

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 8TH DECEMBER 2022, AT HOLIDAY INN

Community Council		
Name	Position	Present
Mervyn Barr	Chair	✓
Malcolm Collie	Member	✓
Heather Cook	Member	✓
Donald Davidson	Member	✓ via zoom
David Dent	Associate Member	✓
Becky Ferguson	Vice-Chair	✓
Audrey Findlay	Member	✓ via zoom
Ben Horsburgh	Associate Member	x
Kate Lumsden	Member	✓
Elaine Manley	Member	✓
Rachid Meghezzi	Member	✓
William Munro	Vice-Chair	x
Gordon Prentice	Treasurer	✓
Diane Priestley	Member	✓
David Ritchie	Secretary	✓
Ken Stewart	Member	x
Raymond Swaffield	Member	✓
Tim Yeomans	Member	x
CLlr Iris Walker	Ward 13 Councillor	✓ via zoom
CLlr Ron McKail	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
CLlr Craig Miller	Ward 13 Councillor	✓ via zoom
CLlr Fatima Joji	Ward 13 Councillor	✓ via zoom

### Members of Public:

<b>1</b>	<p><b><u>Welcome and opening remarks</u></b></p> <p>Chair Mervyn Barr welcomed everyone. Permission was given for meeting to be recorded.</p> <p>Mervyn commented on the poor Wi-Fi connection at the hotel, which causes time consuming issues with the zoom connection, so we will raise this with the hotel. That said, he strongly encouraged those who can attend in person to do so as it is a better quality experience overall, especially for clarity of communication and team spirit</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b><u>Apologies and Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>Apologies received from Ken Stewart &amp; Willie Munro.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b><u>Approval of Minutes of Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022</u></b></p> <p>Minutes were approved, with no changes. Proposed Heather, seconded Raymond</p> <p>Raymond pointed that the last few month's minutes are not on the WECC website so David will sort that.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b><u>Shopping Centre Update- Centre Manager Ben Horsburgh –</u></b></p> <p>No update as Ben not present</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b><u>Christmas Event 3<sup>rd</sup> December Review</u></b></p> <p>Mervyn had circulated detailed notes from the post-event Review meeting on Tuesday to the sub-group but some members can't open it so David will send it again as a normal Word doc</p> <p>In summary, the event went very well; probably the best so far. Many thanks to Ben and Heather for their</p>

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	<p>excellent work as project-leads; and beyond to anyone who helped in any way. Large numbers attended (estimated 400 to 700), mainly due to the draw of the Santa grotto. Other salient pints made/agreed ones were: We started serving the hot chocolate earlier than planned and it was finished before 4.30. A few of the hotel flasks didn't pump properly. We will buy a few 5 ltr flasks for next year. We need to get a better PA system with more speakers. The 2 trees look great, but Kate would still like the quadrangle tree to have the third set of 1000 lights put on. (This was agreed to be done on 16<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30) Daisychain won the best shop window trophy. Diane has got the event photos in a drop-box. They can be stored on the WECC One-drive. Becky &amp; Ben will agree the content of a thank-you message to all the contributors and it will be posted on the WECC and Shopping Centre fb pages at same time. It was agreed to make a donation of £100 to the Community Church for hospitality during meetings as WCC did not charge for the room hire. Ben had organised the Granite City Brass Band to attend but they had not advised him if there would be a charge. It was agreed that WECC could cover the cost, previously it was £150</p>
6	<p><b>Matters Arising/ Actions Update</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>File Share Options</b> (Malcolm) – no progress but Malcolm, Gordon &amp; David are planning to meet on 14<sup>th</sup> December</li> <li><b>Larg/Broadstraik Park</b> (Malcolm) – a meeting of the interested residents was held 2 weeks ago. The research project element is being progressed by the Hutton Institute.</li> <li><b>Academy Outreach-</b> A productive meeting with Malcolm Mcmillan at Academy was held on 15<sup>th</sup> November. Looking for around 12 people who would be willing to talk to pupils about their careers. Alan McCue will be the first. Mervyn and Elaine will be contacting Malcolm again in the New Year to agree promotional text for Facebook and the next Bulletin.</li> </ol>
7	<p><b><u>Police Report</u></b></p> <p>The Police report for November has been circulated (See appendix). Nothing in it of major concern. Public Nuisance incidents have increased from 3 to 6. Some detail of these is in the report, but none of the youths have been identified. Confirmation was received that the October report statistics included the bike theft at shopping centre but on the face of it not the youth disturbances at Community Church*. Mervyn will contact the Chief Inspector to check on the policy of report classification* and Police attendance at CC meetings.</p>
8	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p><b>Review of correspondence log for last 4 weeks.</b> (circulated) Members are encouraged to vote on the options for a Flag for Aberdeenshire.</p> <p>Re the Cala development at Burnland, there is still some concern about the main access road, now going to be on the B979 instead of A944. (there is still an access from A944 , but only for a few houses) Diane will include this in the final comments to be submitted soon.</p> <p>Re the social media guide from Area Office, Kate &amp; David will look at this early next year along with the slidepack from the training day they attended in November. They will then suggest to members what changes/improvements we could make.</p>

