

NEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Email: NewtonCC.Sec@gmail.com

Website: www.NewtonCC.btik.com

For Ordinary Meeting of 16th August, 2011

The following correspondence has been received since our last Ordinary Meeting in June:

Date	From	Subject	Pages
2011-06-22	WLC Community Regeneration Officer	BIG Lottery Fund Launch Community Spaces Scotland Programme	1
2011-06-22 2011-06-23 2011-06-27 2011-08-02	WLC Community Council Liaison Officer	Objections by Community Councils to Applications under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 and Miscellaneous Licence Applications, and Use of Civic Centre Address	4
2011-06-23	Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland	Interim Review of Electoral Arrangements in West Lothian council area	1
2011-07-15	Voluntary Sector Gateway West Lothian	Employer Supported Volunteering Tasks Wanted	1
2011-07-20	Neil Findlay MSP	Letter of Introduction & Surgeries Schedule	2
2011-08-05	RHS	Britain in Bloom	2

Copies of this correspondence are attached.

Unless a specific request is made at the above Community Council meeting, I will take no further action on these matters.

Respectfully submitted

Evelyn Woollen
Secretary, Newton Community Council

Please address all paper correspondence to:
Secretary, Newton Community Council, c/o Newton Community Education Centre
26 Duddingston Crescent, Newton, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 6QG



Community Regeneration **FUNDING** NEWSLETTER Working with and for Communities

BIG LOTTERY FUND LAUNCH COMMUNITY SPACES SCOTLAND PROGRAMME

BIG have just launched the **Community Spaces Scotland** programme. The aim is to support communities to become more involved in, and to take responsibility for, their local environment, communal spaces and places. This will focus on bringing communities together while making them healthier, not just physically, but also through sharing activities in a space or place that is fit for purpose. This will be done by providing funding for communities to improve the appearance, functionality, accessibility, effectiveness and sustainability of local spaces and places (including buildings).

The programme is targeted at the areas of greatest need in Scotland so to know if you are eligible you can enter your postcode into their on line **eligibility checker**.

Outcomes

Projects must achieve **all three** of the following outcomes under Community Spaces Scotland:

- Communities come together to make better use of local spaces and places.
- Communities come together to improve their environment.
- Communities come together to get healthier and be more active

What types of project can be funded?

They expect to fund a wide range of activities involving meeting spaces; recreation; and community green spaces. Examples include providing facilities for community activity through developing and improving:

- local parks
- community paths and gardens
- play parks
- allotments
- community centres, and
- village halls.

They may also consider funding suitable revenue projects that will meet the outcomes.

Funding can range from **£10,000** to **£250,000**, with **£100,000** the likely average.

For more information and to check eligibility see

http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_community_spaces_scotland.htm?regioncode=sco

Dougie Grierson, Community Regeneration Officer, 20 June 2011

West Lothian Council delivers

westlothian.gov.uk



**West Lothian
Council**

McGrorty, Lorraine <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>

22 June 2011
14:28

To: "McGrorty, Lorraine" <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>

Please see the undernoted e-mail from Angela Hughes, Senior Solicitor, which contains important information regarding objections by community councils to applications under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

Regards
Lorraine

*Lorraine McGrorty
Community Council Liaison Officer/Committee Officer
West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
Livingston
EH54 6FF
☎ 01506 281609*

Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005
Objections and Observations by Community Councils

An issue has arisen recently in a case where a community council submitted an objection to the grant of an application under the above Act in respect of premises licensed to sell alcohol. In terms of the Act, where an objection or representation is received, the board is obliged to serve a copy on the applicant. This will include the name and address of the objector/ party submitting the representation. The issue arose recently where a community council used the home address of one of the office bearers in the letter of objection and this was passed to the applicant. While it is a matter for each community council to decide which address they use on correspondence, I would wish to highlight the fact that where an objection or representation is submitted to an application under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, we are obliged to forward a copy of that letter to the applicant to give them notice of the issue and to enable them to respond to the points raised. It is not possible to remove details of the objector.

