

Minutes of the meeting of the Craigmyleith and Blackhall Community Council on 6 October 2014 in Stewart's Melville College Dining Hall

Present: Eddie Thorn (Chair), Alan Denham, George Millar, Maureen Kane, Neil MacRae (Police Scotland), Cllr Barrie, Mark Lazarowicz (MP), and seven residents from Craigmyleith Hill Gardens, Craigmyleith Hill Loan, Craigmyleith Road and Orchard Place.

Apologies : Neil Watt, Jim Bishop

Presentation By Montagu Evans: Representatives of Montagu Evans, HUB and Archial Norr gave a presentation on behalf of NHS Lothian describing the proposal for the Integrated Care Facility on the site of the old Royal Victoria Hospital in Craigmyleith Road. A question and answer session followed which mainly focussed on access to the site and the preservation of the trees. Two planning applications will be submitted late 2014 or early 2015 for the Integrated Care Facility and the Master Plan for the whole site.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes of the meeting of 15 September 2014 were approved.

Police Report: Acting Sergeant Neil MacRae advised the meeting that there had been an increase in housebreaking and bicycle thefts. He asked that residents report anything suspicious and record serial numbers of valuable items. Alan Denham asked that Neighbourhood Watches be given local information rather than national statistics.

CEC Councillor's Report: Cllr Barrie announced that the proposed budget for 2015/16 was now on the CEC website and members of the public could attempt to set their own budget. The future structure of the Council is being examined and he foresaw changes. He added that it was unlikely that any more funding would be available for roads.

MP's Report: Mark Lazarowicz reported that the follow-up to the Referendum continued and he expected proposals soon. He had been aware of the re-routing issue of the Number 42 bus avoiding Craigmyleith Retail Park and hoped that it would be reinstated soon.

AOCB: In response to questions about the general condition of pavements, gutters and Orchard Park North, Cllr Barrie described the difficulties with restrictions on the use of weedkillers and the budget restraints for such labour-intensive activity. However, there should be maintenance arrangements in place for the park and he will investigate. Cllr Barrie asked that anyone who is aware of road works which appear without any official notice explaining the reason for the work to email the details to him. Mark Lazarowicz will confirm if road works are the responsibility of the Scottish or the UK government.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Craigleith and Blackhall Community Council will be held in the Dining Hall of Stewart's Melville College on Monday 10 November 2014 at 7.30pm.