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**Ward 13 Councillors updates**

**Cllr McKail** (submitted report as below in italics – (discussion in **bold**)

**Lloyds Pharmacy**

*The change of ownership from Lloyds to Porter's is (I'm told) 15 Dec.*

**Five Mile Garage.**

*Received a concern from Westhill cyclist regarding the blocking of the cycle lane at the Five Mile Garage. (Vehicles queuing for cheapest fuel in this area). Also a safety issue for motorist with the backlog of vehicles on the carriageway. Did a follow up with Police Scotland > Bucksburn police station's domain< and advised this safety issue is being investigated.*

**ABZ Propeller Fund Awards**

*Attended Aberdeen Airport Award event at the Science Centre where 18 organisations shared some £25,000. Was unaware of this fund which is available for City and Shire groups. Applications for 2023 can now be submitted. Not sure of the criteria but for EG the CC in Blackdog received funding for park benches.*

**Inverurie Groupfest**

*Invited to this event as Garioch and North Marr Community Safety Group to promote safety. Very successful event in the Townhall. GNMCSG were promoting Fire Sticks for checking of Fire alarms; Snoods( yellow fluorescent) for school pupils the project is 'Be Seen Be Bright': Messages in Bottle (Got these from David Ritchie (Lions): Bank card plastic wallets > prevents bank cards being scammed<; Our pitch was overseen by Pop up Bobbie which had been purchased by GNMCSG*

**Veterans Housing Scotland**

*Attended their AGM at Edinburgh City Chambers as the Armed Forces Champion for Council. Veterans Housing objective this year is to acquire 25 properties for Veterans.*

**Ward Councillors names to be included in the Bulletin's page of membership**

*This Item carried forward from AOCB from WECC meeting in November.*

*Proposal is that the 4 ward councillor's names are included in the membership page.*

*Suggestion- under the Ordinary Members would read:-*

*Westhill and District Ward Councillors*

*( Ex Officio – Non Voting)*

*Cllr Fatima Joji*

*Cllr Ron McKail*

*Cllr Craig Miller*

*Cllr Iris Walker*

*Reasons for this suggestion:*

- 1. Cllrs are members of WECC although non-voting/Ex Officio*
- 2. Regular attenders to the WECC monthly meetings*
- 3. Community Councillors have their names listed which informs the Westhill community who are their community representatives. Should a similar arrangement be afforded to the ward councillors?*

**Cllr Joji supports this, Cllr Walker does not. Her view is that the Ward Councillors put articles in Bulletin, there is a link to elected members on the WECC website and they are also ex-officio members of two other CCs. Don't want to be seen as biased towards WECC. For the January meeting, David will draft wording to go in the members list page of Spring Bulletin to explain the Ward Councillors status in WECC.**

**Cllr Joji** (circulated report as below in italics)

**Bin Collections**

*Since last meeting, I have had a few reports from my street and neighbouring streets about missed or late bin collections. The past month has not been very consistent, with bins being picked up either late in the day and at*

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one point a few days later. One explanation given was the lorry breaking down. As a result, residents were asked to wait for the next collection cycle however, the bin men came out on Wednesday the following week. Sadly, not many residents got this information. Today as I understand it, is because of the adverse weather conditions (streets up in the Heights are yet to be emptied today). My response has been to signpost residents to download the myAberdeenshire app to report missed collections and if on social media, to join the recycling and waste Aberdeenshire group where updates are normally posted.

