



Volume 1 Issue 8 - Spring 2022

# Ecclesmachan & Threemiletown Community Council Newsletter

**YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

ECCLESMACHAN & THREEMILETOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE CURRENTLY CONSISTS OF 10 LOCAL RESIDENT MEMBERS, ALL VOLUNTEERS, WHO MEET 8 TIMES A YEAR TO DISCUSS MATTERS FOR THE GOOD AND BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. WE ARE KEEN TO HEAR FROM RESIDENTS ABOUT ANY LOCAL ISSUES THAT AFFECT THEM, AND ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN HELPING TO RESOLVE THEM. CURRENTLY WE HAVE TWO VACANCIES ON THE COMMITTEE, AND WOULD PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS IN THREEMILETOWN TO GET INVOLVED IF INTERESTED. PLEASE SEE CONTACT DETAILS AT END OF NEWSLETTER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

INFORMATION ON THE WEST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY COUNCILS CAN BE FOUND THROUGH THE JOINT FORUM OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN WEST LOTHIAN ([WESTLOTHIANCC.COM](http://WESTLOTHIANCC.COM))

## Traffic Update

Your Community Council has continued to campaign for safer roads and pavements for all in and around our villages.

In March we met with representatives from West Lothian Council and Police Scotland to discuss ways in which our villages can be made safer. Amongst the measures we are seeking include:

- Re-instatement of flashing speed limit sign in Ecclesmachan
- Controlled pedestrian crossing alongside play park in Threemiletown
- Ensuring clear visibility of existing road signage
- Better maintenance of roadside verges and vegetation to improve safety for drivers and pedestrians
- Enforcement of speed limits

West Lothian Council introduced reduced speed limits of 20mph and 40mph as part of the governments ‘Spaces for People’ programme. Following consultation the Council recently decided to revert to the previous speed limits in place across West Lothian. Your community council had responded to the consultation to encourage retention of the lower speed limits in villages and on rural roads, and has expressed its disappointment with the Council’s decision. We will continue to campaign to make our roads safer for our residents and visitors, whether they be drivers, pedestrians, cyclists or horse-riders.

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# Local Paths & Parks



For a number of years the Community Council has been working hard to make improvements to the local paths in the area and is active in maintaining the existing paths. We are campaigning for a path to connect between Uphall, Ecclesmachan and Threemiletown. This is included in the West Lothian Council (WLC) development plan and is supported by Sustrans. We are especially keen to see the establishment of a multi-use path between Ecclesmachan and Threemiletown so that pedestrians and cyclists can avoid the traffic on the B8046. Unfortunately this has been delayed as the support from Sustrans is dependant upon an improved path linking Uphall Station as well. We are currently awaiting word from WLC regarding an updated timescale.

We are lucky having Binny Craig, the Oatridge College woodland walk and Threemiletown park as local amenities, but the Union Canal, John Muir way, Shale Trail, Uphall/Broxburn community woodland, Beecraigs Country Park and Winchburgh Auldathie park are all close by. Information on local paths and parks can be found by searching online for:

- Scottish Paths Map - Ramblers
- About the John Muir Way | John Muir Way
- The Shale Trail
- The Union Canal | Scottish Canals
- Beecraigs Country Park - West Lothian Council
- Our work in Scotland - Sustrans.org.uk
- BroxburnCommunityWoodland.pdf (westlothian.gov.uk)
- Uphall - Woodland Trust
- Auldathie District Park - (winchburghdevelopments.com)
- Rights of way & paths around Ecclesmachan

## Replacement Bridge



Recent work has been carried out to replace the damaged bridge on the Forkneuk path (From Binny Craig to Uphall)



# Planning & Development in West Lothian



The Community Council can become involved in local planning and development issues where they may affect the quality of life of residents in the village. With the continuing development and growth of population in Winchburgh, we are concerned about the impact of further development on the capacity of local services such as schools and healthcare, as well the impact on traffic levels and the environment. Currently Dechmont Community Council are campaigning against more housing development to the north of their village. We are always keen to receive feedback from residents on this and any other proposed developments so that we can represent these views to the planning authorities.

## Airspace Change Programme

Residents may recall previous attempts by Edinburgh Airport to extend current permitted air flight routes that had the potential to direct significant numbers of flights over Ecclesmachan and Threemiletown. Edinburgh Airport has recently recommenced consideration of this matter and the Community Council will be engaging in this process in order to resist any changes that may affect the peace and tranquility of our villages. Again we may seek feedback from residents to support our efforts in this area, so please look out for further communication on this matter.

## Village Flower Displays

The Community Council have been working on maintaining the planters, flower beds and verges in the area. Various residents get involved to maintain these displays during the year, but we are always on the look out for any further assistance to look after one particular item and work on it twice a year, attending to planting and tidying. If you can help us make this happen then please contact the Community Council.





## DID YOU KNOW?

### Litter

Members of the community have been collecting litter from roads and pavements in the area, we support and appreciate the work being done. West Lothian Litter Pickers are a group of volunteers who, as the name suggests, collect litter throughout West Lothian, and work with West Lothian Council to arrange for collection. Information on how you can get involved can be found at [WLLP.org](http://WLLP.org)

### Report-It

If you notice larger items of rubbish or fly-tipping on roadsides or other public land it is very easy to report it to West Lothian Council to get it removed.

Report it - [westlothian.gov.uk/report](http://westlothian.gov.uk/report)

This online reporting tool is very easy to use and also allows residents to report issues such as potholes, street lighting, refuse collections, gully clearing and many other council related issues. If you see a problem, please don't assume that the Council are aware of it or that someone else will deal with it – REPORT IT!

### New Fire Alarm Regulations

New regulations on household Fire Alarms have been introduced. We encourage all residents to check they comply with the new rules. Information on this can be found at:

New Fire Alarm Legislation - [westlothian.gov.uk/firealarms](http://westlothian.gov.uk/firealarms)

### Feedback

The Community Council aims to represent the views of the community, if there are issues you wish to raise, please contact the Community Council by writing to ETCC C/O Ecclesmachan Village Hall, Byburn, Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, EH52 6NG

OR contact us by email via: [secretary.etcc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.etcc@gmail.com)

### AGM

The AGM of the Ecclesmachan and Threemiletown Community Council will be held in the village hall at 7.00pm on Tuesday 24th May.

Any resident who has an interest in becoming involved with the Community Council is urged to attend. We do need your support if we are to continue to represent the local community.

Similarly, if you have any local issues you wish to bring to our attention, please do come along and speak up. An opportunity for general questions will be given towards the end of the meeting.

We're now on Facebook ! - find us by searching:  
"Ecclesmachan & Threemiletown Community Page"