓
Heather Brock	Deputy Chairperson	✓
John Thornton	Secretary	✓
David Ritchie	Treasurer	✓
Clare Davidson	Minutes Secretary	✓
Heather Coull	Member	x
Raymond Swaffield	Member	✓
Bill Loudon	Member	✓
Dawn Anderson	Member	✓
Kate Lumsden	Member	✓
Alan Eastell	Member	x
John Long	Member	✓
Diane Priestley	Member	✓
Ken Stewart	Member	✓
Daniel Hay	Member	✓
Mandy Duggan	Member	✓
Stuart Bews	Member	✓
Brian Colvin	Member	✓
Chika Edeh	Member	✓
Cllr David Aitchison	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Iris Walker	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Ron McKail	Ward 13 Councillor	x
Cllr Alistair McKelvie	Ward 13 Councillor	✓

Members of Public/Invited Guests		
Freda Imrie	Heather Cook	PC Steve Middleton
Aileen Swaffield	Susan Proctor	PC Nicole Garden
Margaret Thornton	John Proctor	Graham Burnett
Alan Burnett	Moira Lawson	Linda Lawson
Nancy Manning		

	<u>Item</u>	<b>Action/ Attention</b>
<b>1</b>	<b><u>Chairperson's welcome and opening remarks</u></b> Chair Charlie Love (CL) opened the meeting and welcomed all members, residents and councillors	
<b>2</b>	<b><u>Apologies</u></b> Ron McKail John Hunter (JH) – CL advised that John Hunter has resigned from WECC	
<b>3</b>	<b><u>Review and Approval of the draft Minutes of Meetings</u></b> <b><u>Monthly WECC meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018</u></b>  Minor spelling correction noted. Proposer: Raymond Swaffield (RS) Seconder: Daniel Hay (DH)	

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<b>4</b>	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>  <b>Update on Kingsford Stadium Development, Pre-Determination Hearing and Full Council Hearings</b></p> <p>WECC extended thanks to JH and John Long (JL) for their time and effort in preparing the objection and predetermination hearing speech and all those involved.</p> <p>WECC objected to the application on planning grounds and this was the representation made at the Pre-Determination Hearing.</p> <p>Aberdeen City Council meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, where the full council approved the application with conditions. WECC will hopefully have a role to play in the matters relating to the conditions.</p> <p>Ken Stewart (KS) asked if WECC would consider donating to the Judicial Review which is to be carried out by No Kingsford Stadium (NKS). It has been agreed this is not appropriate action for WECC.</p> <p>John Thornton (JT) read out an email (which should have been read earlier), received from John Imrie (JI), a Westhill resident. (This had been the original request that WECC consider donating to NKS.)</p> <p>CL declared his interest as being involved in that organisation. He added he wouldn't take any part in making a decision on this matter.</p> <p>David Ritchie (DR) asked if NKS will be putting out a newsletter to all residents. CL confirmed that a newsletter would be delivered to residents.</p> <p>Stuart Bews (SB) commented that funds are raised by WECC from local businesses through the Westhill Bulletin, and WECC could risk losing their advertising business.</p> <p>CL confirmed based on the discussions that WECC would not donate to the Judicial Review.</p> <p>Cllr McKelvie advised Councillors are looking to have this called in by Scottish Ministers as there are several issues. If the CPZ is refused by the Aberdeenshire Council, the question of whether a Minister can overrule, has been passed to Aberdeenshire Legal Dept. to answer.</p> <p><b>Westhill Health and Welfare - Retirement Fair and Wellbeing Hub Groups</b></p> <p>DR advised that a retirement fair 'New Horizons' similar to the one held in May 2016 is proposed to be held in Holiday Inn on 13<sup>th</sup> May. There are proposed groups for the stalls. The event will be advertised on the WECC website but the Retirement Fair committee chose not to include it in the spring bulletin. It is unclear which organisation is responsible for organising the fair.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b><u>Police Report</u></b></p> <p>PC Steve Middleton (SM) introduced PC Nicole Garden (NG) to WECC. Nicole is new to the Garioch area team to continue her training.</p> <p>Nicole presented the report.</p> <p>SM requested to be copied on correspondence related to the short life working group. JT will forward information and can further discuss at the next meeting.</p>	JT
<b>6</b>	<p><b><u>Planning Watch</u></b>  <b><u>Domestic Proposals</u></b></p> <p>1) APP/2017/3131 – Site at Westdyke Drive, Westhill Erection of Dwelling House</p> <p>The location is at the rear of Peter Nicol Squash Centre who are the applicants for the erection of a 4 bedroom detached house with double garage.</p> <p>The main development is on private land but part of the proposal is to utilise land that looks like public open space as the main entrance/driveway to the development. The land has been kept to a good standard by the Council who actually own it, but the applicant states that it has been agreed that part of this land is to be purchased from the Estates Department.</p>	

