

HOWGATE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting of 27 November 2019

Present:

Ian Quigley (Chair), Ian King Jenny Westwood (Secretary), Graham Young (Treasurer),

In attendance: Paul Johnson (Midlothian Council), PC Alan Forbes

1. Apologies received from David Wilson, Councillor Debbi McCall, & PC Alannah Juchniewicz
2. Minutes of HCC Meeting Held on 23 October:
HCC funds actually stand at £1075.09. Jenny to update minutes.
Proposed by Ian Quigley, seconded by Graham Young.
3. Matters arising:
 - 3.1 Debbi's verbal report on Auchenforth would be carried over to the next meeting.
 - 3.2 The meeting agreed the draft Jenny had prepared to send to the Planning Department re the proposed Drummond Moor development.
4. Police Report:
 - 4.1 It was noted that there had been a reported burglary at the old Wellington school,
 - 4.2 At a recent speed check in Howgate, 2 conditional offers had been issued & warnings issued to 3 drivers.
 - 4.3 On 27 October PCs Dolan & Juchniewicz had carried out a successful Lock Down Crime event @ Tesco's, Penicuik, giving the public advice about general home security & doorstep crime.
 - 4.4 During November, a Midlothian Rural Crime Initiative had been carried out.
5. Howgate Gateway Project:
Ian Q is due to have a meeting with Annette Laing (Midlothian Council) to discuss HCC issues. It was agreed that Ian Q, Ian King & Alan Westwood would be willing to carry out necessary tree lopping if MDC agreed.
6. Roads & traffic reports:
Paul had passed on Ian Q's email citing HCC issues. The responses were not not very positive. Members of HCC were particularly unhappy about a claim that gullies underwent monthly checks, when members could cite examples of where there was evidence of vegetation growing for much longer than a month! Paul & Ian K would be attending MDC's next meeting on 9th December.
7. Community Planning Partnership Development Day on 23 November:
Ian Q had attended on behalf of HCC: an interesting day which was impressive in the work & commitment shown by MDC & partners. Workshops included new planning bill, community justice, MAPPA, running CCs effectively & draft complaints procedures. Unfortunately there were not a lot of attendees.
8. Howgate Development Group:
There was no further information following the well attended open meeting in October. Ian Q would request that HCC is kept in the information loop.
9. Potential difficulties in Elected Councillors all serving on MDC's planning committee:
Following a brief conversation recently, Ian Q is due to have a meeting with MDC

officials to discuss this issue. He is waiting to hear about when this will take place.

10. Standing items:

10.1 Planning:

- Jenny to send email to the Director of Planning re HCC's response to proposed Drummond Moor.
- No additional HCC planning applications this month.

10.2 Correspondance:

Ian Q had received an email regarding lowering the speed limit on Pomathorn Road (currently the national speed limit).
Paul agreed to take this to Midlothian Council.

10.3 HCC Funds:

- Currently standing at £1075.09.
- Howgate Hall rent still to come.
- Graham had collected forms for change of signatories from the bank. Jenny & Ian Q to complete. Jenny to take into the bank.

11. AOCB

Paul presented a brief report on activities this month.

12. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 22 January 2020.