

Linlithgow Planning Forum

Minutes of Meeting held 7th December 2017

1. **Present:** Ron Smith (RS) Convenor (BB, LBT, L&LBCC), John Kelly, (JK) (L&LBCC, LBT), Mike Vickers (MV), (LBT, L&LBCC & LBA), Councillor David Tait (DT) (LBA, WLC), David Timperley (DGT) (LBT),
2. **Apologies:** Fraser Falconer (LCDT, LLBCC), Marilynne MacLaren (MM)(Chair LCT), Máire McCormack (MMcC)(L&LBCC & TL), Sue Friel (SF)(Chair TL & L&LBCC), Martin Crook (LLBCC, TMG),
3. **Minutes of the meeting of 9th November 2017:** Approved.
4. **Templars Court:** A meeting was held between McCarthy and Stone and the 3 councillors on 13 October 2017 at which McCarthy and Stone presented a programme (attached) which showed construction work to the existing gable of the adjacent property being repaired between 16 April and 14 August 2018. It is proposed by McCarthy and Stone that the remaining space become an "urban green square". The meeting judged this to be unacceptable within the conservation area. McCarthy and Stone requested a meeting with the Community Council in February 2018. It was decided to reply to this request but divert them to a Planning Forum meeting which is currently scheduled for 1st February 2018. A meeting is only useful if McCarthy and Stone are willing to discuss a new building on the site, as the existing planning application, and not a garden. It was agreed to write to Craig McCorrison to explain this conclusion. **Action JK**
5. **Town Charrette:** the Planning Forum was unsuccessful in its application to the Scottish Government for a grant of £2500 to support a town charrette. It was agreed that feedback should be sought from Ian Gilzean. MC reported a conversation with Ian Gilzean at which he recommended getting the community together. DT reported a session in the Scottish parliament on 6th December from which he judged that the Community Empowerment Act was gaining traction and momentum. **Action JK**
6. **Lamp posts at County Buildings:** it was decided to object to the planning application for the replacement of the lamp posts at County buildings and require that the existing lampposts be refurbished and put back. **Action JK**
7. **Assets in the common good:** The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 places new duties on local authorities in relation to common good property as reported in the previous minutes. DT suggested that a question be drafted regarding the extent to which properties owned by West Lothian Council fall into the new classification of common good. **Action JK**
8. **Update of Linlithgow: A Plan for the Future:** as reported in the previous minutes the following members of the Planning Forum would be asked to review, revise and/or update sections of the Plan for the Future with RS being in overall editorial control.

- a. Environmental Sustainability: MC
- b. Built/Architectural Heritage and Tourism: MV
- c. Business and Employment: DT
- d. Housing: JK
- e. Transport and Accessibility: DGT
- f. Retailing and Vennel: RS
- g. Community, Cultural & Sports Facilities
and Open Space: FF/LCDDT
- h. Education & Health Facilities MV/AT
- i. Funding: RS
- j. Implementation JK
- k. Introduction JK

RS has circulated a WORD version of the Plan for the Future.

Progress to be reviewed at the January meeting with the aim of having sections complete by the February meeting.

9. Planning List items:

- a. 0981/FUL/17 Queen's view, boundary walls, gates, car park and shed in retrospect. It was decided to object to the planning application on the grounds of interference with neighbours and access onto the highway.
- b. 0984/LBC/17 and 0985/FUL/17 repainting of shop in conservation area in retrospect. It was decided to object to this application and refer to the approved list of colours.

Action JK

- 10. Vennel update:** DT reported the ongoing discussions with Graeme Struthers with whom he has a series of meetings booked to June 2018. The Scott Bennett report on the condition survey of the Vennel should be available shortly. It was decided to ask Craig McCorrison for a statement of progress.

Action JK

- 11. Next Meeting and Future meetings:** It was decided that the Planning Forum should meet on a regular basis on the first Thursday of every month. Venue to be confirmed in the agenda. The next meeting will be on 4th January 2018 at 3.00pm. Those present confirmed a preference for an afternoon meeting. 2018 meetings will be as follows:

4 th January	5 th April	5 th July	4 th October
1 st February	3 rd May	no August meeting	1 st November
1 st March	7 th June	6 th September	6 th December

John Kelly,
Secretary,
15th December 2017