

MURIELSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9 JUNE 2016
held at Williamston Primary School at 7 pm
web: <http://murieston.communitycouncil.org.uk>

An Ordinary meeting of Murieston Community Council continued after the AGM was concluded.

1. Present:

Chris Dryden, Arthur Marris, Ron Skirving, Ian Brown, Davidson McQuarrie, Tania Armstrong, Lorna Cooper, June Keddie, Kevin Kerr, Frank Mustard; Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick; PC Alan James

Apologies: David Cooper, Carol Hallesy, Alex Hendry, Nick Lansdell

2. Minutes of the Meeting on 12 May 2016:

Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting on 12 May was proposed by Frank Mustard and seconded by Tania Armstrong, subject to minor amendments. Carried.

3. Matters Arising:

None.

4. Finances:

The bank balance is £1,385.79 as outlined at the financial report for the AGM.

5. Community Policing:

PC Alan James gave a report.

PC James outlined the crime stats for the Livingston South ward.

<u>Calls</u>	<u>May16</u>	<u>May15</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
Youth	60	39	54%
Anti-Social Behaviour	160	114	40%
Hate Crime	6	7	-14%
Vandalism	29	18	61%
Fire-raising	1	1	-
Public Space Assaults	23	15	53%

There have been a few issues on the Murieston Trail.

There was a fire-raising incident at the Bankton Mains Pavilion when bins were put against the door and lit.

PC James was asked if a substitute could attend if he was unavailable.

6. Councillor's Report:

Councillor Fitzpatrick gave a report.

Councillor Fitzpatrick has recently attended prize giving at James Young Community High School and the annual Girl Guides Review at Whitburn. Lawrence also attended the West Lothian Festival of Brass held last Sunday at Howden Park Centre which was won by Whitburn Brass Band.

Councillor Fitzpatrick has met recently with new local Police Inspector, Adam Smith.

Residents have reported some problems with their driveways being dug up without warning by Virgin Media when trenching for the cabling in Murieston Valley.

The Council will be finalising consideration of the Local Development Plan in the next two weeks and publishing a Proposed Plan as stipulated in Scottish Government Development Planning Circular 6/2013.

Over 750 primary school pupils took part in breaking a Guinness World Record for the largest djembe drum ensemble, which took place at the Tony Macaroni Arena. Djembe is a type of drum that originates in West Africa.

Ian Brown said he had asked Kyle Dodd from Virgin Media for an updated plan of their infrastructure work in the Valley and, particularly, the area around Dresselrigg Lane rail bridge which needs to be tidied up.

The quality of the trenching work has been inconsistent.

Frank Mustard noted that there was a need to paint road markings on side roads within estates to prevent accidents.

7. Murieston Environmental Group (MEG) - <http://meg.btck.co.uk> :

Arthur Marris reported.

MEG have a volunteer's day on Sunday 19 June between 10am and 2pm and residents are invited to participate. MEG are going to spread gravel to create a new path, from the Murieston Trail at the eastern corner of the cricket ground towards Murieston Water.

8. Murieston Local History Group :

Nothing to report.

9. Windfarms:

Nothing to report.

10. Community Website - murieston.communitycouncil.org.uk

Ron Skirving reported.

Ron will be sending out the survey for the possible development trust and the latest newsletter to the 400 recipients on the mailing list.

Ron will distribute emails from West Lothian Council if they are denoted PUBLIC.

11. Community Noticeboard:

Chris Dryden noted that the community noticeboard inside the gate of Murieston Village Hall was seldom used and not prominent. It was agreed that Chris and Ian Brown will investigate options to purchase and erect a new community noticeboard, possibly outside the station.

12. Community Benefits Trust:

Ian Brown reported.

The community consultation to seek the opinion of the wider community has been started in the Community Council Newsletter and on the Website.

This may be followed up with a selective leaflet drop at the end of June.

13. Community Garden and Allotments:

Chris Dryden gave an update on the plans for improving facilities at Bankton Mains Park.

The Council project manager, Becky Plunkett has started the project and draft designs will be available soon.

14. Murieston Medical Practice - Community Engagement:

The new Practice building will be opening in early July and an Open Day is being held for patients and the community on the afternoon of Saturday 9 July. A strawberry tea is being provided with donations going to the community initiative to raise funds for items which are not covered by NHS funding; details are outlined in <https://www.facebook.com/MuriestonCommunity>

15. Health and Social Care:

June Keddie said she had been unable to attend the latest meeting of the West Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership.

16. Local Development Plan:

Councillor Fitzpatrick left the meeting before this and later agenda items were discussed.

The consultation on SESPlan 2 will have two categories with affordable housing separated out from general housing development.

17. Planning Applications:

Ian Brown reported.

No weekly list has been published this week.

Network Rail will be drilling holes in the embankment shortly to provide foundations for the masts carrying the overhead electrification. This work will take place at night through to the end of August.

The Wellhead Farm planning application (0918/P/15) was considered by the full Council and rejected.

The developers have lodged an appeal against the refusal of the planning application for Murieston Castle (0355/P/15), which is now before the Scottish Government.

18. Correspondence:

McNicholas promised to send regular updates by email on the progress on trenching work for the power cables.

The Secretary will follow up as no updates have been received since the initial email.

19. Any Other Business:

It was agreed that for the forthcoming 2016/2017 session, the Community Council will continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month from September to June 2017 at the Staff Room in Williamston Primary. The Secretary will confirm let arrangements with the Council.

The Meeting closed at 8.35 pm

The next Community Council meeting will be on Thursday, 8 September 2016 at 7 pm in the Staff Room at Williamston Primary School