### **Parking and Speeding Issues**

Received a complaint about parking and speeding issues within the Fare Park scheme in Westhill. Complaint highlighted that numerous cars and vans are parked continuously on the pavement and that this is preventing buggies and wheelchairs from accessing the pavements. Resident further stated that it is unsafe for pedestrians and children walking to school since cars and vans are parking opposite road openings and on bends where there are speed issues.

### **Council Response to Parking and Speeding Issues highlighted above which might be useful to note**

I received the below response from the Council in relation to this issue

#### **Parking**

At present, no parking restrictions are in place within this scheme and therefore the expectation is that residents will adhere to the Highway code and park sensibly within what is a fairly restricted area. However, going forward, the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 is due to come into force (next year most likely), and this will ban pavement parking, double parking and parking at dropped kerbs, with local authorities to be given the relevant

powers to enforce these new provisions.

The Scottish Government is currently progressing with the secondary legislation and statutory guidance necessary for the implementation of the new restrictions in relation to pavement parking. As such, the Roads Service is waiting for this legislation to be finalised and put into force so we can effectively deal with problematic pavement parking in Fare Park as well as a host of other areas across Aberdeenshire.

#### **Speeding**

This particular scheme has a 20mph limit applied to all the streets within it; any enforcement of this limit would be a matter for Police Scotland. Regarding your question of whether any traffic calming measures could be implemented, we would advise that this is unlikely. The vast majority of our existing residential infrastructure does not have speed bumps or other traffic calming measures in place. Parked vehicles and road geometry are usually sufficient to slow traffic down.

Hopefully the above information is of some assistance to you and your constituents. If you have further questions about any of this, then please don't hesitate to contact us again

**Cllr Walker** (circulated report as below in italics)

### **Repair on path behind sculpture**

Following on from Ken's reporting of a surface defect on this path, ownership has not been established yet.

### **Queueing on dual carriageway, Five Mile filling station**

Thanks to the power of social media advertising cheap(er) fuel at the Five Mile filling station, residents have been in touch re the hazard posed by vehicles queueing on the A944 eastbound. The relevant Police inspector in Aberdeen City has been contacted for appropriate action/advice.

### **Non-responses from officers**

This issue was again discussed at the Community Council Forum last night (Wednesday) with the advice continuing to be that community councils should raise issues with Ann Overton directly. Aberdeenshire

councillors set the strategic direction and policies of the council, but do not manage the staff. The code of conduct for elected councillors includes the following advice: “...the employee is accountable to their line manager. Any issues about conflicting priorities, conduct or performance must be referred to the line manager”.

### **Community Resilience**

There is now a dedicated page on the Aberdeenshire Council website namely

[Aberdeenshire Community Resilience Strategy / Engage Aberdeenshire](#)

It contains a wide range of information and reference documents including international best practice on how to be prepared as an individual, household, family and community.

### **Pharmacy Services**

Although the sale of the two Lloyds sites have now completed, the official guidance received from the Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care Partnership since my original enquiry the day before the last WECC meeting was as follows:

*“Further to your email below, we contacted NHS Grampian’s Pharmaceutical Services and they have advised it has been confirmed after a conversation with Lloyds pharmacy area manager that the completion of sale of the two Lloyds Pharmacies in Westhill is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> December. Grampian NHS Board will only receive notification once all legal requirements have been met and contracts etc. changed over, but this is the date everyone is working towards.*

*“In terms of service provision, dispensing of medication will absolutely continue, this is a core element of the The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Scotland) Regulations 2009. Lloyds may have different internal processes to the Porter Pharmacy Group but patients should be reassured that dispensing of their acute, repeat or serial prescriptions will absolutely continue”.*

### **Christmas Event**

*Well done to everyone who played a part in making the switch-on event the great community event it was, and always has been throughout the years. I know there is a lot of work behind the scenes in the weeks leading up to it, not just on the day.*

**Cllr Miller** (circulated report as below in italics)

### **Pharmacy Issues:**

*It was disappointing to hear that Porters, who presented to WECC a couple of months back, had withdrawn their application for the new pharmacy; however it seems that the rationale behind this was because they were taking over the existing Lloyds pharmacies in Westhill which is undoubtedly welcome news to all who have been affected by the deteriorating service offered by Lloyds over recent months. There will undoubtedly be teething issues as they transition into the pharmacies but based on their presentation, there should be long term improvement which may encourage people back to the Westhill pharmacies. I look forward to a reduction in complaints in my inbox on this matter!*