If you wish to discuss this or require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Angela Hughes

Angela Hughes
Senior Solicitor
Tel.281603
e mail: angela.hughes@westlothian.gov.uk

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1. It is sent in confidence for the addressee only. It may contain legally privileged information. The contents are not to be disclosed to anyone other than the addressee. Unauthorised recipients are requested to preserve this confidentiality and to advise the sender immediately.
2. It does not constitute a representation which is legally binding on the Council or which is capable of constituting a contract and may not be founded upon in any proceedings following hereon unless specifically indicated otherwise.

McGrorty, Lorraine <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>
To: "McGrorty, Lorraine" <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>

23 June 2011 15:57

As a follow up to the e-mail I forwarded to you yesterday, I have been asked to ensure that community councils are also aware that if they intimate objections to other miscellaneous licences under the Civic Govt (Sc) Act 1982 such as public entertainment licences, street traders or hire car applications, their details will also be passed on the applicants.

Regards

Lorraine
Lorraine McGrorty
Community Council Liaison Officer/Committee Officer
West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
Livingston
EH54 6FF

McGrorty, Lorraine <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>
To: "McGrorty, Lorraine" <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>

27 June 2011 09:43

Further to the various e-mails I sent at the end of last week regarding objections to licensing applications, I now write to advise that the Chief Solicitor has agreed that community councils may use c/o West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Livingston, EH54 6FF, if they wish, when objecting to licensing applications.

Arrangements have been made with the Civic Centre mail room to pass any correspondence addressed to community councils c/o the Civic Centre to me and I will ensure that they are passed on to the appropriate community councils as soon as possible.

Regards

Lorraine

*Lorraine McGrorty
Community Council Liaison Officer/Committee Officer
West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
Livingston
EH54 6FF*

McGrorty, Lorraine <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>

2 August 2011
12:03

To: "McGrorty, Lorraine" <Lorraine.McGrorty@westlothian.gov.uk>

I refer to my e-mail of 27th June 2011 advising that the Chief Solicitor had agreed that community councils could use c/o the Civic Centre address when objecting or commenting on licensing matters. It would be helpful if community councils could only use the c/o address when submitting correspondence relating to liquor or miscellaneous licensing applications.

When community councils are objecting to planning applications, it would be very helpful if they could continue using c/o their home address for correspondence. Due to the strict timescales which govern planning applications, I am a bit worried that there may be delays in correspondence reaching community councils if they use c/o the Civic Centre. By the time the correspondence gets from County Buildings to the Civic Centre and then from the Civic Centre to the community council secretary, an important timescale may have been missed.

If my request causes your community council any concerns then please let me know.

Many thanks

Lorraine

*Lorraine McGrorty
Committee Officer/Community Council Liaison Officer
West Lothian Civic Centre
Howden South Road
Livingston
EH54 6FF
(01506 281609*

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<http://www.westlothian.gov.uk>



Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland

Thistle House, 91 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, EH12 5HD

Chairman: Peter Mackay CB
Secretary: Dr Hugh Buchanan MRICS

23 June 2011

Dear Sir or Madam

Interim Review of Electoral Arrangements in West Lothian council area

The Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland has submitted a report to Scottish Ministers which recommends increasing the number of councillors representing ward 8 (Bathgate) of West Lothian council area from 3 to 4. This will result in an increase in the number of councillors on the council from 32 to 33.

The report can be found on the Commission's website: www.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk and will be made available for inspection for a period of 6 months at West Lothian Civic Centre, Howden South Road, Howden, Livingston, EH54 6FF.

In addition, the report and supporting documents can be viewed at:

- County Buildings, Linlithgow, EH49 7EZ;
- Linlithgow Library, The Vennel, Linlithgow, EH49 7EX;
- Broxburn Library, West Main Street, Broxburn, EH52 5RH;
- Carmondean Centre, Deans, Livingston, EH54 8PT;
- Lanthorn Community Centre, Kenilworth Rise, Dedridge, Livingston, EH54 6NY;
- East Calder Library, Main Street, East Calder, EH53 0EJ;
- West Calder Library, Main Street, West Calder, EH55 8BQ;
- Whitburn Library, Union Road, Whitburn, EH47 0AR;
- Bathgate Library, Hopetoun Street, Bathgate, EH48 4PD; and
- Armadale Community Centre and Library, EH48 3QB.