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	<p>In the development it is also proposed to remove seven very large trees which a survey concluded in January 2011 that they should be removed due to possible instability. They also unfortunately sit right in the middle of the development or block the main entrance. Two of the trees are actually on the open space owned by the council and do not form part of the development but would block the view from the front of the house. Having looked round the site and viewed the trees 7 years later from the report, from a personal point of view they look pretty stable. JL attached the design statement and site layout, stating that it would be helpful if members reviewed the layout of this application.</p> <p>He did have concerns about the sale and use of part of the open space land and would need to understand if this is designated public open space or not, since we did object to a recent application of a similar nature.</p> <p>Discussed at February meeting – JL to speak to planning officer regards public open space. JL proposed WECC Object based on the land being public open space.</p> <p>Public Comment Expiry Date 22/02/2018.</p> <p>2) APP/2018/0196 – 37 Carnie Park, Elrick, Westhill Alterations and Extension to Dwelling House Remove existing conservatory and replace with extension. No comments or objection. Public Comment Expiry Date 25/02/2018.</p> <p><b><u>Non Domestic / Industrial Proposals</u></b></p> <p>1) APP/2018/0164 – Unit 2, Westhill Business Centre, Endeavour Drive, Arnhall Business Park, Westhill Change of use from office (Class 4) to Beauty Salon (Class2). Small business unit change. No comment or objection Public Comment Expiry Date 27/02/2018</p> <p>2) APP/2018/0207 – Westhill Men’s Shed, Hays Way, Westhill Siting of Storage Container (Retrospective) Only small comment would be that the container colour does not really align with the existing building but no objection. Public Comment Expiry Date 22/02/2018</p> <p>3) APP/2018/0208 – Westhill Men’s Shed, Hays Way, Westhill Extension to Men’s Shed Building New workshop extension measuring 13m x 4m with blue cladding exterior. There will also be a new sloping roof covering existing building and extension with again blue cladding on side infills There are flats and houses approx.15 to 20 yards from this proposal and with the blue cladding it would be quite a change to their outlook. The existing building is sandy coloured brickwork so with the blue clad extension it does not align with the existing building. Generally this proposal is not in keeping with the existing building and totally out of character with the surrounding area.</p>	JL
7	<p><b><u>Ward 13 Councillors’ Reports</u></b> <b><u>Cllr. Iris Walker</u></b> <b><u>Arnhall Moss</u></b> Now that we have two volunteers (a thank you Philip Wilkie and Ken Stewart) to monitor the ponds in Arnhall Moss, Cllr Walker has asked Steve Grey, Environment Officer to set up a meeting on site to coincide with SEPA/Scottish Water availability. Date to be confirmed. <b><u>Visiting Specialists in schools</u></b> Cllr Walker has passed on an update to WECC re a query at the last meeting.</p>	