### **Speeding issues:**

*Speeding on the A944, (Straik Road), has been raised to me, particularly on the section from Wellgrove Road to the roundabout at the Broadstraik Inn. This is a road I use multiple times daily and it is not something I have personally experienced as an issue, but I have raised to Brian Strachan for potential speed monitoring. It may be that this a perception issue rather than a real issue but the monitoring will determine if this is accurate. There is a backlog of speed monitoring so it may not be an immediate fix.*

### **Overhanging trees/Public area maintenance:**

*This continues to be the most common issue in my inbox and whilst some progress has been made in the last few weeks I have a number of specific areas unaddressed, in some case for months. I am frustrated at the lack*



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	<p><i>of response on this issue from council officers who continue to explain that the delay/backlog is caused by staffing issues and I have raised higher up the chain to try to get some action taken, either in the form of contract staff, or staff from other areas who could be drafted into Westhill to take care of these outstanding issues.</i></p> <p><b><u>Anti-Social Behaviour:</u></b></p> <p><i>I had direct experience of this during November whilst travelling by bus from Aberdeen to Westhill. At the Arnhall bus stop a group of youths were targeting vehicles, including the bus, which actually deterred people from disembarking at that stop and travelling on to the next stop at Kinmundy.</i></p> <p><i>I spoke with the bus driver and agreed to call Police Scotland (101) but was told the wait time would be at least 20 minutes, so I instead filed a report online when I returned home. It was disappointing to note that it took 24 hours to even get an acknowledgement. Nothing further was received after a week so I contacted Insp. Hannan who advised that public nuisance calls do NOT fall into the category for following up/closure with the reporter of the incident.</i></p> <p><b>Cllr Miller commented that the overnight snow on the A944 up to the Kingswells roundabout had not been cleared this morning when he was driving in early. Re the general clearing of Westhill streets, Cllr Walker advised that the Council website shows the streets that get priority.</b></p>
10	<p><b><u>Environmental Group Update</u></b></p> <p>Report from Raymond has been circulated, as below in italics (discussion in <b>bold</b>):</p> <p><i>Our final litter pick for 2022 went ahead as planned and the reasonable weather on the day encouraged a good number of volunteers to turn out. The wintry weather during the previous few weeks had clearly discouraged much of the picnic / park-party type of litter being dropped, but unfortunately the shopping centre surrounds, and school area were as bad as ever. An interesting side issue on the first November pick was the discovery of £30 in the park and £5 near the shops. £10 was also found on the following pick. That finder said he was donating it to a charity. The youngster who found the earlier larger amount handed me £20 to donate to WECC but the subsequent advice from our treasurer was that a Charity would be more appropriate. The money was returned to the young lad, who then decided he would give it to "Children in Need".</i></p> <p><i>I have still not had any positive offers from anyone interested in taking on the Litter Picking management, despite circulating the revised, easier, Organiser and Team Leader combination options.</i></p> <p><i>I have had a resident complaining about damage to the grass in the Denman Park caused by the bin emptying lorry. He requested I give him a contact for him to make a complaint to, and I have responded by explaining that any resolution to this is unlikely to be simple. He has since accepted my response and now realises it will not be easily resolved and he intends approaching a Councillor about the issue.</i></p> <p><i>I have had requests from Steve Grey to send him photographs of various parts of the Denman Ponds and stream, following the heavy rains. In his following request for a repeat two weeks later he also requested if anyone had noticed unpleasant odours or obvious contamination in the waters. There was none and he seemed pleased with the photographs. However, I was unable to check the previous sewage discharge into the burn downstream near the Lawsondale playing fields, so am unsure if that has been resolved. The rain had cleared much of the loose debris and flattened the rushes in the ponds, but their growth is quickly filling the ponds. A dig out is clearly required. Steve has not provided any update on plans to clean out and restore the ponds.</i></p> <p><b>Mervyn thanked Raymond for all his contributions over his 17 years in WECC. A social event for members will be organised in February in Holiday Inn and Raymond will be invited to attend as guest of honour.</b></p>

