

KIRKNEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

West Lothian Local Development Plan Consultation

Our main concerns and comments in response to the above are:

Kirknewton Station

The level crossing is unfit for purpose, it should have been by-passed.

The Pedestrian Bridge or rather no Pedestrian Bridge is a serious safety problem. These issues will still have to be addressed as a priority.

A Park and Ride Planning application has been made but a lot of thought in planning still requires to be made by WLC to the entrance of the Park and Ride which KCC are pleased to advise on.

Roads

The route from the traffic lights at the West A71 (Ormiston Mains) up through Kirknewton Village down the Linburn Road to the East A71 traffic lights. This route requires an urgent assessment study and road safety evaluation which we are very happy to help with and consequently WLC should consider upgrading this route, together with lower speed restrictions and car parking considerations being carried out.

The Wilkieston By-Pass should be built and Edinburgh Council should be encouraged to upgrade the Wilkieston to Newbridge Road.

This would potentially divert a lot of heavy traffic away from the A71 to Edinburgh.

Community Hall and Recreational Facilities

The Village requires a new Community Hall and better recreational facilities.

Fiona McBrierty has been sent details of our proposals for recreational facilities.

It was acknowledged in the Main Issues report that there is planning consent for a Community Hall.

Conservation Area

We would like to increase the existing conservation area which itself requires some consultation input from ourselves to protect the historic buildings and natural environmental areas in Kirknewton.

We would also like better protection for this area from WLC.

Plans are underway to sign post the Kirknewton Conservation Area.

RAF Kirknewton

The Station is in the City of Edinburgh administrative area which has recently undergone a substantial improvement programme.

The Station is used to train RAF Cadets to fly principally gliders. It will continue in this role for the foreseeable future.

School

There is a view here that perhaps we do not want a bigger school or village however at the moment capacity for a large intake of pupils is preventing further housing development.

Housing Development

There are sites here which have WLLP Planning Permission granted but the roads here are potentially unable to accommodate larger numbers of traffic of all sizes as they all require improvement.

There has been a Planning Permission in principle application for 7 units in a small development at H-KN3 for retirement housing at the East side of Kirknewton.

Natural Environment

We are very fortunate to live close to the Pentland Hills and would thank WLC in continuing to provide funds, for example the Selm Muir to Little Vantage Footpath and encouraging recreation and fitness.

In Conclusion

We would reiterate that we would be only too pleased to work with any departments to help establish a way forward.

Victor Garrad

Planning Secretary

Kirknewton Community Council