

# Blackness Area Community Council

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 - Blackness Boat Club

<b>Attendees:</b> Community Council members: Helen Brown (HB), Sharman Faulds (SF), Dorothy Garrow (DG), Nick Paul (NP) (Chair), Helena Paul (HP) (Minutes) Members of the public: 3 Councillor Lynn Munro		
<b>Apologies:</b> Dave Lawson, Martin Watt, Paula Roots, Councillor Ann Ritchie		
		Action
<b>1. Approval of Previous Minutes:</b> Proposed: NB Seconded: SF		
<b>2. Community Police Report</b> No Police Report received		
<b>3. Actions and matters arising from previous minutes</b> Agreed all matters arising already covered within the agenda		
<b>4. Future Events / Fundraising</b> DL has been in contact with Martyn Day MP re possible funding sources for the play park and other projects.		
<b>5. Community Projects</b> Play Park Extension: HB updated the meeting, she has met with the preferred supplier, Sutcliffe Play, and tabled a visualisation of how the finished play park would look (attached). Next stage is to get FC to agree to install a gate in the existing play park fence to allow access to the new area. Suggested that rather than fence in the new area, it could be left open or a mixed hedge similar to the existing one could be planted. Could FC also be asked to look at replacement of the Football Posts, which may be achievable as we near the end of the financial year. FET Falkirk Environmental Trust is being approached for funding – HB has a meeting with FET scheduled on 16 <sup>th</sup> March at 0930 at the play park. The application would have to be made by May to be considered at the FET Board meeting in June, with delivery expected sometime in September. Also looking at other funding sources such as PPL, Tesco or the Coalfields Regeneration Trust. Suggested that the conditions of installation need to be checked carefully to avoid any future issues as the contract is likely to be between FC and Sutcliffe. MA offered to do this		
<b>6. Budget</b> In DL's absence, HP updated the meeting. DL has provided the latest budget statement attached. Actions he is undertaking include the payment of the share of the Carol Service collection to the Parents Association, and ensuring that the Boat Club is paid for room hire for our meetings (£24 every two months)		
<b>7. Councillors' Update</b> Cllr Lynn Munro was welcomed to the meeting. She opened by noting that she is a member of the planning committee and asked about our views on the current planning policy particularly any issues relating to Development in the Countryside. Were we aware that FC is updating its development plan. Shouldn't we be having a debate on future		

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<p>policy?</p> <p>Cllr Munro was advised that BACC was well aware of these matters and had commented on the new development plan to the Council last year. We continue to take an active interest in planning matters in line with the prevailing views of our residents, and there have been many debates within the area over the years. The view is that the current policy is welcome and required to continue to ensure that the unique character and nature of Blackness that is highly valued by many residents is maintained.</p> <p>In discussion it was pointed out that Blackness is designated as an AGLV (Area of Great Landscape Value). This designation is held in high regard by residents, who very much value the rural and tranquil nature of our community, and is the reason many people choose to make their homes here. While BACC would also recognise the need for sympathetic and sustainable development to ensure the continuing success and viability of the local area, in particular to support the continuing existence of the school, there are significant infrastructure (drainage, roads, broadband etc) and other issues that would have to be overcome.</p> <p>There have been issues with small developments previously that appear to contradict the requirements of the Development in the Countryside which have not been universally well received by residents. Any substantial change in the BACC position could only come about through further consultation with our residents.</p> <p>Cllr Munro again asked about the history of the Holdings and was advised to review the material that has been placed on the community noticeboards about this.</p> <p>Cllr Munro asked about parking particularly in the village and was advised that this matter has been covered at great length by BACC previously. While an area of land at the Church was identified as possibly suitable for a car park, there was no capacity within the area for the large amount of fund raising and other work that would have been required to tackle such a large project.</p> <p>It was noted that the airport's activity since 2015 and the current flight path proposals form a threat to the rural tranquillity that is very important to residents and visitors alike and may not be compatible with new large scale housing developments.</p> <p>Agreed that MA would contact FC to enquire about details for making comments on the revised Development Plan, it was noted that the time for comments may already have passed in any case.</p>	MA
<b>8. Planning Update</b>	
<p>8.1 Weekly planning list: HB has been in contact with planning who have confirmed that we receive the weekly list via email and will have to scan it to see if there are any applications in the area, as do not receive an area specific list.</p> <p>8.2 Filming at the Castle and damage caused: HB had heard back from HES re the issue with the damage to the ground at the Back Shore caused by filming activity. HES has agreed that their grounds team would look at reinstating the area. It was pointed out that while the filming at the Castle is a lucrative income stream for HES, it can cause substantial disruption, inconveniencing residents without any benefit for the area. Previously a donation might have been made by the film company to the Community Council in recognition of the inconvenience suffered by residents, no such arrangements are in place for the recent activities.</p>	