Any enquiries about the report, or requests for paper copies, should be made to me at the above address, by email to laura.cregan@scottishboundaries.gov.uk or by telephone: 0131 538 7517.

Yours faithfully

Laura Cregan
Casework Manager

established by Parliament to advise Ministers on local government boundaries

phone: 0131 538 7510

email: lgbcsc@scottishboundaries.gov.uk
web: www.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk

fax: 0131 538 7511

Evelyn Woollen
2 Main Street
Newton
West Lothian
EH52 6QH

15th July 2011

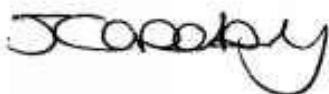
Dear Evelyn

Employer Supported Volunteering Tasks Wanted

I am writing to let you know about the Employer Supported Volunteering Project run by Voluntary Sector Gateway West Lothian. We have teams of Volunteers from West Lothian Council who are willing to volunteer their time to help local voluntary organisations and community groups with tasks such as painting and decorating, gardening or support on client outings. Do you know of any organisation / community group in your area that may benefit from this project? The only requirements are that it is not a Council building or Council land and that the organisation can provide the materials for the task.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me on 01506 650111 or Email: jenny.caseby@vsqwl.org

Yours Sincerely



Jenny Caseby
Employer Supported Volunteering Project Co-Ordinator



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Neil Findlay MSP
The Scottish Parliament
Room MG 11
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 6896

Mob: 07887 660058

neil.findlay.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

Ms Evelyn Woollen
Secretary
Newton Community Council
2 Main Street
Newton EH52 6QH

20 July 2011

Dear Ms Woollen

My name is Neil Findlay. On May 6th 2011 I was elected as an MSP for the Lothians region (Labour).

I am very proud and honoured to have been elected to serve the people of the Lothians and I intend to justify the faith shown in me with a mixture of hard work, principle and humility. I will be a diligent and hardworking MSP and will campaign vigorously for all of the people across the region.

If you and/or your community/voluntary organisation should require any assistance relating to any matter that you feel I could help with then please contact me at my parliamentary office. You can do so by email, telephone or letter, all contact details are provided above.

I am in the process of establishing a constituency office. Once this is fully functioning I will contact you with the details.

If you would like to receive regular updates on my activities both inside and outside of parliament or on any news affecting you/your organisation or area then please email me your contact details so that I can provide this to you. I enclose a list of surgery dates and venues and would be grateful if you could display this.

I can also arrange visits to the parliament building should you/your members wish to come in.

I look forward to working with you over the coming weeks and months.

Best Wishes

Neil Findlay
MSP for Lothians (Labour)



Neil Findlay MSP for the Lothians

Surgeries

For further information phone 0131 348 6897

Monday 15 August 2011
9.30am
Bathgate CIS

Monday 29 August 2011
9.30am
Fauldhouse Partnership Centre

Monday 12 September 2011
9.30am
Addiewell Pitstop

Monday 26 September 2011
9.30am
Armadale Council Office

Monday 10 October 2011
9.30am
West Lothian Connected

Monday 24 October 2011
9.30am
West Calder CIS

Monday 7 November 2011
9.30am
Pumpherston

Monday 21 November 2011
9.30am
Mid Calder Community Centre

Monday 5 December 2011
9.30am
Longridge Community Centre

Monday 22 August
9.30am
Broxburn CIS

Monday 5 September
9.30am
Linlithgow County Buildings

Monday 19 September 2011
9.30am
East Calder Community Centre

Monday 3 October 2011
9.30am
Stoneyburn Community Centre

Monday 17 October 2011
9.30am
Whitburn Council Offices

Monday 31 October 2011
9.30am
South Queensferry & Roseberry Hall Centre

Monday 14 November 2011
9.30am
Forestbank Community Centre

Monday 28 November 2011
9.30am
Bridgend Community Centre

Monday 12 December 2011
9.30am
Uphall Community Centre



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Ms E Woollen
Secretary
Newton Community Council
2 Main Street
Newton
Broxburn
Lothian
EH52 6QF

6068 / 201

5th August 2011

Dear Ms Woollen,

We believe your Parish is potentially missing out on a great opportunity to benefit local people and businesses.

