

Blackness Area Community Council
Meeting Minutes: Wednesday 18th March 2020, Via WhatsApp

Attendees via WhatsApp during Corona Virus restrictions: Community Council members: Martin Watt (chair), Karen Walker (minutes), Terry Rowland, Dorothy Garrow Members of the public: Merv Archibald	
1. Apologies	
Dave Lawson, Annie Meikle	
2. Approval of Previous Minutes:	Action
Previous February meeting minutes now approved and can be forwarded to FC for publication.	KW
3. Community Police Report	
No report received from Community Police Officers. <i>Post meeting note: Covid 19 email received 26/3/2020 to say that due to the impact on resources and demand, Police Scotland will not be sending out Police Reports to CCs.</i>	
4. Actions and matters arising from previous minutes	
Addressed per section below**	
5. Village parking	
KW to check with AM re HES update <i>Post meeting note: Although HES has closed all sites, AM is still keeping in contact and hopes to have an update re parking for the next meeting.</i>	KW AM
6. Planning	
It was previously agreed that we would support the Scottish Community Councils to endorse a joint position on the provision for Local Place Plans (LPPs) in the new Planning (Scotland) Act and an email of support will be sent by BACC before 26 th March.	TR/KW
No 18 Mannerston Holdings – no response from Douglas Duff at FC re BACCs follow up email sent on 26 th February but we have had press interest and a publication in the Journal & Gazette. MA suggested BACC write to FC to ask if we could meet with FC and offer to assist them with a review of the process. MA offered to attend Martyn Days' Grangemouth workshop (Covid 19 restrictions permitting) to discuss the matter.	BACC - tbc MA
MW contacted the Institute of Landscape Architects (ILA) and spoke to a Technical Standards Manager to establish the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anybody competent can legitimately carry out a valid Landscape Impact Visual Assessment (LVIA) report; 2. there are written guidelines for the standards and procedures for producing acceptable LVIA reports; 3. an LVIA should include proof of methodology and accuracy of visuals on which statements are based upon; 4. LVIA reports should be easily intelligible and evaluated for accuracy to enable public presentations such as to untrained community members or counsellors; 5. inaccurate impressions of development are being submitted more often now and may go unnoticed; 6. ILA are aware that decisions are often being taken by political appointees based on their unskilled interpretation of misleading presentation material which is deemed unacceptable given skilled individuals are available; 7. If Falkirk Council to agree to a test case review of the 18 Mannerston 	

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<p>Holdings development approval, it was agreed that it would be appropriate for a proper LVIA to be carried out and would be a good start to illuminate what was not done;</p> <p>8. It was agreed that it may be true that the planning process does not seem fit for purpose;</p> <p>9. It was agreed that to have a pilot community council website template created to standardize all CC websites nationally into which training / guidance could be kept / updated incl. Landscape Institute guidance notes was a good idea.</p>	
<p>7. Flight path matters</p>	
<p>Louise McIntyre's (Edinburgh Airport Ltd) email to KW as secretary of BACC of 10 March was discussed. With regard to the reference in item 8 in the minutes of our BACC November 2019 meeting, to there being very few disturbances whilst [the temporary noise] monitors were out, Louise felt the possibility that "the timing of the monitors had been rigged" was inappropriate and unfair. This was accepted by the meeting and it was agreed the following statement should be recorded in the minute of this [March 2020 BACC] meeting to rectify the matter:</p> <p>Whilst concerns were expressed over the perceived relatively low number of noisy overflights during the periods when the temporary noise monitors were located in 3 Blackness residential properties, it was understood that this could be down to a variety of factors out with Edinburgh Airport's control. The reference to possible rigging should not have been made and is therefore withdrawn.</p> <p>BACC look forward to receiving feedback from EAL on the results of the monitoring at Blackness last year.</p> <p>MA and KW attended the monthly EANAB (the Board) meeting on 4th March 2020. 2 EAL staff members also attended.</p> <p>The Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise (ICCAN) have confirmed they are keen to attend an EANAB meeting which might be a useful collaboration.</p> <p>The Board have requested further data from EAL to allow them to understand the relationship between take off profiles and noise footprints and to enable discussions of aircraft locations in 3D. However, instead, EAL have suggested the data is sent to an external aviation consultant for analysis - this issue is ongoing.</p> <p>EANAB have asked why EAL report complaints highlighting that a large number are received from very few complainants (as cited in a recent Edinburgh News article). They are seeing a reduction in the number of people complaining. Board members suggested the reduction may be due to people deciding complaining was pointless, as nothing seemed to change as a result. EAL noted they can only take sanctions against offending airlines, if their aircraft are operating out with the regulations. If EANAB cared to make some suggestions for review of the complaints process, EAL offered to include a feature in the airport community newsletter to help raise EANAB profile,</p> <p>As part of their current Air Change Programme application, EAL have submitted additional information on the Design Principles Development process for consideration by the CAA on 24 April 2020 (this may change as a result of the current coronavirus situation).</p>	

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DG noted that despite the reduction in flights in the area as a result of the coronavirus, night flights are still an issue.	
8. Councillors Update	
Cllr DA not present	
9. Budget	
A donation has been previously agreed to ensure ongoing functioning of the village defibrillator is still to be arranged. KW/DL to liaise with Sue Gairns to work out how much each will donate towards the £150 needed.	**DL/SG/KW
10. Community Projects	
<u>Blackness Community Hall:</u> <i>Family Spring Ceilidh: Saturday 25th April 2020. CANCELLED</i> <i>Ceilidh postponed due to the current Coronavirus situation</i>	
<u>Play Park</u> Closed due to the coronavirus outbreak.	
11. AOCB	
<p><u>COVID 19</u> A leaflet has been pulled together for delivery this week to all houses in the area to provide details of local businesses which can provide supplies, NHS information and friendly support.</p> <p>It was agreed to set up a Covid 19 sub-committee (KW, MA, MW & another from the village).</p> <p><u>COVID 19 INFORMATION</u> For those with internet access, you can find “Blackness Community” on Facebook for the latest updates and if struggling, please ask a neighbour or email Blacknessc@googlemail.com</p> <p>It is hoped to have a dedicated HelpLine phone number available soon.</p> <p>If anyone can volunteer or a local company can offer any help, please contact a BACC member or email blacknessc@googlemail.com</p> <p>Please check on your neighbours, particularly if they are elderly or vulnerable but remember to maintain a 2 metre space when talking to anyone and everyone remember to WASH YOUR HANDS.</p>	
Meeting closed at 8.15pm.	
<p>Date of next meeting: 7pm, Wednesday 15th April 2020 via an online communication platform tbc (Skype or Messenger or other). Open only to BACC members and Covid 19 sub-committee.</p>	

USEFUL CONTACTS/INFORMATION

BACC elected	Martin Watt (Convener)	
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members	David Lawson (Treasurer)	blacknessc@googlemail.com
	Dorothy Garrow	
BACC co-opted members	Karen Walker (Secretary)	
	Anne Meikle	
	Terry Rowland	
Bo'ness & Blackness Councillors	David Aitchison	07484926985 david.aitchison@falkirk.gov.uk
	Lynn Munro	01324 506146 (office) lynn.munro@falkirk.gov.uk
	Ann Ritchie	01324 506164 (office) ann.ritchie@falkirk.gov.uk
Edinburgh Airport	Noise complaints	0800 731 3397 noise@edinburghairport.com

Blackness Defibrillator Locations:

24 hour access: on the external wall of the Boat Club

Castle open hours: HES shop at Blackness Castle (currently closed due to the coronavirus).