

DAVIDSON'S MAINS & SILVERKNOWES ASSOCIATION
Management Committee Meeting 10 November 2015 6.45 pm Davidson's Mains
Primary School Library

Chairman – Rod Alexander

1. **Matters arising** (excluding items scheduled for later discussion)

3a. Pedestrian Crossing on Main Street. It was noted that a reply had been received from the Roads Manager advising that the time for pedestrians to cross had been checked and confirmed as meeting the required standards.

3b. Missing lamppost at Silverknowes Drive. It was noted that a new lamppost had now been installed and that the lighting department were waiting for Scottish Power to make the electrical connections. As a follow up, an identical complaint about a missing lamppost had been received relating to Corbiehill Terrace and the matter had been reported through Clarence.

3c Lane between Cramond Road South and Silverknowes Terrace. Concerns about lack of signage or speed control for cyclists at the Silverknowes Terrace end had been reported to The West Team and had been included on the Action List for consideration.

3d. Faded Road Markings at Cramond Road South /Lauriston Farm Road. It was noted that this matter had been reported through Clarence and had been requested for inclusion on the Action List.

3e Mackenzie's Public House Aileen reported that she had raised the matter of anti-social behaviour by patrons with the area manager for Trust Inns who is going to investigate the matter and report back to her.

3f Dumped Building Waste onto former railway track. Rod reported that he had raised the matter of a builder dumping waste with the management of Tesco and had learned that Tesco had already put the matter in the hands of their lawyers.

3g Re-Filling Grit Bins. It was noted that a reply was awaited from the West Team regarding when empty grit bins would be re-filled prior to winter.

3h. Overgrown Hedges It was agreed the outstanding matter of the previously agreed "Advice Leaflet " for residents would be raised with the West Team for further discussion.

3i. Neighbourhood Watch. It was noted that a Neighbourhood Watch article had been carried in the recent Newsletter and that Tim was still pursuing some potential interest in extending co-operation between local groups.

3j Complaint about Bus Shelters. It was noted that a reply was awaited from Lesley Hinds (Council Transport Convenor) regarding our complaint about the deficiencies in the new shelters.

3k. Flooding at Cramond Road South. It was noted that this matter remained outstanding and had been reported again through Clarence and to the West Team.

4. Correspondence

Charlotte confirmed that all relevant email and postal correspondence including replies from the Council Planning Department had been circulated to the Committee. She advised that acknowledgements had been received from the Boundary Commission for Scotland regarding our letters of objection to the proposed Council Electoral Ward Boundary Changes.

5. Reports

5a Police Report

PC Walter Miller provided a verbal report on police matters during October. The high level of crime in Queensferry was noted which was a police priority but the committee were pleased to note that the level of local crime remained at relatively low levels. The question of local complaints about the travelling people encamped at Silverknowes was raised by the committee and PC Miller advised that the Police were monitoring the situation. PC Miller advised that the Police would be carrying out road checks and monitoring driver behaviour in the lead up to the festive season.

5b. Treasurer's Report

Gordon reported that the balance in the accounts was £5432.05. Payments were due to be made of £195 for the Newsletter and £234 for the Christmas Lights event. The committee agreed that a donation of £100 should be given to the Pipe Band for their contribution to the Armistice Day event. The committee also agreed in principle to fund a new PA System after the current equipment failed at the Armistice Day Service.

5c. Community Safety Forum

It was noted that the next meeting is on the 8 December and a report back would be given at the December meeting of the committee.

6. Planning issues

1. Large Hoarding at Craigcrook Road Junction. It was noted that the Developer had appealed to the Scottish Government against the decision by the Council to refuse the application.

2. Number 5 Vivian Terrace. It was noted that an appeal by the applicant against the original refusal of the development application had been upheld by an Appeals Committee, who, in reversing the earlier decision, had given approval in principle only, subject to conditions being met on the design of any property and the impact on neighbours and the environment. The committee agreed that a local notice should be circulated to neighbours advising of the decision and to highlight the need for strong objections to be made to any subsequent application for development on the site.

7. Almond Neighbourhood Partnership

It was noted that the next meeting was on the 11 November and there would be a report at the December meeting of the committee .