RHS Britain in Bloom is the UK's largest community-driven environmental campaign, helping people to improve their surroundings and strengthen the ties that bring neighbourhoods together.

The campaign helps local authorities like yours to improve public spaces through empowering, enabling and supporting volunteers to get involved in caring for their local environment. Instead of trying to deliver everything from within the council, local authorities use Britain in Bloom to develop volunteer activity within a framework which complements their own social, environmental and economic priorities.

Nottingham City Council used the 'in Bloom' campaign to transform its neighbourhoods, encouraging community groups to rejuvenate their locality through Bloom's environmental activities. Over 6,000 people got involved last year, with each community setting its own goals and working at its own pace, resulting in sustainable and well-maintained green spaces. Groups often gained funding from local businesses, which was then reinvested into the care of the area.

After two years, 71% of residents reported a better environment; 64% commented on an improved community spirit; and 25% said the scheme helped to reduce anti-social behaviour. "We now have new community gardens and orchards being developed, streets bursting into bloom, courtyards coming back to life and people of all ages and backgrounds learning new gardening skills," says Julie Walker, 'in Bloom' Partnership Manager at Nottingham City Council. "We also have a strong network of people who are actively improving their own area."

Brightlingsea in Essex used the 'in Bloom' campaign to tackle its stagnating economy. In the 1990s, with its high street already lined with empty shops, the seaside town became mired in a fierce battle over live animal exports. Convinced of the need for positive action, frustrated residents established Brightlingsea in Bloom and embarked on a tentative planting exercise. More than 16 years later, the volunteers' efforts have firmly established the town's position on the tourist map. Together they raise an average of £13,000 per year from sponsorship and donations, and have transformed the landscape and the fortunes of the town.

"I see the 'in Bloom' project as an essential part of our tourism strategy," says Councillor Karen Yallop. "Funded by local businesses and residents this injects a substantial sum of money annually into the care and overall appearance of Brightlingsea that the Town Council couldn't possibly afford."

Over 2,100 groups are already involved, representing towns, cities, villages, urban communities and neighbourhoods around the UK. Many groups are volunteer-led, but almost all will work in partnership

Continued overleaf

with their local council. Most importantly, all participating communities see a huge range of benefits – outlined below - which complement their own needs.

You can read more about the campaign at rhs.org.uk/communities and you can register your interest in getting involved by contacting Helen Darvill (regional coordinator in your area) on 01786 468 242 / helen.darvill@ksbscotland.org.uk.

I hope that we have convinced you to find out more about RHS Britain in Bloom and we very much look forward to welcoming you into the campaign.

Kind regards,



Ruth Evans, Head of Community & Development
T: 020 7821 3081 E: ruthevens@rhs.org.uk

The benefits of Bloom

- Cleaner, greener and safer surroundings
- A reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour
- An increase in local pride and community empowerment
- Better cared for public spaces
- A positive effect on the local economy through increased commercial enterprise and tourism
- Regeneration of run-down and/or disadvantaged areas
- Long-term improvement for the environment through addressing issues such as sustainability, resource management, recycling, conservation, litter & graffiti and green space development.

"Having seen first-hand the benefits that the 'In Bloom' initiative can bring to communities I think it is a fantastic driver for change." *Jessica Brooks, 'In Bloom' Officer, Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council*

"Britain in Bloom has enabled our community to focus on the most positive and important things in life during times of political stalemate and civil unrest and has regenerated the village and enabled the community to think more positively and to confirm that local people can make the difference." *Sandy Wilson, Broughshane in Bloom volunteer, Northern Ireland*

Making Bloom fit your agenda

The campaign offers a flexible framework in which to tackle a wide range of issues. While environmental improvement sits at its heart, groups are able to use their "In Bloom" campaigns to deal with everything from tackling deprivation and run-down areas, to building up community pride and connecting disparate groups.

Insurance for groups

Participating groups have access to highly affordable insurance cover (including Employers' & Public Liability), specifically designed for groups involved in the campaigns.

A national network

When you join the campaign you will become part of a national movement to improve Britain's streets and green spaces. You will receive support and advice, recognition and reward to help you drive your campaign forward. You'll also enjoy access to a network of thousands of other groups who are already successfully transforming their own areas.