



DRAFT minutes of meeting held on Monday 16th March 2026 at 7pm

PRESENT:

RDCC COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Helen Blackburn (treasurer), Amy Fergusson (secretary), David Maltman, Raymond Milne, Patrick Krause, Julia Pennyquick,

RESIDENTS: 17

ATTENDEES: Cllr Pauline Winchester, Cllr Russell Imrie,

APOLOGIES: Janey Hoeflich (vice-chair), Damian Irisarri Kirsty McNeil MP, Jamie Scanlon (chair)

POLICE REPORT:

During the period 01/01/26 to 31/01/26 in the beat areas MW02 and MW05, there were 27 calls made to Police with 7 crime reports raised.

Incidents of note:

On 01/01/2026 complaint re loud party in Pentland Crescent, Rosewell.

On 09/01/2026 local resident called Police reporting youths had tipped over a grit box in Kinlouch Crescent, Rosewell. A search of the area was conducted but the youths were not traced.

Between 31/01/2026 and 02/02/2026 the summer house in the rear playground at Rosewell Primary School was damaged, entry was gained and chairs moved around, believed to have been committed by youths who used it as a den. The school does not have CCTV so I am liaising with the council in an effort to get cameras installed.

Most of the calls to the Rosewell area were not related to criminal matters and instead involved neighbour disputes, family tensions and mental health concerns.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

No amendments were raised regarding the minutes of the 19th January.

These minutes were approved by Helen, and seconded by Raymond.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The balance in the bank account as of 16th March is £2,772.25. Some of this is earmarked for the changes to the website and to update the noticeboard in the Village. The gambling licence must be renewed for the Easter Raffle and there are various fundraising endeavours planned.

The Easter Raffle is planned as always for the AGM on the 20th April, where it will be streamed live on Facebook. All money raised goes towards producing the calendar. The tickets for the raffle will be on sale from February from the committee members, and there will be opportunity to purchase them outside of the shop and at various events held locally in Rosewell. The Coffee Morning and Books & Bric-a-brac event is also organised for the 21st March at the Rosewell Church Hall.

LOCAL COUNCILLOR REPORT:

BUSES COVERED SEPARATELY.

Local Councillors reported on the incoming tax increases expected to rise to 9-10%. Both Cllr Russell Imrie and Cllr Pauline Winchester voted against the increase and wanted to allocate funds to social critical care which is a building problem in Midlothian. There are multiple points of failure within the current health services including the potential closure of facilities and concerns within community hospitals. There is also a query regarding where the £500k allocated to the Community Action Teams is being allocated after it was turned down by Police Scotland

The changes to the bins services around Midlothian are also being fought against by local councillors. The projected savings being quoted have been questioned and the service itself is not adequate. Calendars have not been made available to residents and the website is inadequate. Some users postcodes do not appear on the website and some green bins are still to be delivered. Councillors would appreciate feedback after the first cycle to understand if it has been undertaken to standard. There have been multiple waste issues in Midlothian of late with missed bins occurring at scale across the region due to bin lorry failures. Further to this there is a council management issue with regards to an ageing workforce coming to retirement at the same time and that collective learned experience is being lost.

MATTERS ARISING:

Speed Limit Changes Rosslynlee

The site of the former Hospital at Rosslynlee near Roslin is being developed as a large and rapidly expanding village. There are consents already for around 380 new homes, and construction and occupation are well underway.

This development has generated greatly increased volumes of commuting and other traffic along the minor country roads in this area, which are currently subject to the national speed limit (60 mph for cars).

The Council now proposes that, outwith the newly built-up area, this limit should be reduced to 40 mph. Most car trips by Rosslynlee residents involve journeys to and from the north via B7003 Roslin Glen Road. That currently has a 60 mph speed limit, but approval has recently been given for this to change to 40 mph. The lower limit will apply there as soon as the required new signs are in place.

At present the speed limit within the developing 'Rosslynlee Village' area itself is signed as '30 mph'. The Council is implementing a policy throughout Midlothian that speed limits on roads in the areas where people live and work should be 20 mph. But

it is not recommended for safety reasons that speed limits should reduce from 60 mph directly down to 20 mph.

Discussions regarding the changes to the Roslin B7003 Road were brought forward and it has been discussed that, should we be requesting a change of speed limit to 30mph along this stretch then perhaps the Rosslynlee proposed changes could also benefit to being matched at 30mph if this is considered.

