**Dechmont Community Council**

**Minutes of Meeting 18.00, 29th June 2022**

**Present:** Sarah Macdonald, Lynda Mcgivern- Ian Ferrel, Liz Swarbrick, Greg Colhoun, Jim Watson

**Also in attendance**: Cllr Diane Calder,

**Apologies:** Gillian Anderson, Sarah Madden, Milissa Beveridge, Isabelle Gall, Sian Williams

The Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the meeting explaining that unfortunately the Vice Chair Sarah Madden chair has resigned due to work commitments. It was suggested that she could be encouraged to remain as an Associate Member. Cllr Calder was congratulated on her re-election

**2. Previous Minutes**

The minutes from the last meeting were proposedby **LS** and seconded by **IF**

**On-going actions from previous meeting (not on the agenda)**

* **JW still to approach developers of Bangour Village re: the possibility of them contributing to the finance of the traffic calming**
* **DCC to provide a letterbox to allow residents to make suggestions and comments concerning the village**
* **Culverts still to be attended to**

**3. Burnhouse Farm Update**

There was some discussion about the disappointing response from West Lothian Council (WLC) regarding the progress of the Burnhouse Farm development application. A resident, unhappy about the poor response from the council, has offered to complain. However, it was thought that WLC should be given another opportunity to respond before taking the matter further. It was decided that DCC will contact Gillian Cyphus again and if that was unsuccessful, then we should get in touch with Wendy McCorriston who should be invited to attend a meeting.

The next Council meeting covering this issue is to be in August.

**IF** informed the members that the planning portal has been updated and shows that approximately 400 comments were lodged. Members were pleased with the response. WLC will offer some respondents the opportunity to comment at the planning meeting.

**Actions**

* **LMc will email Gillian Cyphus for an update.**
* **Extend invitations to members and residents who would like to represent the community at the council meeting**
* **DCC to make a selection of people to represent the community**

**4. Traffic Calming update**

**IF** informed members that WLC have proposed to remove flashing lights around schools and replace them with enforceable 20mph speed limits- no timescale was given to implement this, it could be as late as 2023. **IF** has been in touch with WLC to make comment on this proposal but has been unable to speak with anyone.

It was also pointed out that there is no longer a crossing person to assist people when crossing the road.

**Actions**

* **IF will continue to pursue WLC regarding their plans**

**5. Water Channels (Culverts)**

**SMc** reported that debris is already accumulating. The culverts were inspected by WLC with the intention of addressing this problem SMac suggested mesh could used to prevent further blockages.

**6. Meeting with Pat McCardle**

**SMac, LMc** and **Cllr DC** updated those present of the outcome of the meeting, although the allocation of funding is still undetermined.

The grass has been removed from the park. Mr McCardle had checked out the east end of the village by the bus stop and it was deemed to be potentially too expensive to provide a footpath.

The re-distribution of funds may have to go back to the council.

**Action**

* **SMac will continue to pursue re-allocation of the funds**
* **Cllr DC to enquire again about re-allocation of the funding the options and the flexibility allowed regarding the money.**

**8. Bangour Village Update**

**JW** will contact the developers about safety at/near the Bangour site. Once a new site manager has been identified **JW** will liaise with them. He will attempt to co-ordinate a meeting with the developers which other members can also attend.

The idea of a community garden has been shelved because of concerns raised about on-going maintenance in the future. Instead, it was suggested that something could be done with the railway platform.

It appears that there will be minimal change to the Dobbies’ roundabout as it was paid for by Dobbies.

**Action**

* **An up-date on progress at the site, will be posted on the website and noticeboard**

**9. Disbursement Fund**

Applications for the fund are now open.

**Action**

* **SMac will apply to the local counsellors (via the Disbursement Fund) for money for flowers.**
* **Cllr DC will send the application forms to SMac.**

**10. The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee-**

As there had been insufficient free time to organise anything special this year **GC** has volunteered to organise an event in 2023 with an aim to boosting DCC’s funds which will benefit the village.

**Action**

* **Ongoing, continue to discuss and plan at subsequent meetings**

**12. Counsellors Report**

Nothing to report that hadn’t already been discussed.

**AOB**

**IF** has lodged a complaint about the HGV driving schools passing through the village, he has yet to recieve a response.

**Action**

* **Keep on agenda**

The Chair **SMac** wound up the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and input**.**

**The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 31st August 2022**