8. Local Action List

It was noted that a meeting had been arranged with George Kennedy who had just returned to his post as the West Roads Manager to discuss the current Action List. Rod explained the prime purpose was to review projects for the current financial year

so that there was a common understanding around priorities and expectations, although the opportunity would also be taken to consider other projects and one or two new issues. The outcome of the meeting would be reported back to the committee.

9. Autumn Newsletter Review

Rod and Charlotte reported that the feedback from local residents regarding the Newsletter had been generally positive. The article on the suggested traffic island on Corbiehill Road at Main Street had generated a lot of interest.

10. Review of Armistice Day and the War Memorial

Rod reported that he had been pleased with the planning for the event and the public turn out, particularly the support from local Youth organisations who had each been represented. It was very unfortunate indeed that the sound system had failed, despite being fully tested two days earlier. The committee agreed to purchase new equipment to ensure reliability in future and to publish an apology expressing regret that some who attended were unable to hear proceedings. Charlotte reported that a meeting with Links Engraving has been arranged for Saturday 21 November to discuss the plaque for an additional name to be added to the Memorial.

11. Christmas Lights Switch- On

The committee spent some time going over the detailed plans for the event on 27 November and to allocate responsibilities and duties as appropriate. Appreciation was again expressed for the support from the Primary School Choir, the local Pipe Band, Tesco and others, and to Henry who had put a lot of time and effort into the planning and organisation.

12. On Street Play Facility, Silverknowes

The committee had been approached by a resident from Silverknowes Gardens to seek support for a scheme to ban vehicles from the street at certain times to operate Play Street sessions. Conversely another resident had contacted the committee to object to the proposals. Following discussion the committee considered that the proposal was a matter for individual residents in the street to decide upon and that it was not possible to offer support to the proposal. It was decided to contact the Council and the Police to obtain information about the planning, management, licensing and costs for such schemes.

13. Proposed Electoral Ward Boundary Changes

The committee had a full discussion about the proposed Electoral Ward Boundary changes in relation to Corbiehill Road(part), Corbiehill Park and the "Marchfields", which had resulted in a strong letter of objection to the Boundary Commission for Scotland. This had followed on from the committee only becoming aware of the change on the day prior to the deadline for comment. The committee were very critical of the complete failure by the Council to communicate in any meaningful way on these changes. It was agreed it would be necessary to inform the residents who were directly affected.

14. Design Review of Barnton Avenue/ Cramond Road South Junction

It was noted that this matter would be on the Agenda for the planned meeting on 11 November to discuss the Action List and there would be a report back afterwards.

15. Cycle Event Review

Rod and Tim reported on the meeting which had been held with local community organisations to review the numerous problems which had arisen during the event. The main point was that the Director of Cycle for Scotland had given a full apology

for the mistakes and an undertaking that community groups would be fully involved in the forward planning for next year's event.

16. New Path Davidson's Mains Park

It was noted that the West Team had laid a new tarmac pathway into the park from East Barnton Avenue. It was understood this path had been constructed on what had previously been a well trodden path across the grass.

17. Travelling People at Silverknowes

Concern has been expressed by residents about the activities of travelling people who are occupying the former bus park at the north end of Silverknowes Road, a site which had previously been surrounded by an earth mound to prevent their entry. The committee decided to write to the West Team to draw attention to the problem and to ask what action was being taken.

18. Parking on pavement Main Street

A complaint by a resident was considered about the frequent parking of cars on the pavement in front of the row of commercial properties at 75 – 79 Main Street. The committee agreed with the concerns about the risks to pedestrians from vehicle movements on the footpath. It was decided to write to the police to draw their attention to the problem.

19. AOCB

19a. Cllr. Work intimated that the AGM of the Forget-me-not Garden in the grounds of Lauriston Castle would be held on 7 December at 6 pm at The Hub, Drumbrae.

19b. The problem of parked vehicles on Corbiehill Road at the Corbie Café was discussed. This has been raised a number of times by local residents and it is recognised this causes difficulties for vehicle movements, particularly at the junction with Main Street. The committee decided to report the matter again to the West Team to assess the case for parking restrictions.

19c. Tim reported on the visit he had organised to the composting facility at Braehead. Those who had attended had been impressed by the operation. Assurances had been given that everything possible was being done to minimise any odour problem.

20. Date of Next Meeting 8 December 2015 6.45 pm in Davidson's Mains Primary School Library