

**DAVIDSON'S MAINS & SILVERKNOWES ASSOCIATION**  
**Management Committee Meeting 13 October 2015 6.45 pm**  
**held in Davidson's Mains Parish Church North Hall**

Chairman – Rod Alexander

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

**3a Uneven pavement outside St. Margaret's Church**

Rod reported that he had inspected the pavement and although there are numerous cracked slabs, the surface is not uneven and so it was decided not to pursue this matter further.

**3b. Pedestrian crossing on Main Street**

Rod reported that the complaint about inadequate time being allowed on the bleep and green man signals had been passed to the Roads Manager who had confirmed it would be checked and corrected if necessary.

**3c. Missing lamppost in Silverknowes Drive**

Rod reported that he had raised this issue with Clarence. It appeared that after removal of the previously damaged lamppost the need for a replacement had been overlooked. He anticipated a reply within a few days but expected that priority would be given to installing a new one.

**4. Correspondence**

Charlotte confirmed that all substantive correspondence received over the past month had been circulated to the committee.

**5. Reports**

**5a Police Report**

The committee welcomed PC Aidan Douds to present the monthly police report. He informed the committee that it had been decided that the police would no longer issue printed monthly crime reports on the justification that these reports contained "restricted" information. The committee expressed disappointment and concern at this decision since the content of these reports was, in their view, general in nature and they did not contain any information which could be construed as private, personal or sensitive. It was not expected it would be otherwise. The committee considered these reports as being a very important element in police engagement with the community and thought that it was in the police's interests for the written reports to continue. It was agreed that strong representations would be made to the Area Inspector regarding the decision. PC Douds gave verbal information on local crime levels and the committee were pleased to note that in general these appeared to be continuing at a relatively low level.

**5b. Treasurer's Report**

Gordon reported that the balance of the account was £5829.05. The committee approved the payment of £200 to cover the public liability insurance for the Christmas Lights event.

**5c. Community Safety Forum**

It was noted that there had not been a recent meeting of the Forum.

**6. Planning issues**

The committee noted that there were two issues which were current.

The large advertising board at Craigcrook Road/Queensferry Road Junction. It was noted that a date had not yet been set for this application to be considered by the Development Management sub-Committee.

Appeal against the refusal of planning permission for 5 Vivian Terrace. The Association had made a further objection to the application by challenging the grounds for appeal which were deemed to be invalid. It was noted that the review hearing would be held on 28<sup>th</sup> October although public representations would not be permitted.

## **7. Almond Neighbourhood Partnership**

Rod reported that the main issue discussed at the September meeting had been the "Youth Decides" initiative, whereby £2000 had been set aside from the Community Grants Fund to support youth projects and initiatives in the Almond Area. He had emailed youth groups in Davidson's Mains to draw their attention to the initiative and to encourage them to make applications.

## **8. Local Action List**

Rod reported on the Local Action List which had been updated following a recent local walk-about undertaken by some members of the committee with the local Roads Manager. This had resulted in some new projects being identified for assessment and there was some discussion around the reasons for these being added. The most contentious outstanding issue is that of the double yellow lines for locations at the junctions of Vivian Terrace and Corbiehill Crescent with Corbiehill Road and on the bend on Corbiehill Crescent. The committee considered that the delay of over a year since this was agreed had become an embarrassment and sympathised with residents who were complaining about the delay. The Councillors were asked to assist in trying to progress the matter and it was agreed that a letter of complaint would be sent to the Council Leader regarding the delays within the Council's Legal Department. It was agreed that the updated Action List would be displayed on the Notice Board and Website.

## **9. Autumn Newsletter**

There was a general discussion around the newsletter. It would be ready for printing by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October and circulated to deliverers by Friday the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **10. Update War Memorial/Armistice Day**

The committee discussed the planning for the event and everything was in hand. There were only a few replies outstanding to the formal invitations and these would be followed up next week. A meeting was to take place shortly with the engraver regarding the new plaque with the additional name after which an estimate would be provided for the committee to consider and approve. The point was made that the matter would not be rushed and the new plaque would not be added before this years Armistice Day event.

