

# Linlithgow Planning Forum

## Minutes of the Meeting held in the Mel Gray Centre on Thu 27 March 2014

**Present:** John Kelly, Chair (L&LBCC), John Aitken (LCT), Alan Brown (TL), Clive Dyson (L&LBCC), Roger Livermore (LCAG), David Tait (LBA, L&LBCC, Black Bitch Mag), and Mike Vickers (LCT, L&LBCC & LBA).

**Apologies:** Ron Smith (BB, LCT)

**Matters Arising** None

**Guidelines** Invite WLC planners to next meeting (Chris Norman, Craig McCorriston, Steve McLucas).

### Action JK

Agreed to increase Internet exposure of the Guidelines and set up questionnaire and on-line survey to seek public opinions on it. JK to draw up question set.

### Action JK

JA, CD and MV to investigate survey system to use, and seek finance from groups.

### Action JA, CD, MV

**Capital Budget** Now available but inconsistencies, uncertainty as to status of projects within it. Discussed loss of parking warden and impact on town; also Vennel car park contract where profits could pay for the warden. No actions

**Website** John Aitken has reconfigured the Planning Forum website at [linlithgowplanningforum.wordpress.com](http://linlithgowplanningforum.wordpress.com) with a wish to keep improving it. Improved home page and wish to simplify Planning Forum page access by having website as a sub domain of Linlithgow.com. Member groups of forum and indeed other organisations may have pages if wish, small costs involved.

### Action JA

Wish to increase Internet presence on planning issues with the Linlithgow App, Facebook, LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter. Ronnie Banbury very active on these. DT suggested Intern Adoption.

### Responding to

**e-mail** Agreed to JK doing the responses on behalf of forum, will consult if contentious. Discussed expanded car park at end of St Ninians Way, loss of old rigs marked by bushes, we should have looked closer at plan. There is little ability to screen south side of this car park, although screening to the North is practical.

**AOB**

Cala Homes full planning application for Springfield South expected mid-April. There was debate on whether or not to comment, to Cala, on the Pre-Application Notice (PAN) plans specifically relating to the junction with Blackness road. The Community Council is minded to ask Cala for a summary of the resident's comments. Specific objections possible are possible to the Full Planning Application and Civic Trust may do so. Need to fit with forthcoming local plan and need improvements to town infrastructure such as school places available. Involves land change of use; we now have chance to set up how planning should work and secure definite gains for community, 'planning gain'. Cala intention of creating a bond for community rather than for WLC. Cala has made provision for 6 affordable houses in the plan – top NW of plot. They have agreed these can be relocated elsewhere given agreement.

Signs of some moves in policy from 'restraint' to controlled development in the town. Need to say what needs 'fixing' in the town, e.g. another GP surgery, and then how planning policy delivers.

**Next Meeting**

Thursday 24 April at 3:30pm in the Mel Gray Centre.