



**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 23rd AUGUST 2021 at 7pm
(VIA ZOOM)**

PRESENT:

RDCC: Moray Simon (Chair), Alison Izatt (Vice Chair), Helen Blackburn (Treasurer), Ann Montague (Secretary), Abby Houston (Committee Member), Janey Hoeflich (Committee Member),

RESIDENTS: 24

ATTENDEES: Caroline Bell (Crown Estate), James Palmer (Terra Nova)

APOLOGIES: PC Alan Forbes, Jamie Scanlon (Committee Member)

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| 1 | GUEST SPEAKERS | |
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| 1.1 | <p>Chair welcomed our Guest Speakers Caroline Bell (Crown Estate) and James Palmer (Terra Nova) who gave a brief overview of 'The Whitehill Estate 2030 Community Conversation' and took questions from the meeting.</p> <p>Caroline Bell - Crown Estate Scotland manage the land on behalf of the people of Scotland have reviewed and identified a number of objectives which are pertinent today creating sustainable ways using natural resources to produce food, energy and other products involving communities in how to manage our land by helping local business and communities, by investing, supporting, enabling, asset managing and co-ordination to bring a number of organisations together.</p> <p>James Palmer – We are appointed consultants working with Crown Estate Scotland on an exercise across their landholding at Whitehill (Rosewell/Rosslynlee/Upper Dalhousie). The Whitehill Estate 2030 Conversation will form a core of information and inspiration to gain a thoroughly inclusive and broad view from stakeholders of what they value most about their homes, businesses, landscape and lifestyle in this area and region. The engagement process and supporting material is designed to be accessible, relevant and fun, to encourage an enthusiastic and creative range of feedback, engaging with the local residents and businesses to investigate and inspire their short-, medium- and long-term views for the development of the area and as stakeholder engagement in the future of the Estate and Midlothian Council's 10-year local development plan.</p> <p>There will be two separate stakeholder events at The Steading, Rosewell Community Hub, the first was launched on 18th August (for two and half weeks), with the second to be in early October. Whitehill Estate is five and a half thousand-acre landscape comprising of a number of established uses.</p> <p>Slides were shown and meeting was informed the digital platform supported the website: www.whitehillestate2030.com, door drops and postcards, the physical presence in the steading and direct engagement with the Community Council, Midlothian council, development trust, tenants and residents of the estate and surrounding area.</p> <p>What do people enjoy about living here?</p> <p>What could we do better as a landlord and land owner?</p> <p>What could we do to encourage participation in the local community?</p> | Crown Estate/ Terra Nova/ RDCC/ Residents |