**11 Orbital Trail + Links Project Update**

Circulated report from Gordon Prentice in italics:-

***Matters Arising Since Last Meeting***

***Funding Applications***

***1. Carnie Woods Path Restoration & Upgrade [1.1km]***

*The past month has been spent fine tuning the Funding Application to Paths for All Ian Findlay Path Fund. Tenders are due to be received by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and considered this week. We were invited to send a draft of our application to Pfa [without prices] so that they could consider it with a view to making a decision before Christmas.*

***2. Broadshade Avenue to Golf Club Upgrade [475m]***

*We are making excellent progress here. The application to GAIF for £5,000 was approved on 22<sup>nd</sup> November [thanks to our local councillors for their support] with a condition that funding must be drawn down within this financial year, and we received notification of outline approval from Pfa on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> for circa £30,000 of the £42,785 required. That leaves a balance of circa £8,000.*

*As advised last month, there are two options to consider to raise the balance:*

- 1. Apply to The Gordon & Ena Baxter Foundation [closing date, 30<sup>th</sup> December] whose board make a decision in January*
- 2. Apply to the FCC Scottish Action Fund for £12,785 which has a closing date of 7<sup>th</sup> December, but their Board's decision will not be made until end March 2023 which makes it unsuitable for a match with AC funds.*

*The unfortunate crossover of closing dates and decision dates and year end conditions means that I will have to apply to both. And clearly, if our application to GEF is accepted we go all out to complete by year end. If our application to GEF is declined, then we will have to notify GAIF and hope that we are successful with FCC Scottish Action Fund. If successful in raising the balance through FCC, we will need to pay an admin fee of £1,379.80 and I need permission from the meeting to proceed on that understanding. This was agreed, Meantime, agreements have been reached with Stewart Milne Homes and the Golf Club to enter into long term path maintenance commitments, neither of which are onerous.*

***3. Place Based Investment Programme [Carnie, Denman & Trishaws]***

*Following last month's enthusiastic response to the idea of combining a package of improvements to access Westhill's green spaces, with Cycling Without Age Scotland trishaws as the catalyst, Mervyn and I met with Steve Gray, Ian Mitchell and Jim Robertson from AC at Denman Park on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup>. It was a very constructive meeting, the outcome of which was the following proposal to improve the path network and bridging points in Denman so that Denman is much better connected and accessible to all.*

*Expressions of Interest close on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> December which unfortunately excludes any input from the CAP survey, but Garioch council officials are very supportive of this rare opportunity to make significant improvements and interested in the CC's feedback from Thursday's meeting, so please consider the overhead sketches in Appendix 1 ahead of the discussion. (sketches not included in meeting minutes)*

*The application also needs a snappy title. Current working title is "Improving Access to Healthier Green Spaces". Please let me know if you think you have an even snappier title!*

*A vote of thanks given to Gordon for all the work he has put into this.*

**Stone Cairn on Mains of Kinmundy Hill**



*The cairn and bench are now complete thanks to the Community Payback Service and their supervisor Kevin.*

*Unfortunately, Kevin left his post last week, immediately on finishing the project to move into another role in the council, so I have asked to be introduced to his successor when appointed, as this relationship has proved to be extremely helpful to our maintenance programme.*

**Town Centre Information Boards**

*As Ben reported last month, installation of these is imminent.*

**Ongoing Maintenance / Upgrades**

**Annual Maintenance Schedule:** *no further work done this month, but it will be refined and merged with volunteer resources required for Greening Westhill.*

**Weeding:** *no activity – sculpture planted area needs a revisit*

**Link to Hill of Keir to/from the west:** *No change, although the fields have been harvested and appear to be undersown in grass.*

**Funding Update**

*Although there weren't many financial transactions in November, the stainless steel manufacturer's invoice [£1,506] has since been received and paid and a final claim made to draw down the final instalment of £575 from the Developer Obligations community fund*

**12 Planning Matters (Diane Priestly)**

*Circulated report in italics:-*

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

*Burnland APP/2022/1062- waiting for a decision, however we have had further update from Cala re our planning comments: the affordable housing will now provide facilities for less able bodied people, the number of properties on the site has now been changed back to 50 from 51 and the roads department are now supporting the changes in the layout, which we also highlighted, so that there is no access directly onto the A944.*

