#### **BLACKRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes from meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023, Next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023 Held at Craig Inn Community Centre

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS	A Montgomery
Marion Stewart (Chair)	J Robertson
S Montgomery	A Valentini
B Craig	PC S Henderson
K Baylis	PC C Rennie
R Rylott	K Strachan
	J Ramsay
	A Graham
INVITED GUESTS	
Cllr McGuire	
Cllr Kenna	
C McGoldrick	

Minutes from last meeting Proposed: S Montgomery

Seconded: B Craig

Matters Arising: None

## **School Update:**

Claire McGoldrick gave an update on the work of the school. She highlighted that a thematic review on equity was ongoing; it was going well, and the strengths of the school were being recognised.

Early Years Officers were looking for activities in the village for children to attend especially intergenerational activities. As well as this the school's vision, values and aims were being refreshed. Finally, the plan for Pupil Equity Funding for the next school session was being looked at, consideration was given to pupil support workers, a speech and language therapist, funding after school activities and £1600 would be committed as a participatory budget for the kids themselves to decide how to spend.

### **Police Update:**

No update and Police Scotland not in attendance.

# Finance:

The Treasurer is still on holiday so no movement in the accounts or update from last month.

## Planning:

No new active planning applications for the area but a number of items highlighted by the planning secretary which may be of interest from neighbouring areas:

- A planning application had been submitted for an extension to the Torphichen Inn pub.
- A change of use had been submitted in Torphichen for the old post office to be changed to a short term holiday let.
- A wind farm application In Harthill had been submitted to North Lanarkshire Council.
   After discussion, the community council agreed an objection would be submitted to North Lanarkshire Council from the community council on the same lines that previous objections have been submitted which specific focus on the concern of the height of the turbines which are significantly taller than others installed.

#### Newsletter/Website:

The summer edition was nearly ready to go and would be distributed by the Galaday committee.

New content was needed for the winter edition. Cllr McGuire offered to draft an article on antipoverty measures and to put the community council in touch with waste services at the Council to provide information on recycling.

#### **Projects:**

A number of projects were discussed:

- 4 benches for Westrigg Way are in production
- 2 benches and noticeboard have been delivered and are sitting at Sibbald's awaiting installation.
- Bollards and planting- the contractor has advised that these are in progress.
- The planters outside the Craig Inn will be tidied up.
- A discussion was had about a burn cleaning session. Some dates were discussed but it was
  acknowledged that the community council could not organise this event as their insurance
  would not allow it. It was agreed that the West Lothian litter pickers would be approached
  for support and the community council could advertise the event as a community event
  only.

#### **Health Centre:**

No updates

## AOB:

- Parking issues in Westrigg were highlighted. The road is very congested and there is a number of inconsiderate parkers. The councillors would make contact with the Police to do patrols and discuss directly with drivers in the area.
- The poor state of some gardens in the village and properties with boarded up windows was discussed.

Date of next meeting: 20<sup>th</sup> June Next Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May