**Dechmont Community Council**

**Minutes of Meeting, 27 March 2019**

**Present:** Gillian Anderson, Liz Swarbrick, Sarah Macdonald, Ian Ferrel, Siân Williams, Cllr Chris Horne, Cllr Diane Calder

**Also in attendance:** Marilyn Higham, Lachlan Mackenzie, PC Russell Rosie, PC Peter Robertson

**Apologies:** Vikki Kennedy, Julia Barnes, Amy Waterston, Lynda McGivern

The minutes from the previous meeting were proposed by Liz Swarbrick and seconded by Sarah Macdonald.

**Police report**

The report covered 1 Jan 2019 to date. There was nothing to report in January or February. Between 18 and 22 March 2019 there was a burglary at a property in Burnhouse Drive. On 24 March 2019, around 21:50 there was a break in at the village shop and Post Office on Main Street. CID are investigating, and the police officers issued a reminder to anyone who may have witnessed anything to report it to the police, even if it may appear trivial.

**Bangour development**

No further communication has been received from the site developers. No updates have been spotted in local planning applications.

**Lottery grants**

Money is available from the small grants fund (amounts and application details are outlined in February 2019 Community Council minutes). Currently there are no plans to pursue this source of funding.

**Village Improvement Fund: Defibrillator**

The defibrillator is scheduled to be installed at the Memorial Hall on Friday 29 March 2019.

**Village Improvement Fund: Other updates**

Funding has been secured for the public art/sculptures discussed at February’s meeting. A list of tasks relating to the installation of the hanging baskets and the public art proposals is being prepared by Gillian Anderson. The list will be finalised at the April meeting, with tasks allocated to members and any other volunteers.

West Lothian Council staff provided Gillian Anderson with information on the size and dimensions of brackets suitable for holding the village hanging baskets; but did not provide information on where to source these brackets. Cllr Chris Horne will speak to the people behind the ‘Burgh Beautiful’ campaign; a project that included fitting hanging baskets to lampposts in Linlithgow. He will pass this information to Gillian Anderson. Sarah Macdonald will speak to a local garden centre regarding sourcing plants.

There are enough leftover railway sleepers – used for the memorial garden installation – to build another large planter for the village. The most popular site to build it is outside the village shop. This land is owned by the shop. Sarah Macdonald will investigate further with the shop owners.

The design and artwork for the newsletter is complete, and it will be printed on receipt of payment. Siân Williams and Sarah Macdonald will arrange payment and delivery.

**AOB**

Concerns were raised regarding the hearing loop system in the Hall and whether it is working properly. This matter will be raised with the Dechmont Halls committee at the next meeting on 28 March 2019. Siân Williams will attend.

The Community Council has received information about a new political debate programme, BBC Scotland Debate Night, being filmed in Edinburgh on 3 April 2019. Members of the pubic can apply to be a member of the audience. Siân Williams will promote the opportunity on the Community Council Twitter page, @DechmontCC.

End.