The important matter of drawing up a new Trust Deed to formally register DMSA office bearers as named trustees of the War Memorial Trust has been completed by Aileen and the signed documentation can now be submitted to the Books of Council and Session for Registration and Preservation for registration. The committee expressed their thanks and appreciation to Aileen for undertaking this professional work on their behalf.

### **11. Update Christmas Lights Switch On**

The committee had a detailed discussion around plans for the event, led by Henry who had done a lot of work on it. The date had been confirmed as the 27<sup>th</sup> November and the committee were delighted that the Davidson's Mains Primary School Choir and the Davidson's Mains Band would be participating. It was appreciated that Tesco had indicated a willingness to sponsor the consumables and Cllr. Alastair Shield would perform the role of switching on the lights. It was agreed that up to £150 could be spent on an artificial tree and lights although over the next week the committee needed to consider further whether a real tree would be available for use or whether an artificial one would require to be purchased. The fine tuning for the event would be discussed and agreed at our November meeting.

### **12. Railings at former railway bridge at east end of Main Street**

The committee discussed the suggestion by the Roads Manager that consideration should be given to remove the railings on the bridge between the footway and the road and on the east side of the bridge between the footpath and the verge. The reasons given were that maintenance costs would have to be incurred and under current design criteria railings would no longer be installed in these situations. Following discussion the committee were strongly of the opinion that both sets of railings should be retained on safety grounds and the Roads Manager would be notified of this outcome.

### **13. Design Review of Barnton Avenue/ Cramond Road South Junction**

The committee discussed the Audit Report into the above project which had been circulated. The conclusions of the Report were noted and generally accepted although there was some discussion about three items of remedial work which required corrective action to be taken. Concerns around some of these matters had been raised with the Roads Manager and it was agreed each item would each be added to the Action List pending the work being completed.

### **14. Pedal for Scotland Review**

This matter was discussed and there was general agreement that the organisation of the event had been very poor in all respects. The committee were disappointed that local representatives were to be excluded from a forthcoming review of the event despite previous indications that they would be invited. The reasons were understood but the uncertainty over the arrangements had been unfortunate. The committee did welcome the fact that a local review was being undertaken later which would provide an opportunity to start proper engagement and planning for the 2016 event.

### **15. AOCB**

15a. Concern was expressed that cyclists travelling from Cramond Road South via the lane into Silverknowes Terrace were moving at excessive speed and showing little concern for pedestrians on the pavement on Silverknowes Terrace. It was suggested that appropriate "Slow" markings or warning signage or even a chicane should be put in place and this matter would be raised with the Roads Manager for consideration.

15b. It was reported that the "Keep Clear" road markings at the junction of Silverknowes Terrace and Lauriston Farm Road was now very faint. It was suggested that these required repainting but as an alternative yellow hatch markings may be more effective. It was agreed this would be raised with the Roads Manager.

15c. Concern was expressed that Mackenzies Public House is attracting noisy patrons again with late night revellers causing disturbance to local residents. The area manager will be contacted to express our concern.

15d. It was reported that the builders erecting the new house in the garden at number one Silverknowes Drive had dumped waste building materials on to the track leading to Tesco and that possibly some trees had been damaged. It was agreed that in the first instance the matter would be discussed with the manager at Tesco before possible letters were written to Tesco and the building company.

15e. The need to refill gritting bins prior to the coming winter was discussed and it was agreed this would be raised with the West Team to seek assurances that the matter was in hand.

15f. There was further discussion about the problems of pavements being obstructed by overgrown hedges and it was noted that an agreed action by the former Roads Manager to provide an advice leaflet for residents remained outstanding. This would be raised with the new Manager.

15g. Tim reported that Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators in the DMSA area had been contacted to try to promote a co-ordinated approach to sharing information around local issues. The committee supported this initiative.

15h. Following discussion about complaints about the new bus shelters and the inordinate length of time it was taking to replace the shelter at R.S McColl on Main Street, it was agreed that representations would be made to the Council.

15i. It was noted that the problem of flooding outside 3 Cramond Road South (opposite Tesco) had still not been resolved and the matter would be reported through Clarence.

**16. Date of Next Meeting 10 November 2015 6.45 pm in Davidson's Mains Primary School Library**