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	<p><b>Brodiach pot holes</b> Reported to Aberdeen City Council.</p> <p><b>Policy Review and Engagement with Area Community Councils</b> During the period Oct-Dec last year, the Planning &amp; Building Standards Policy Team undertook a review with Community Councils of the settlement-related issues across all major settlements, Westhill being one such settlement. This was undertaken using a "Place Standard" assessment. Cllr Walker advised the next stage of this process is for Garioch councillors to note and comment on this review at a meeting next week to assist the Policy Team in developing the Main Issues Report for the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021. Full public consultation will follow once the Main Issues Report has been drafted.</p> <p><b>Council Budget</b> Council set their budget for 2018/19 on Thursday 8th February. 3% increase for band D council tax = £35/year Council rent up by 3.75% Funding of 2 electric car charging points at the Westhill Library.</p> <p>There have been complaints about the public toilets in Westhill – cleaners are currently being sought.</p> <p><b><u>Cllr. Ron McKail</u></b> No Report submitted</p> <p><b><u>Cllr. Alistair McKelvie</u></b> Cllr McKelvie has been on holiday for 5 weeks so is settling back in after his break.</p> <p><b><u>Cllr. David Aitchison</u></b> Cllr Aitchison discussed the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) which is going out for consultation via the Main Issues Report during late February/early March for 10 weeks. Report is to be dated 1<sup>st</sup> September. Transportation issues is the big topic, advising that additional development would require a major infrastructure upgrade. Everyone has the chance to comment on the SDP Main Issues Report. Cllr Aitchison discussed Westhill's future being dependent on the performance of the A944. This is unsupportive of a football stadium within the area. It is important to balance growth in employment with housing; this will result in issues with schools and community halls. Cllr Aitchison would encourage all to review the documents and comment.</p>	
8	<p><b><u>Treasurer's Report and Bulletin Updates</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Treasurer's Report:</u></b> All Winter Bulletin advert invoices have been paid. In December DR reported that the Broadstraik Inn had not paid an invoice for £220 for the advert they had in Autumn Bulletin. They still haven't paid and stopped responding to emails about it in December. WECC will not pursue further but will not accept adverts from Broadstraik Inn in the future unless they are paid in advance of publication.</p> <p><b><u>Honorariums</u></b> Office-bearers reviewed the honorariums recently and propose increases as they have mostly been the same for many years. Current and proposed values are: Minutes Secretary- has been £40 per meeting for over 10 years, proposed now £50 Bulletin team - has been £400 per quarterly issue since 2010, proposed now £450 per issue. It equates to around 5% of the advertising revenue. Secretary- started getting £300 per quarter in 2015, proposed now £400 per quarter. Webmaster honorarium was £75 per month up until David Ewen left WECC in</p>	

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	<p>October 2017. That honorarium has now stopped, so there will be no overall increase in annual honorariums total. No objections from the meeting to these increases.</p> <p><b>Bulletin Report:</b> Spring Bulletin delivery by printer should be on Friday 23rd February.</p>	
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b><u>Presentation relating to Local Schools Matters</u></b></p> <p>Moira Lawson (ML) introduced herself as the Quality Improvement Officer (QIO), In this role she looks at supporting and challenging schools. Her role has changed in that it now focuses on age 3 – 18, looking at the quality of learning and teaching within our schools. Currently there are still issues around staffing. There have been 3 new head teachers in Westhill (Elrick Primary, Westhill Primary and Westhill Academy) The Crombie Primary head teacher is soon to retire – this role is currently being recruited for. There is an induction for head teachers to ensure support and Crombie is our designated school for enhanced provision. ML also looks at monitoring and tracking performance. There are currently property and building upgrades on going and refurbishment work is due to commence at the Academy.</p> <p>Chika Edeh (CE) asked about plans for teacher training and what is available. There is the “Delight Program” – ‘teacher training on the job’ with a current skill; ‘recruitment abroad’ – visiting other countries (i.e. Ireland / Canada) and there is a post-graduate course which lasts 4 years. There has been a high turnover of staff and ML highlighted the main reasons for this as: the expense to live in the area, and families relocating. ML advised that possible affordable accommodation and allowances could assist the turnover.</p> <p>JL highlighted that Scottish education does not allow unqualified teachers, unlike in England. ML advised this is under review with Councils / Government.</p> <p>Cllr Walker asked how children with additional needs are followed through the system (early years to academy). ML advised there are regular meetings which include parents and ensuring there are sufficient teaching staff to support.</p>	
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b><u>Sub-group Reports</u></b></p> <p><b>Litter</b></p> <p>Our first Litter Pick of 2018 will take place at 10am on 17th February. RS has informed all the previous volunteers by email of the scheduled dates for 2018 and will send reminders a few days prior to each Litter Pick. The dates for the year will be in the forthcoming edition of the Bulletin.</p> <p><b>Gateway Art Project</b></p> <p>Holger Lonze attended the last WECC meeting, following which he had 5 days of consultation within the community. The turnout for the drop-in event in library was great.</p> <p>Kate Lumsden (KL) and Holger met with Landscape Services but this was unsuccessful in terms of gaining additional funding. KL asked what the status was re: the £14k Landscape Services had for the A944. No one at the meeting had an update on this. KL will contact Margaret Jane Cardno, Area Manager. KL will also look at exploring other avenues.</p> <p><b>Westhill Art Project</b></p> <p>KL received an Invitation to ‘Inverurie Days’ project at the Community Church. KL went along to talk about what she does. They are willing to do all the laminating for the Easter art project. KL to return and complete a workshop with them.</p>	
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b><u>New WECC Constitution</u></b></p> <p>JT advised that the Area Office contacted WECC regarding the new Constitution and the new Scheme of Establishment. John Imrie will assist with this, as a former secretary of WECC.</p>	