Lothian Buses

The changes to the Rosewell bus service occurred on the 22nd February. The discussion at the meeting was open and centred around these changes and the impacts that have been faced by residents. The 46 bus service has been cut and the 31 service from Polton has been extended to Rosewell. This service has undergone some changes to the route as well. Since the loss of the 49 service, Rosewell has lost a direct link to Edinburgh and community feedback was that this link should be re-established as the Village has already lost so many amenities. The direct link to the infirmary has always been advantageous to Rosewell and one service should not be cut to allow for another.

Residents are concerned about the lack of direct bus to the Royal Infirmary. This is especially pertinent in the cases where people have directly moved to Rosewell to specifically utilise this direct bus service to the hospital that is no longer running.

Further, it has been noted that the double decker buses are not inclusive and actually discriminate towards those that are less mobile and cannot physically step on to the bus. This is especially pertinent given our ageing population and social housing in Rosewell, and the St Joseph's Service operating from Rosewell for 100 years that supports adults with learning disabilities to live independently as active citizens in the community and this group utilises the bus regularly.

Bus services across Midlothian are not being invested in despite climate issues and a move towards active travel and less car usage. Lothian buses has cited that although our usage has remained consistent over the years "demand in Rosewell is not sufficient to support two separate bus services". This should not be considered as a reason to cut services, as Rosewell is a bus terminus and should not be held to the same usage as a circular route – a bus at the beginning or end of a journey will always have reduced usage and should not be penalised in a reduction of services.

There is also an unreasonable amount of buses that are being funnelled to Musselburgh to the detriment of services in other regions of Midlothian and the reasoning to this should be explained.

A701 Consultation - Improving bus travel along part of the A701

With funding from Transport Scotland's Bus Infrastructure Fund (2025/26), Midlothian Council commissioned consultants to carry out a study into alternative locations for a transport interchange, such as a Park & Ride, on the A701 corridor between Straiton and Penicuik. The study has also examined a range of other options to improve bus travel along the corridor and enhance the overall passenger experience.

Following the development and appraisal of options for the A701 corridor, a shortlist of potential options have now been identified, and feedback is now invited via an online survey: ([Consultations - Improving bus travel along part of the A701 | Midlothian Council](#))

This survey will be available to complete until 11:59 pm on Sunday 22nd March 2026. Following the survey, AECOM will prepare a report for the Council summarising the findings of the study, which must be completed by 31 March 2026. Paper copies of the survey will be made available from Penicuik, Roslin and Loanhead libraries as these locations are the closest on the A701 corridor, but additional copies can be sent to other libraries if requested.

GENERAL UPDATES:

Pharmacy Application:

Appeals on the successful pharmacy decision were lodged with the Chair of the National Appeal Panel by a number of local pharmacies in accordance with the Regulations. Unfortunately these appeals have been upheld by the Chair on the grounds of procedural defect which follows: "Ground of Appeal 1. This ground relates to whether there has been a procedural defect in the way in which the PPC considered the application; in particular, the requirement in the Regulations for the applicant to demonstrate that the premises to which the application relates can be used as a pharmacy."

This decision has been referred back to the Pharmacy Committee and they will inform us of further information in due course. Having reached out the pharmacist, he appears to have put in a robust rebuttal to the decision and says that a number of the Chair's decisions have been overturned lately so there is a precedent for this. Hopefully more information will follow soon.

UPDATE ON MAJOR AND LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

None.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Pump track now has a bench.
2. Sarah from Rosewell Girlguiding has notified us that units in the village are in desperate need of volunteers, or we could risk closing.
3. RDCC events – books + bric-a-brac sale on 21st March and Easter Raffle on the 20th April.
4. Keep Rosewell Beautiful Events: soil remediation on the 28th March and then planting day on the 4th April in Rosewell Park. Will also do some tidying of the paths if time allows. Looking for volunteers. .

Date of next scheduled meeting: Mon 20th April 2026 (AGM)

Updates are added to the RDCC website to keep residents informed of planning applications, community news, and events. Information is also posted on the community notice board in the garden at the corner of Carnethie Street / Gorton Road.

www.rosewellcc.co.uk

If you would like to discuss any matter relating to Rosewell with RDCC, or add your address to our mailing list, please contact us: rosewellcc@gmail.com