*Greggs Drive Thru                      APP/2022/1236 waiting for a decision  
Wickes                                      APP/2022/2010 waiting for a decision*

**COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN**

*The survey is now live, link & QR code is in the Westhill Bulletin, on our website and Facebook. Paper copies have also been handed into Storie, Cruden and Simpson and the library.*

*Deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> December but will be extended to 31<sup>st</sup> January. If still a low number of responses by then, suggested that we relaunch it around Spring and advertise it better by laminating the QR code and putting it round the town, with limited info on what it is about.*

**RESILIENCE PLANNING**

*A resilience group has now been formed.*



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### **HILL OF FARE WINDFARM**

The Community Councils in Aberdeenshire (Crathes, Drumoak, Durris, Echt & Skene, Cluny, Midmar & Monymusk, Inchmarlo, Brathens and Glassel & Torphins) are working together and have published their findings from their pre consultation events which has been forwarded to you for information. We will need to discuss how we will respond to this proposal when it comes to the planning application stage.

This project is likely to go ahead. If this transpires to be the case, a suggestion has been made that as elsewhere in similar circumstances, it would be good if the hill areas could be made into an amenity park (with e.g. walking and mountain bike trails as has been done in other areas

### **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Scottish Government has advised Aberdeenshire that they need more time to consider the Proposed LDP 2022 to see if it needs to be modified further before it can be adopted so instead of 17<sup>th</sup> November as the adoption day it should be given on or before 15<sup>th</sup> December.

On 8<sup>th</sup> November the draft national planning framework 4 (NPF4) was published, this document is an important element of the Scottish Governments to modernise the planning system and when it is adopted will represent the National Spatial strategy for Scotland for the next 10 years. Strategic development plans will now be obsolete as the NPF4 will now become part of the development plan alongside the amended proposed LDP. This draft document has been evaluated by professional planners in Scotland in order to advise parliament whether the NPF4 should be adopted, the document embraces the need for priority to be given to both CLIMATE CHANGE and BIODIVERSITY and identifies what is and not acceptable over 33 land using planning topics. If the NPF4 is approved it is likely to be adopted in the middle of February 2023.

13	<p><b>Financials</b> (Gordon Prentice) Circulated report in italics:-  <b>Matters Arising 10 November:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donation made to Rotary for Pensioners Party as agreed (see ref in Para 15)</li> </ul> <p><b>Financial Transactions – November</b>  <b>Income:</b> £815, comprising £765 Bulletin advertising income plus £50 from Vinespring Church.  <b>Expenditure:</b> £804.27, comprising £200 approved at last month's meeting plus sundry other project expenses detailed on the Main A/c statement below at <b>Appendix 1</b>.  <b>Outstanding Commitments:</b> Nil, other than pending project expenses noted below</p> <p><b>Bank Balances at Month End:</b> £25,659  Main Account: £9,291    Bulletin Account: £16,367</p> <p><b>Bulletin – Proposed Advertising Rates for 2023.</b> The printer is uncertain of cost prices for 2023 and declined to quote new rates for 2023 until January, but expectation is +5%. Meantime David is proposing to increase advertising rates by 3% to maintain contribution at around £12,000 per annum, assuming that demand for advertising space will remain constant.</p> <p><b>Autumn Issue Contribution:</b> £3,500 on income of £10,864. This is well over budget of £2,500.</p>
14	<p><b>Green Westhill</b> (Mervyn Barr)  <b>'Growing Living Green Spaces'</b> - the first lot of 400 bulbs have been planted by Gordon, Rachid &amp; Tom Cook at Lawsondale part of the Trail.</p>