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	<p>AGM this year will be in September as normal, then move to June in 2019. A sub-group was assigned to include RS, DH, DR and John Imrie. John Imrie is not a member of WECC but is a former Secretary, has considerable knowledge in this area and therefore has been co-opted on to the group for this purpose. There were no objections to this.</p> <p>This sub-group will report back periodically.</p>	
12	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p>Consultation on the Traffic Regulation Orders for 3 streets in the area behind the Westhill Community Church (20mph limit) Letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> February. WECC to respond by the 6<sup>th</sup> March with a short response to support the proposal.</p> <p>JT has started a database on correspondence coming in and will circulate before next meeting.</p>	JT
13	<p><b><u>AOCB</u></b></p> <p><b>Aberdeen City Region Strategic Transport Appraisal - Pre-Appraisal Community Council Survey</b></p> <p>JH has completed this Survey on behalf of WECC.</p> <p><b>Lampposts in the Hilltop area of Westhill</b></p> <p>This issue has been raised by a resident. DH has since prepared the attached report. Cllr Walker has passed this to Roads Dept. They do not think this is a safety issue, but a cost issue. Cllr Walker has asked for it to be included with in the revenue budget.</p> <p>CL thanked DH for completing that report.</p> <p><b>Paths for All Community Paths Active Travel Grant</b></p> <p>Stuart Bews (SB) advised Aberdeenshire Council are looking for projects which include active travel. WECC are unaware of current projects to apply for a grant. Deadline is soon, however there will be a new grant in the next financial year. This should be kept in mind for any possible project.</p> <p>DR brought up the potential of safe walking around the Business Park. Cllr Walker suggested it be raised during the consultation on the LDP Main Issues Report summary.</p> <p><b>Westhill &amp; District Community Sports Hub (WDCSH) Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p>We would like a volunteer to attend. DH offered to do this.</p> <p><b>Upcoming Meeting of Garioch Community Council Forum - 7 March 2018</b></p> <p>7pm Meldrum Academy – Presentation of Main Issues Report.</p> <p>Looking for volunteers to attend – JT, DR and CL will do so.</p>	
	<p><b><u>Date of next meeting</u></b></p> <p>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018, Holiday Inn, Westhill Drive</p>	

Clare Davidson  
Minutes Secretary

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TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT	GENERAL FUNDS	ADVERTISING PRE-PAID FOR 2018	LITTER CAMPAIGN FUND	TOTAL
<b>FUNDS IN BANK AT 11/01/18</b>	20783.11	9733.00	739.27	31255.38
Receipts in period 12/01/18 to 8/02/18				
Bulletin advertisers-Winter issue	145.00			145.00
Bulletin advertisers- 2018 prepayments		8642.00		8642.00
Payments in period 12/01/18 to 8/02/18				
Bulletin sundries & postages	-450.00			-450.00
Westhill Men's Shed- Xmas lights Pat Testing & assistance with tree	-100.00			-100.00
<b>FUNDS IN BANK AT 8/02/18</b>	20378.11	18375.00	739.27	39492.38
Funds in bank include £18,493.30 in Santander Business Bond at 0.50% interest				