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| | <p>What could we do to support local events?</p> <p>How is the community responding to the world we are coming out into after the last 18months, which have been incredibly challenging and difficult?</p> <p>What do we need to put in place in terms of events, social infrastructure, physical infrastructure to support and create an environment that is fit for the lifestyle of 2021 and looking forward?</p> <p>Engagement to date has been incredible with at least 50% of the households appearing to have engaged with really positive responses and of course critical feedback. It's also really important that engagement is from as broad and inclusive cross section of the community as possible. Rosewell & District Community Council's support in feeding information through its social media platforms is appreciated.</p> <p>Q1. Map shows purple, green and blue areas. One of the areas is owned by Crown Estate and another managed by Crown Estate – so is this owned by the council or private landlords who have devolved responsibility to yourself?</p> <p>A. Information not to hand, but this will be sent by email.</p> <p>Q2. Some areas are blue which says non-Crown Estate and the rest of map is white which is not Crown Estate – what is the difference between them?</p> <p>A. What we have tried to delineate is land that we can make effective change on and land out with our ownership where we can try to negotiate, discuss and work with landholders and potentially Community Council to bring about something that's positive and delivers for the community.</p> <p>Q3. Would Crown Estate consider giving up land for allotments?</p> <p>A. These are the kind of responses we want try to deliver as part of this framework. The more you tell us what you want, the more we can try and accommodate within our own land and if we can't we will come back and tell you the reasons why. No matter how wild and whacky, it's not necessarily a no - we will look at everything the community is looking for so we can try and address it as best possible.</p> <p>Q4. Are there any general plans the Crown Estate have for the area?</p> <p>A. No, we've come into this process with a blank sheet, we are trying to have an open and honest dialogue and have a proper consultation, rather than coming in with 'this is what we want to do' we'll talk to you about it but this is still what we're going to do in the end. This is why we're having a two-state process, so we can come back to you to follow up with feedback.</p> <p>Q5. Crown Estate has previously sold off land for house building. Are there any plans for selling off more land for house building around the village?</p> <p>A. No, not at present, but as part of the wider outlook we do look at potential development land. The way Crown Estate used to operate was very much on a commercial basis, whereas Crown Estate Scotland try to operate on a much more holistic basis to help with the community needs, i.e. if there were more mature members that wanted to stay in Rosewell but there's no suitable accommodation to meet that need, how could we facilitate that or is there something we could do to work with partners to maintain your community and keep people in your community as far as possible by looking at the wider picture to understand your needs. We need to be realistic, but we're not driven by a target, we are looking at a global approach as to what's best for Whitehill.</p> <p>Resident agreed with need for allotment provision, also said woodland isn't very well maintained, so could be a great place to start. He was also disappointed with the exhibition – a board with slightly enlarged leaflets stuck on it, including a wee map which can't be made out.</p> | |
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| | <p>A. Resident was asked to put his points forward in writing because the more strength behind it with more community feeling gives credence when decisions are being made.</p> <p>Q6. Bridge in Thornton woods is in bad state of repair – can this be repaired/replaced, also is a clean-up of the Shiel burn?</p> <p>A. All of these are Estate Management issues – can you put them all in an email and I will get responses for you.</p> <p>Q7. People move here to be rural, but it is difficult to create a community with large developments being built. We are trying very hard to bring facilities for the children but is difficult because Rosewell is still small and we do not have a big voice so we struggle. It would be good to have a big organisation such as yourself behind us.</p> <p>A. What you say echoes what Crown Estate Scotland is trying to do moving forward, although we do not sit in isolation as we are answerable to the Scottish Government. The more of you responding will give credence and will align to what we will try to do moving forward. You do have a lot to be proud of, but please tell us what we can do to help make things better. All the evidence we gather means we've got a better case to say we really need to invest in X, Y and Z to make Rosewell a better place to live.</p> <p>Q8. Rosewell has lots of volunteers in various groups – Would Crown Estate help fund some group activities?</p> <p>A. There is no direct pot for community endeavours and you would need to come to us with an ask each time, but please have a discussion with us as there is potential as we go through projects. For example, can we use the way we procure contracts to get you community benefits to support organisations moving forward. Perhaps not cash, but time and materials to support what you are doing. We could possibly work together on a community facility working together that becomes a community enterprise that adds value to our wider estate that we are able to support you with.</p> <p>Please join in the conversation and send your comments and suggestions to info@whitehillestate2030.com</p> | |
| 2 | POLICE REPORT | |
| 2.1 | Police officers are not permitted to attend zoom meetings. Our Community Officer has provided the Rosewell Crime statistics for June/July which have been posted on RDCC website CRIME REPORTS page and also the neighbourhood FB page. Contact details are contained within the report. | Police/ Residents |
| 2.2 | Resident wanted to make residents aware that people are going around trying doors during the day. Secretary will pass this onto our Community Police Officer. | |
| 2.3 | Resident commented about the ongoing vandalism at the woodland classroom is getting worse and asked if CCTV could be installed. Resident was advised to contact Rosewell Development trust who are responsible for classroom. Another resident thought the damage had happened between 1-8pm the previous day. Secretary will also pass this info onto our Community Police Officer. | |
| 3 | MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING | |
| 3.1 | The minutes of the previous meetings held on 7 th June 2021 were read and approved. | |
| 4 | TREASURER'S REPORT. | |
| 4.1 | The balance in our account is £2697.63 which includes £100 which is ringfenced for Keep Rosewell Beautiful. | RDCC/ Treasurer |

