

Linlithgow Planning Forum

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Canal Tea Room on Thu 27 Feb 2014

- Present:** John Kelly, Chair (L&LBCC), John Aitken (LCT), David Tait (LBA, L&LBCC, Black Bitch Mag), Ron Smith (BB, LCT) and Mike Vickers (LCT, L&LBCC & LBA).
- Apologies:** Clive Dyson (L&LBCC)
- Clarendon Farm** This application for housing will be decided on 5 March 2014 by the whole of WLC, sitting as the Planning Committee. It was agreed that John Kelly and John Aitken will ask to make verbal representations, on behalf of the Community Council and Civic Trust respectively, urging rejection. The application is premature, there is insufficient educational capacity, it would worsen existing traffic congestion at the Union Canal bridge and would compromise the later addition of a relief road to the south of Linlithgow. They will liaise with each other and will try to contact the Clarendon Road objectors to avoid undue duplication.
- Plan Guidelines** Clive Dyson had circulated an updated version of Planning Guidelines for Linlithgow and it was agreed that this was a great improvement on the previous draft. Subject to some minor changes it would be adopted by the Planning Forum, sent to WLC and recommended for wider adoption. The changes relate to the footnote on page 1, adding a policy on digital connectivity and updating the business policy. Those requesting changes should submit them to Clive so that the document can be finalised with the aim of approval at the meeting on 13 March.
- Local Plan** John Aitken will continue to update the draft submission. Ron Smith will prepare a map showing routes for potential bypass roads north and south of Linlithgow. It will also show the settlement boundary included in the current Local Plan.
- There was some discussion on John Kelly's map of possible development sites and general agreement that the land north of Blackness Road was best suited to commercial development and that sites for possible housing development should be selected after we had agreed on the route of a proposed bypass road
- Burghmuir Appeal** Wallace Land has appealed to the Scottish Ministers following the rejection of their plans for 200 homes at Burghmuir A. Any additional representations should be made by 4 March. The Community Council and Civic Trust will both write supporting WLC's rejection and asking for it to be upheld.
- BB Article** It was agreed that the draft article for the Black Bitch community magazine should be submitted for publication.
- Next Meetings** Thursday 13 March and Thursday 27 March, all at 3:30pm in the Mel Gray Centre (the Canal Tea Room is in use on Thursday afternoons).