



**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 7pm IN
ROSEWELL PARISH CHURCH HALL**

Present:

RDCC: Dave Mackay, Chair: John Sime, Vice-Chair: Laura Mackay, Secretary: Sandra Muir,
Treasurer: Moray Simon and Patrick Edwards, Committee Members.

Local Councillor: Owen Thompson.

Police: Community Sergeant Peter Jones.

Residents: 19

Apologies: Cllrs Les Thacker and Russell Imrie.

ACTION

1.	GOURLAW FILTERS	
1.1	Gareth Ware, the owner of Gourlaw Filters spoke about his recently approved planning application to redevelop the buildings on this site. Mr Ware had previously consulted RDCC and local residents as to potential uses for the buildings, but after considering various ideas, and given the distance of the site from the village, had decided to use the Pump Building to house the classic cars used for his Wedding Car Hire business. The front building will be used as a workshop. Mr Ware said he was aware that the junction at the site was an accident blackspot and with this in mind has moved the boundary fence further back from the road. The work will take a couple of years to complete. He hopes to purchase an adjacent field from The Crown Estate for tree planting to offset carbon emissions. A set of plans are available to view on request.	
2.	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (22.6.09)	
2.1	The minutes were approved.	
3.	TREASURER'S REPORT	
3.1	The balance of the account was £299.49. A cheque for £25 would be sent to the Midlothian Association of Play, who run the After School and Holiday Club at Rosewell Primary School, and had requested a donation.	
4.	COUNCILLOR'S REPORT	
4.1	Roslin Glen Closure. Midlothian Council (MC) is committed to re-opening the road. Tenders will be approved in due course and £400,000 budget is in place. RDCC asked about painted road markings on the alternate route up to Gourlaw. Cllr Thompson thought they were for repairs to the carriageway but would make enquiries. RDCC also asked if overgrown bushes on the pavements through the Glen could be cut back. Installation of Broadband fibre optics was mentioned again as it would make sense to install this when repairs to the road commence. Cllr Thompson will ask MC to contact BT.	Cllr Thompson
4.2	Extension to Shewington Opencast. MC had approved the planning application. Work will take 40 weeks and thereafter the site will be restored.	
4.3	Residents complained of a road hazard where the 31 bus terminus is located at Hopefield. The buses sit on the main carriageway and it is difficult to negotiate around them. The Secretary would investigate what could be done. The problem could be remedied by moving the 31 terminus to Rosewell thereby giving us an all day service!	Secretary
4.4	Residents complained of overgrown shrubbery at Prestonhall Road/rear of Lothian Street. Youngsters congregate to drink under the bushes and visibility onto Prestonhall Road is a problem for cyclists. Also, patched road work repairs are unsatisfactory. Cllr Thompson would investigate and the	Cllr Thompson and Chair

