***Beechwood & Wheatcroft Residents Association***

*Minutes of meeting held 5/10/2023*

*Loch Lomond Rugby Club*

**In Attendance:**

**Committee members:**  T. Neufield, R. Kerr, J. McGarva, M. Reid,

H. Scammel, K. Smith, J. Coulthard, I. Milligan

**Apologies**: R. Goodall, R. Stubbs, D. Bole, A. McGarva, E. Adams (Park PM)

**Guests/Councillors**: J Bollan, I Dickson.

**Residents**: G Coulthard J Scpringier, J. Scammell, A. MacCaskell

**Community Police:** None

1. *Welcome and Introduction*- Tom Nuffield, (Chair) opened the meeting and extended a warm welcome to everyone.
2. *Minutes* - Proposed Janice McGarva Seconded Harry Scammell.
3. *Matters arising from last month’s minutes*:

Councillor Ian Dickson stated that although the bin replacement at Murroch Crescent was in the action points in the September meeting, the bin had been replaced before the September meeting.

1. *Park PM Update*:

J McGarva, Treasurer, reported on behalf of Park PM that a total of 405 payments had been collected to date, in percentage terms 90.6%. 1 account was on temporary hold, 17 accounts are on legal actions, 24 accounts remain outstanding, in percentage terms 5.37%. Payment made to BWRA: £16,605.00. Payment made to Park PM: £9,720.00.

1. *Councillor Update/Questions*:

* TN asked for clarification with regard to work commencing at Beechwood Drive before the completion of areas of Murroch Crescent. JM reported that work has also resumed at Broomhill Crescent. ID stated that it is the WDC that are completing the works, not Luddon. H Scammell asked for assurance that the work would be completed before Christmas. J Bollan stated that the best assurance that he can give is that the work will all be done. JB confirmed he has contacted the Roads Manager regarding that the new work was reportedly crumbling and he has confirmed he will arrange a post inspection. It should be noted that JB stated that as from last month the council are in a £12 million deficit for next year.
* TN asked if residents had any questions for the councillor. A Beechwood resident stated that vandalism continued to be a problem in the area and was of the opinion this was exasperated by the absence of the fence that was removed when the old school was demolished. During the discussion that followed with regard to access to the area it was stated that constructing a fence would be too costly for the BWRA to undertake but other methods of restricting access are under consideration. The resident discussed with JB that with regard to the new flats that have been built residents had been told that there were no plans to build. JB commented that at the time planning permission was being sought all residents would have been given the opportunity to object to the proposal. The Beachwood resident was advised from the floor to continue updating the police with their concerns as it was considered to be a police matter and not a residents association matter and also advised to keep a diary of events to support their claims.

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1. *Questions from Residents*:

* The old fencing mesh from car park at Area 23 is still awaiting collection. TN stated that he will arrange to have it taken to the skip.
* A resident reported damage to a tree in the gully above Murroch Crescent where a branch was hanging down onto the ground. The branch was in danger of falling and hitting a passerby. The tree is on council property, however, TN stated that Rob Goodall will inspect the tree and attempt to make it safe.
* Katrina Smith, Joint Secretary, proposed and it was agreed that a second invitation should be sent to the Community Police asking them to attend the November meeting with regard to addressing the concerns of the residents living in the proximity of Area 23, Beechwood.

1. *Chair report:*

* Tom Neufield, Chair, gave apologies to KS that she inadvertently had not been included in emails he had sent to committee members and stated the matter has now been rectified.
* TN reported to ID that the bin by the bus stop was damaged and required replacement.
* It was confirmed that an updated list of owners and addresses had been provided by Park PM.

1. *Secretary report:* Nothing to report.
2. *Treasurer report:* The current balances in the accounts are:
   * General Maintenance £35,689.54
   * Reserve account £21,612.12
   * Social Fund account £483.04
   * Total £57,784.70

JM stated there is still an outstanding account due to be paid to MSG for the sum of £7,866 covering ground maintenance May to September inclusive this year.

1. *Contact Co-Ordinator report*:

* TN presented the Contact Co-Ordinator report in the absence of RG. TN stated that the proposed cost for steps at the back of area 23 where the path leads onto the next estate was prohibitive. RG is considering planting trees, briars to block one of the paths school kids are using to cut through the estate to go to the shop.
* M & T civils are not clearing the gully areas and RG proposal is to form a working party next year.
* TN stated that the matter of the fencing mesh at area 23 and damage to a tree was covered under resident’s questions.
* Sobreys were asked to provide a quote to remove a tree and clean up area 23 but to date RG has not received a response.

1. *Social Convenor report:*

TN stated on behalf of Derek Bole, Social Convenor that there was nothing to report. JM stated that she intended to decorate the tree at the entrance of the estate for Halloween for the children to enjoy.

1. *AOB* :

* In response to a question from a resident, TN stated that providing CCTV to Area 23 was not an affordable option for the BWRA.
* The meeting was made aware that Harris Smith had lodged an appeal to the Scottish government with regard to an Enforcement Notice that West Dunbartonshire had issued that required him to re-instate the ground back to the condition it was in before he started work. JB explained HS has plans to re-submit planning for a wind turbine but the application is on hold. It was discussed from the floor that there were around 130 objections to HS original planning application which showed strong community support and TN suggested that the residents at the meeting should speak to neighbours and friends living in the estate and urge them to individually email the Scottish government. They should state that as residents we want the Appeals Board to have the West Dunbartonshire Enforcement Notice against HS upheld and that the appeal by HS should be rejected. It was agreed that JC would submit an email to this effect to the Scottish Government on behalf of the BWRA.

1. *Next meeting:* is on Thursday 2 November 2023.

Action Points

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| Meeting Date | Action | Responsibility | Update |
| 2/2/22 | Address Water at Murroch Cres | R Goodall/I Dickson with R Welsh | Ongoing |
| 2/3/22 | Investigate water through Communal Carpark at top of Beechwood | R Goodall | Ongoing |
| 1/6/23 | Tree Survey re TPO | R Goodall | Ongoing |
| 3/8/23 | Collect designs for Estate Entrance | R Goodall | Ongoing |
| 5/10/23 | Community Police to be re-invited to next BWRA meeting | T Neufield/  R Goodall | Ongoing |
| 5/10/23 | Replace bin next to bus stop | I Dickson | Ongoing |
| 5/10/23 | BWRA sec to email Scottish Gov. | J Coulthard | Ongoing |