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<p>8.3 Brief discussion on P/18/0014/FUL extension to dwellinghouse at 12 Mannerston Holdings. Agreed no comment from BACC</p> <p>Brief discussion about a planning application for a further extension on a house at Cauldcoats that was approved in December. Concerns expressed about the further strain being placed on drainage systems that have already reached capacity.</p>	
<p><b>9 Flight path matters</b></p>	
<p>9.1 Edinburgh Airport Limited (EAL) has launched a consultation process on its new Noise Action Plan. The NAP is required to be updated every 5 years, and the airport is consulting on the new one. Consultation opened on 20<sup>th</sup> February and closes on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. This is a separate process from the Flight Path Application consultation.</p> <p>For more information regarding the Noise Action Plan, or to respond to the consultation online, visit <a href="http://nap.edinburghairport.com">nap.edinburghairport.com</a>.</p> <p>To request a paper copy of the consultation book and form, send an email to <a href="mailto:edicomunications@edinburghairport.com">edicomunications@edinburghairport.com</a>.</p> <p>Agreed that it is important that we inform residents about this latest consultation so that they have an opportunity to respond. BACC should also respond.</p> <p>HP will draft a brief note for HB to circulate and post on FB to advise residents.</p> <p>9.2 There have been two relevant meetings - 24<sup>th</sup> January at Holyrood a meeting of Community Councillors from 6 LA areas to discuss the ongoing flight path consultation process. 7<sup>th</sup> February Noise Advisory Board, where the airport and air traffic control again failed to attend.</p> <p>Various concerns remain about the ongoing flight paths change process and the error strewn consultation process. The application to the CAA is substantially different from what residents were consulted on. Route E will affect Blackness, and the airport consulted on 41 planes per day on that route, but has applied for 111 per day, from 6am and has no plans so far to re-consult with residents.</p> <p>The airport appears to have plenty spare capacity that could meet its growth aspirations without imposing new flight paths. Only 28% of responders to the consultation were positive about the proposals. While airport expansion may be considered if it is necessary, justified and has community support, the proposals from EAL fail on all counts. Residents in our community remain concerned and trust in EAL is low.</p> <p>Residents with concerns are encouraged to contact their elected representatives and the CAA, as well as continuing to complain to the airport about noise related events.</p> <p>It was noted that a sustained period of easterly winds is forecast shortly for the area, which will mean great aircraft noise being experienced, albeit during the winter period when there are fewer numbers of flights.</p> <p>Cllr Munro asked various questions, and was advised that residents simply wish what they had before, the right to the peaceful enjoyment of their homes and gardens. The multiple changes made to the use of the airspace should be reversed prior to any proper and meaningful consultation taking place with residents.</p> <p>Residents are also concerned about night flights, particularly a plane at around 0245 that now consistently wakes people up. A night time curfew would be welcomed.</p> <p>It was noted that FC is not represented on the Edinburgh Airport</p>	<p>HP / HB</p>