	Chair would also speak to Ricky Moffat at MC.	
4.5	Rosewell Cemetery. A resident who visits the cemetery regularly commented that she had been distressed to observe dog owners entering by the rear entrance from the walkway and using the cemetery to exercise their dogs, allowing them to run free throughout the cemetery. Signs on the main gates indicate that dogs should be kept on a lead and dog fouling is illegal. It might alleviate this problem if notices were also to be posted at the rear entrance. The main entrance gates are broken and should be repaired. Cllr Thompson and the Chair would follow this up.	Cllr Thompson and Chair
4.6	The flooding problems at Victoria Street and also Thornton Road have re-occurred. Cllr Thompson would investigate Victoria St and Chair would contact Katherine Storrar of Smiths Gore regarding Thornton Road. Greenside Place/Louisa Sq bushes to be cut away and better lighting – still not resolved. The Chair would also mention this to Ricky Moffat and will arrange a walk round the village with him to highlight the problem areas.	Cllr Thompson, Chair and Katherine Storrar
4.7	A resident complained that irresponsible parking by customers of the Auction House on Thursday evenings continues. Everyone agreed it was not the fault of the owners who have done all they can to make customers aware of the situation. Residents should take registration numbers of cars blocking their properties and report them to the Police. Residents could also put up signs on their properties. Community Sgt Peter Jones joined the meeting at this point and said illegally parked cars could be towed away.	Chair
5.	POLICE REPORT	
5.1	Sgt Jones gave the monthly statistics, which covered Rosewell and Bonnyrigg. 3 violent crimes: 29 theft: 11 Vandalism and 4 Other. Two quad bikes had been purchased by Community Safety Partnership to help combat illegal quad bike and motor cycle crime. Residents complained of noisy, speeding motor cycles in the village and around Thornton Farm. Residents complained of youths firing air rifles in the village. Youths are also hitting golf balls into the grounds of St Matthew's Church. Residents should report any crimes witnessed to the police on 663 9221 or anonymously to Crimestoppers 0800 555 111. Test Purchasing of Alcohol Scheme had resulted in a shopkeeper being reported to the PF.	
6.	CHAIR'S REPORT	
6.1	Whitehill House Planning Applications – 09/00370/FUL - erection of 77 houses (in groups within several sites around the private grounds) and 34 flats (to replace former Chapel to rear of Whitehill House) plus sub division of Whitehill House to form 26 apartments (09/00372/LBC and 09/00374/DPP). Four of the RDCC Committee had attended a site visit on 30 August. A public meeting with the architect, Jamie MacFarlane and the community had been arranged for Monday 14 September at 7pm in Rosewell Parish Church Hall in order to determine public opinion. Thereafter RDCC will meet to agree a formal response to MC. Comments on the applications should be sent by 6 October to Peter Arnsdorf, Development Management Manager, Strategic Services, Midlothian Council, Fairfield House, 8 Lothian Road, Dalkeith EH22 3ZN or via the Online Planning pages at www.midlothian.gov.uk .	
6.2	Sand Quarry, Upper Dalhousie. Chair, Secretary and Cllr Thompson had attended a meeting with Independent Aggregates (IA) on 26 August. Noise, pollution levels, routes taken by site traffic were amongst items discussed. IA gave reassurances and said that no heavy vehicles would enter the village. A liaison committee was set up and Dave Mackay was nominated Chair. The site will be operational by October, and if residents experience any problems they should contact Mr Mackay on 440 2086 in the first instance. RDCC Committee were invited to a site visit in October.	

6.3	Gourlaw Opencast Fund – Landscaping at entrance signs to village. Chair, Secretary and Treasurer had a site meeting with James Kinch, MC Commercial Services on 1 September to discuss what kinds of improvements might be feasible. Mr Kinch will return with further details in due course.	
7.	SECRETARY'S REPORT	
7.1	The Chair and Secretary met with Richard Thompson and Katherine Storrar of Smiths Gore on 11 August for an update on Steading and rented housing. Approaches to NHS had met with no success and it was agreed a surgery and pharmacy were not viable. Sheltered housing was currently being explored. Types of units to occupy steading as a village centre were under consideration. Meanwhile, work to clear up, secure and make safe the Steading buildings will be put in hand. Crown Estate may be able to offer land for community garden allotments. MC is unable to provide land.	Smiths Gore
7.2	Cochrina Place/Gorton Loan flooding problem - Ms Storrar is still trying to establish legal ownership. Flooding at Gourlaw Farm onto carriageway was caused by an underground well. Repairs are ongoing. Chair made a request for overgrown hedgerow on Gorton Road to be cut back as it was obstructing pedestrian access.	Katherine Storrar
7.3	NHS Patient Transport Consultation – Secretary had received further information and could e-mail on request. Midlothian Community Hospital Newsletter had been circulated. Congratulations to Rosewell Volunteers for their hard work in organising a very successful Fun Week. Whitehill Welfare FC Open Day – 24 children had taken part. Midlothian Doors Open Day is on 12 September - booklets were available.	
8.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
8.1	There was no other business.	
9.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
9.1	The next meeting will be held on Monday, 19 October at 7pm in Rosewell Parish Church Hall.	

Contact the Secretary on 0131-440 2086 or rdcc@hotmail.co.uk for further information.

Please view the Community Notice Board in the public garden at the corner of Carnethie Street/Gorton Road for up-to-date information on community issues.