

## Pettinain Community Council

### Minutes of Open Meeting to Community to discuss Local Plans 7.12.05

1. Present: Jane MacConnell, Judith Clayton, Diane Laing, Karen Murphy. There was representation from over half the adult population of Pettinain.
2. Chair JM opened the meeting by thanking the community for attending the special meeting and introduced JC to highlight the main areas of the Local Plans.
  - JC discussed the areas in the village highlighted in the Local Plans. Copies are available at the library and the Council Buildings.
  - These are 'Pressure for Change' areas. They have not yet been granted planning permission.
  - By 2017 land for 110,000 houses has to be identified. Pressure is from Edinburgh wanting 70,000 houses. Most of these in greenbelt areas for 'mobile' residents.
3. JM then opened the discussion to the floor and the following points were raised:
  - Concerns re the state of the roads, lack of speed limits and pavements.
  - Concerns re the potential size of the development. JC advised the possibility of 120 houses if the land fully used. Concerns from the floor re increase in numbers once planning permission granted, lack of community feeling in large estates, developments should be more sympathetic to include new estates more in the community and merge with existing buildings. New houses in Raeburn Common sold as an 'exclusive development'. Concerns re 'opening floodgates' if one area approved for development.
  - Concerns about lack of power with regards to objecting. Feelings of not being listened to by Councillors at previous planning meetings, lack of knowledge of planning officers of Pettinain, planners can approach Scottish Executive directly for permission. (Raeburn Common not on last Local Plan – development brought about by appeal to Scot. Exec.) A suggestion was made to see if the SLC would agree to a maximum number of houses by 2010.
  - Concerns re sewerage. Already problems within existing systems with torrential rain, reed bed not working sufficiently and would need to be made larger (cannot be dug deeper). Increase in tarmac would result in increase in grey water.
  - Concerns re environmental issues and sustaining wildlife. Objections raised about developing peat bog.
  - The infra-structure is not suitable for a large community: School closed >10 years, feeder school at capacity, roads and bridges would not support volume of traffic, poor public transport system, employment opportunities, lack of community facilities.
  - It was highlighted that residents were attracted to and chose to live in Pettinain because of its small size. Protecting the quality of life of residents was raised and the length of time building developments takes

(considering phase 1 of Raeburn Common is not yet completed), residents are living on building sites for years.

4. JM asked the floor to vote for or against development of the areas highlighted in the local plan. A point was made that it was very difficult to vote due to the lack of knowledge of the number of houses for possible development. 4 voted for 'some kind' of development, the majority voted against large scale development.
5. It was agreed a letter stating an objection to large scale development in Pettinain would be taken to the meeting with Stuart McMillan, Planning Officer on the 12<sup>th</sup> December, with detailed objections being provided in the future after further consultation with the community.
6. JM invited the floor to attend this meeting.
7. A follow up open meeting was agreed for Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 2006 at 7.30pm.