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<p>Consultative Committee, which has a statutory duty to oversee the airport's operations and hold the airport to account for the impact it has on its neighbours.</p> <p>It was further noted that since 2015 when the issues with unwanted aircraft noise first started, members of the community have spent considerable time and energy gaining knowledge and expertise about the matter, and connecting with other similarly affected groups around the UK.</p> <p>It was noted that previous emails sent about the matter to Cllr Munro in September and October had not been responded to which she said were due to IT issues.</p> <p>Cllr Munro said she would ask various questions of the airport and others. HP to follow up.</p>	HP
<b>10 AOCB</b>	
<p>10.3 Newsletter: Written and signed off, and 186 newsletters printed and distributed during the month, a great team effort and thanks to all. 5 residents have responded to ask to be added to the emailing list, and one village resident has offered assistance with planning, leisure and IT. Terry will contact him to discuss the slow Broadband issues in the area, and the possibility of applying for grants for faster broadband where speeds are less than 2mb, which is the case for many households in the area.</p> <p>10.4 CRT Event – Coalfields Regeneration Trust event held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, attended by HB. A total of £20,000 available for distribution among community projects in Boness and Blackness area. Follow up meeting on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March from 0930 in Bo'ness Town Hall, are there any volunteers who can attend?</p> <p>10.5 Raised that there is a planning application in South Queensferry for new housing at Bullyeon Road. There will be an impact on the A904 at South Queensferry, as the plan appears to re-route traffic through the proposed new housing estate. SQ residents are very concerned at the implications of the proposals.</p> <p>10.6 Beach Clean being organised on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 10am by the Marine Conservation Society. Meet at the Back Shore.</p>	TR  Any?
<b>Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7pm in the Boat Club.</b>	
<b>The Chair thanked people for attending and closed the meeting at 2055.</b>	

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### Blackness Area Community Council

Budget: - For Meeting Wednesday 21 February 2018

Balance from January meeting £8,609.54

BACC    Play Park

BACC Monies Raised (For information purposes)	Amount
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 23 March 2013	£378.00
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 22 March 2014	£432.00
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 28 March 2015	£377.55
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 18 March 2017 (sundry expenses/hall hire deducted)	£201.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,389.04</b>

BACC Monies In	Amount
<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

BACC Monies Out	Amount
Hire of Hall for Carol Service	£12.00
Hire of Boat Club for Meeting	£12.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£24.00</b>

BACC Monies Pending	Amount
<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

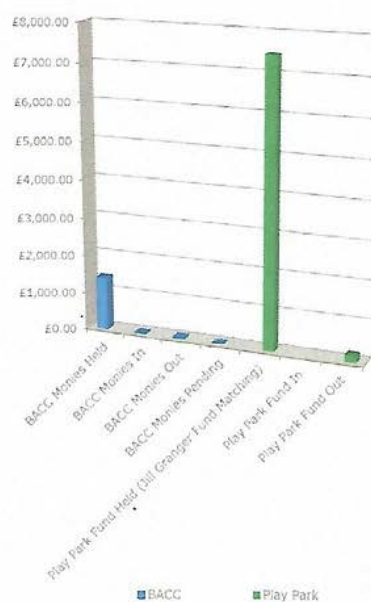
Play Park Fund Held (Jill Granger Fund Matching)	Amount
Raised at Christmas Fair 2011	£645.38
Raised at Christmas Fair 2012	£672.36
Raised at Christmas Fair 23 Nov 2013	£780.05
Raised at Christmas Fair 22 Nov 2014	£766.48
Raised at Christmas Fair 21 Nov 2015 (Hall rental to deduct = £774.03 - 28.55)	£745.48
Raised from New Year Party 2015	£140.00
Raised at Christmas Fair Nov 2016 (first amount banked)	£78.00
Raised at Christmas Fair Nov 2016 (second/last amount banked)	£489.37
04 July 2017 - Donation from Bo'ness Bridge Club	£150.00
22 Aug 2017 - Falkirk Council Funding Award	£3,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7,467.12</b>

Play Park Fund In	Amount
None	
<b>Total</b>	

Play Park Fund Out	Amount
Jill Granger has agreed that cost of planters can come off monies held as this was deemed a good local cause (deducted January 2013)	£183.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>£183.66</b>

Total Balances (Split)	BACC	Play Park
	£1,302.08	£7,283.46

Account Balance as Tuesday 20 February 2018 £8,585.54



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