**Howgate Community Council - Minutes 24 October 2018**

Attendees: Colin Bennett - HCC (Chair), David Wilson- HCC, Graeme Young- HCC,

Debbie McCall, Colin Rorison, PC Juchniewicz

**Minutes**

Previous meeting’s minutes were carried over to the next meeting to approve.

**Community Policing Report**

No points of note from the community policing report circulated prior to the meeting.

PC Juchniewicz provided the group with a summary of the Community Speed Watch Initiative and the process HCC would need to undertake to apply for the this initiative. This was discussed and agreed it would be an attractive and cheaper (£1900 for the speed gun) alternative to a fixed speed camera (£7K) in the village discussed at previous meetings. **ACTION**: David to investigate this further and report back to the next meeting.

No other new traffic or speeding issues raised at the meeting.

**Closure of Howgate Church**

Colin summarised the update circulated by Ian prior to the meeting regarding the closure of the church and disposal of the properties including Glebe .

**ACTION**: Ian to continue to provide the group with any updates on this process, in particular any progress with the community questionnaire referenced from the HVHA AGM.

**Correspondence**

New correspondence was noted per Bruce’s note.

**Planning.**

The group agreed it was a good idea for Elizabeth to become the primary contact for planning matters with Midlothian Council.

David noted his earlier email circulated regarding the Community Planning Partnership Day at Eskbank college on Saturday 24 November.

**ACTION** - HCC volunteer to attend the day, if people can confirm their availability.

**HCC Funds**

HCC Funds sit at c£900 with no incoming or outgoings envisaged. It was noted re the recent grant applications made for the next three years.

**AOB:**

Debbie noted that Midlothian Council has appointed a new CEO Dr Grace Vickers, who was previously Head of Education, who has brought a fresh approach and vigor to the role.

Colin Rorison raised a request for funds from HCC to support the replacement / refurbishment of the flower tubs in the village. HVHA has committed £100 support and Colin R has agreed to lead this initiative and will seek volunteers for the labour. HCC confirmed it would be happy to support using some of the current balance if Colin can cost the initiative and present a proposal back to HCC. Colin R expects it will be spring before this is taken forward.

**Date of next meeting**

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 28th November.