

## BLACKRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes from meeting 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023, Next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Held at Craig Inn Community Centre

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
<b>COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS</b>	A Montgomery
Marion Stewart (Chair)	K Strachan
S Montgomery	A Valentini
B Craig	PC S Henderson
K Baylis	Pc C Rennie
R Ramsay	R Rylott
	C McGoldirck
	A Graham
	Cllr Kenna
	Cllr Borrowman
<b>INVITED GUESTS</b>	
Cllr McGuire	
Douglas Wilson	
Dr Neil MacRitchie	
Anne Paton, Practice Manager	

**Minutes from last meeting**

Proposed: S Montgomery

Seconded: B Craig

**Matters Arising:** None

**School Update:**

No update as the school was on holiday the Headteacher was not present.

**Police Update:**

No update and Police Scotland not in attendance but an email update had been circulated from local community Police Officers prior to the meeting and there was a discussion about acts of vandalism locally.

**Finance:**

Bank balance was £10,323.50. Marion highlighted issues with applying for grants from Foundation Scotland and that she had lodged officially her concerns at the difficulty this will create for groups to access funding.

**Planning:**

The Planning Secretary was not present so there was no update on planning items.

**Newsletter/Website:**

Deadlines for the Christmas newsletter are 16<sup>th</sup> November. It was agreed that Cllr McGuire would write the inside story on the cost of living crisis.

**Projects:**

It was noted that a business had donated 2 laptops for use of the community council. These were to be held by office bearers to ensure data security for community council business.

Rebecca was not present but it was noted that all current projects were approaching or were complete. There was a discussion about potential future projects but that no decisions were made on future projects.

Keith advised that he was no further with the 'adopt' a station project but continued to pursue this.

**Health Centre:**

The Community Council was joined by members of the art class and by Dr Neil MacRitchie and new Practice Manager Anne Paton who wanted to provide update and receive feedback on the recent implementation of a new electronic system in the surgery. Dr MacRitchie highlighted that this system was not about limiting access but was instead about improving ability to gain appointments and to move away from 8am phonecalls for on the day appointments.

There was a wide ranging discussion and feedback was provided regarding the changes which most felt had been beneficial.

A specific concern regarding Monday holidays and access to pharmacies was asked. It was agreed Cllr McGuire would write to NHS Lothian and highlight this issue.

**AOB:**

It was agreed the December meeting would be moved to 5<sup>th</sup> December.

**Date of next meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023.**