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| 5 | LOCAL COUNCILLOR REPORT. | |
| 5.1 | No Councillor in attendance. No reports received. | Midlothian Councillors |
| 6 | MATTERS ARISING | |
| 6.1 | Unkempt land on entering the village on either side of Gorton Road, the horse corrals and the roundabout has yet to be maintained. Cllr. Russell Imrie's informed RDCC that MC's Planning Officer has been in contact with Avant homes advising the need for them to fulfil their planning requirements. RDCC has had no response from several emails sent to Avant, but believe this information has been sent to a resident with planned dates for the work to be carried out! | Avant/ Midlothian Council |
| 7 | GENERAL UPDATE | |
| 7.1 | Rosewell Park – Proposed multi-wheel facility. Midlothian Council invited a tender through the City of Edinburgh framework but unfortunately received no response by the deadline and therefore will need to re-tender. | Midlothian Council |
| 7.2 | Roswell Tennis Club (RTC) – are still awaiting the lease from the council. Unfortunately, the Pigeon Club are not happy to share their premises with the tennis club. Hopefully next month we will have some positive news. For more information - Rosewell Tennis Club Facebook | RTC |
| 7.3 | Keep Rosewell Beautiful – We are in the process of organising a big litter pick to tidy up the village and are also looking around various garden centres to for deals on bulbs for the planters at the entrances into the village. The Brownies, Guides and Rainbows have agreed to help plant and we will round up more volunteers when we have dates. If anyone would like to join in or would like more information, please email the team – keeprosewellbeautiful@gmail.com . | KRB |
| 7.4 | The Steading, Rosewell Community Hub – information on events being held in the centre can be found in 'a little birdie told me' On Rosewell Development Trust's Facebook page or website - Rosewell Development Trust RDT Facebook or http://www.rdtrosewell.org.uk/ Lateral Flow (rapid) coronavirus testing is available for those with no symptoms of coronavirus. Home testing kits are also available to collect from this site. Please check times and dates at www.midlothian.gov.uk/get-tested | RDT |
| 8 | UPDATE ON MAJOR AND LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS | |
| 8.1 | 21/00623/PNCOM Erection of 18m high telecommunication mast and ancillary equipment adjacent to Rosewell Main Steading Gorton Road. Due to Covid, MC have asked for an agreement to an extension in the time to for the Council to determine application from 29 September 2021 to 28 November 2021 in order that planning application may be fully considered. In general people understand the need for telecommunication masts but question the proposed positioning in the centre of the village. A mast of this height would be totally against the character of the village. We ask that it be sited elsewhere, preferably on the outskirts of the village. | MC/RDCC/ Residents |
| 9 | ANY OTHER BUSINESS | |
| 9.2 | A resident emailed RDCC to enquire about a boys/girl's community football academy/club. As a qualified football coach, he would be very interested in starting something up in Rosewell. The secretary passed on details of who may be able to assist him in taking this forward, also that the Tennis Club had recently been donated goal posts and nets. | RDCC/ Residents |

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| 9.3 | A resident raised the issue of speeding traffic on Carnethie Street including buses. Traffic has increased and congestion is happening more frequently with vehicles reversing at the narrowed part of the road and suggested making the street one way to help alleviate this problem. Other residents (members of PTA) spoke of their fears for children and have written to Midlothian Council since 2019 with numerous suggestions with very little action being taken. It was also noted that Speed checks are seen to be carried out in Roslin but not Rosewell. Secretary will contact Midlothian Council, Lothian Buses and Police Scotland regarding these concerns. | |
| 10 | DATE OF NEXT MEETING | |
| 10.1 | The next meeting will be held on Monday 4 th October 2021 at 7pm via zoom. Information on how to join the meeting will be posted nearer the time. | Chair/ Residents |

UPDATES ARE ADDED AT REGULAR INTERVALS TO THE RDCC WEBSITE TO KEEP RESIDENTS INFORMED OF PROGRESS ON MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS, COMMUNITY NEWS, AND EVENTS. INFORMATION IS ALSO POSTED ON THE COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD IN THE PUBLIC GARDEN AT THE CORNER OF CARNETHIE STREET/GORTON ROAD
www.community-council.org.uk/RosewellandDistrict

If you would like to discuss any matter relating to Rosewell with RDCC, or add your address to our mailing list, please contact our Secretary – details below:

EMAIL rdcc@email.com
TEL 07462 808 444