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	<p><b>Queens Green Canopy-</b> Mervyn advised that the second-try application has been successfully submitted and we will get 105 trees in March, to be planted in Denman Park.</p> <p><b>Carnie Woods-</b> the City Council are planting 8000 trees in Carnie Woods. There will be some left over so the Ranger will be organising a community planting day early in 2023.</p> <p><b>Storage –</b> The application to the Area Initiatives Fund for contribution to cost of the storage shed to go behind the green wall was successful, so we will get a grant of £900 to put towards the approx. £2000 cost of shed. It was agreed that WECC can fund the £1100 balance. Mapp will also store some things there so it will be a shared facility. Racking will be required in shed for the Christmas street lights.</p>
15	<p><b><u>Rotary Update/Exchange- David Dent</u></b></p> <p>The Senior Citizens party on Sunday went very well. Catered for 140. Rotary has been raising money for wood stoves for Ukraine, £2500 raised so far. Also been supporting local foodbank. Mervyn gave a thanks to Rotary for all the assistance they have provided this year, e.g. the litter picks, summer bedding plants, Jubilee Lazy Sunday etc.</p>
16	<p><b><u>AOB &amp; Close of Meeting</u></b></p> <p>Notice will be given before January meeting that Amanda Thomson will be proposed for co-option to WECC at that meeting.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 10pm</p> <p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting- 12<sup>th</sup> January</u></b> at Holiday Inn, with Zoom option.</p>

### APPENDIX



### GARIOCH COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM VISIBLE, ACCESSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE

Community Council: Westhill and Elrick  
Reporting Period: 1 November - 30 November 2022

#### Current Policing Priorities:

Our priorities are:-

1. ASB – Proactive patrols to provide community reassurance and to deter/detect instances of ASB and Vandalism.
  2. PROACTIVITY – Increased use of Stop and Search to deter/detect drug and acquisitive crime.
- ROAD SAFETY – Enhanced speed checks and other speed reduction measures.

#### Crime Overview and Explanation:

CRIME TYPE	CURRENT	PREVIOUS
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	PERIOD	PERIOD
Assault	3	2
Housebreaking/Theft	2	2
Public Nuisance	6	3
Road Traffic	8 accidents and 9 other	6 accidents and 3 other
Drugs	0	2

*Assault – Includes all recorded instances of violence.*

*Housebreaking – includes all break in's to domestic and commercial premises, including attempted break in's.*

*Public Nuisance – All youth annoyance and calls in relation to anti-social behaviour.*

*Road Traffic – all calls in relation to Road Traffic Accidents and Offences (speeding, illegal parking, obstruction etc).*

*Drugs – all reports incidents in relation to drugs dealing and use.*

### **Assault:**

There has been 3 incidents reported and 3 individuals charged. Those charged relate to 1 incident which stemmed from a neighbour dispute. The others were within a family setting and there is no impact to the wider community.

### **Housebreaking/Theft:**

There have been 2 incidents reported of theft by shoplifting and 2 individuals have been charged.

### **Public Nuisance:**

There have been 6 incidents reported. 3 relate to persons banging on windows, 1 relates to youths kicking bins, 1 to youths throwing items at vehicles and 1 to fireworks. No youths have been identified therefore no individuals have been charged.

### **Road Traffic:**

This period has seen 8 reported accidents. 2 resulted in minor injuries and 4 with no injury. There have been 9 other calls relating to obstructions, parking and manner of driving. 1 individual has been charged with driving while disqualified and without insurance.

**Drugs:** There has been 0 incidents reported.

### **Significant Crime/Issues within Your Community:**

There have been no significant events this reporting period.

### **Planned Community Policing Activity/Advice:**

We are about to embark on our annual operation to deter instances of Anti-Social Behaviour and Theft by Shoplifting over the Christmas period. This has been running every year since 2019, and has seen a marked decrease in instances of theft. Such has been its success, that other areas across the region are adopting it for this year.

It sees the Community Officers visiting all major retailers to provide crime prevention advice and prepare them for the increased footfall the season brings. This is backed up by additional patrols, deployed both on foot and by vehicle during peak shopping times.

In addition, we have started a Speeding Operation, which is planned to become a permanent fixture. We are well aware of the concerns from the community in relation to speeding.

Resourcing demands have made it a challenge to dedicate officer time to carrying out speed checks of late. We have been able to secure authority from the Area Commander to 'ring-

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 8TH DECEMBER 2022, AT HOLIDAY INN

fence' staff to carry out checks and this has allowed us to dedicate officers to carrying out checks.

This operation started on 07/11/2022, and has seen us carry out dedicated checks in Westhill with 8 warnings issued. It is hoped this will become a permanent/ongoing operation.

**Conclusion:**

This is another stable report and if there are any issues that you wish brought to Police attention, please let me know.

Emma Forbes

Sergeant, A0645