

## Briefing Note No. 67 - 13th. November 2013

Posted by ErnHW Ltd - 13 Nov 2013 16:40

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"Let's remove national politics from Local Authorities" - Briefing Notes 2013

1. Questions to the Muslim section of our community
2. Open letter from the Chairman of NMCC

Questions to the Muslim section of our community

Some issues are not helped by unfounded, ill-informed comments by third parties which are based on no more than wishful thinking.

For that reason Briefing Notes now focusses on the Parent Council meeting to be held on Wed 13th. night and seeks answers to the following questions:-

1. The names of the individuals who identified the EHS campus as a potential site to the Muslim community.
2. Do those seeking to acquire the EHS campus site understand that as we speak, ERC are spending £1+ million on that very site and that money will have to be recovered in addition to the land value? That, contrary to the expectations of Dr Khan and Prof Hussain makes it the single most expensive site in Newton Mearns (NM) and ERC have a duty to the public purse which cannot be circumvented despite the promises of certain politicians who are leading the ERMEC/ERCL camps by the nose up a blind alley.
3. There are a number of far superior and much cheaper sites now within a short distance of the EHS campus.
4. To date ERMEC and Prof. Hussain have remained hidden from public scrutiny by refusing to engage with NMCC who are a statutory consultee on planning matters and are totally opposed to the EHS campus being broken up. This reflects the views of NM residents, both Muslim and non-Muslim with the exception of Dr Khan and his one aide.
5. The NM Muslim residents who have contacted NMCC are unanimously opposed to the EHS campus break-up plan. Prof Hussain is not a NM resident. NMCC have heard from residents at three

public meetings where the public included both Muslim and non-Muslims and not one attendee has yet supported the break-up of the EHS campus.

6. The majority of attendees at Tuesday night's (12th Nov) Muslim only meeting have not heard both sides of the story nor had the opportunity to do so as contrary to the stories ERMEC and ERCL put out of community engagement, they refuse to share a platform with non-Muslim community reps. The consequences that flow from this are potentially the destruction of the excellent NM inter-community relations. This potential damage is being brought about by outsiders to Newton Mearns.

7. Again next Monday's WEC/WET/ERMEC meeting for the wider community has wilfully refused to invite NM community reps such as NMCC to attend as invited speakers. What are they so afraid of? This is not community engagement, this is community manipulation and censorship.

8. With at least 25 Mosques in operation across the greater Glasgow conurbation we have seen no evidence that a mosque of the scale and size such as that proposed by ERMEC will be sustainable or even fundable and the last thing anyone needs is another Cumbernauld mosque failure.

9. Having seen the joint statement of Tuesday the 11th. Nov. from the Muslim groups, it's contents are highly questionable as only a week ago both ERMEC, ERCL and other groups were adamant they could and would never co-operate over a mosque. What's changed?

10. No-one has yet shown BN anything to support the lie that the site avidly pursued by ERMEC and co. is NOT an integral part of the EHS campus. Prove us wrong by producing evidence to support this nonsensical claim.

The Eastwood High Parent Council meeting on Wednesday night must deliver answers to these points or be judged as a wasted opportunity. Those attending must not allow the opportunity to question to be denied to them. For that reason it is imperative that the attending community are given the opportunity to speak and question those sharing the platform currently billed to include Hussain, Fletcher and Macintosh.

Open letter from the Chairman of NMCC

From: Nmcc

Date: 13 November 2013 12:21:17 GMT

To: jim MURPHYMP , Ken Macintosh , &quot;J (Cllr) Fletcher&quot;

Cc: Tony Buchanan , &quot;Elaine (Cllr) Green&quot; , paul.o'

This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it

, &quot;C (Cllr) Gilbert&quot; , Jim Swift , &quot;Ian (Cllr) McAlpine&quot; , &quot;B (Cllr) Grant&quot; ,  
&quot;Gordon Wallace (Cllr.)&quot; , Alastair Carmichael , &quot;Ralph (Cllr) Robertson&quot; , &quot;A  
(Cllr) Lafferty&quot; , &quot;B (Cllr) Cunningham&quot; , &quot;Kenny (Cllr) Hay&quot; , &quot;Gordon  
(Cllr) McCaskill&quot; , Stewart Miller , &quot;M (Cllr) Montague&quot; , &quot;D (Cllr) Devlin&quot; ,

This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it

, Vincent Waters

Subject: URGENT please respond asap.

Gentlemen,

I write to you as Chairman of Newton Mearns Community Council. NMCC is greatly concerned at the various statements each of you have issued with regard to the specific location of the mosque site you are promoting within the Eastwood High School campus.

To establish a clear understanding as to the location of the site, we the community council invite the three of you, together with any other ERC councillors and representatives from the planning department, to have a brief but hopefully productive meeting on site this weekend, either Saturday or Sunday at a time of your convenience. For the avoidance of doubt, community council members will make themselves available at whatever time is convenient for your good selves. As this letter is an open letter we have cc'd in the other ERC Cllrs so they know they are included within this invitation.

In view of Jim Murphy's London based commitments we are happy to split the invitation into two separate site visits for the convenience of those more locally based.

There are other far more suitable sites available but firstly we must establish that we all understand the specific location of the piece of ground everyone is actually referring to and the implications inherent for our new school campus and the pupils who study there.

Further I have attached two drawings, the first being from ERC Planning Dept and the second is from ERMEC. Hopefully you will understand the outrage in the community at any suggestion of removing this piece of ground from the school campus. I need hardly explain that access to the marked area would sterilise the land between the marked site and Capelrig Rd. to enable access and prevent the site from being 'land locked.&quot;

I appreciate that it is Wednesday morning at the time of writing, so would request that you please give this your urgent and most immediate attention. The reason for the urgency is that the public consultation closes one week today. Alternatively if both Saturday and Sunday do not suit you we can be available any other day that suits as long as it is prior to next Wednesday.

Kind regards,

David Jesner

Chairman

NMCC

Remember, please help us to help you by encouraging everyone to individually sign up for BN. It's free! Together we are stronger and can achieve more.

Briefing Notes

If you wish to correct anything in this BN, please write in and we will publish your comment.

Please click this link [Like our Facebook Page](#) and then click both 'LIKE' and 'SHARE' to help spread our message.

Briefing Notes

E&OE.

"It is better to be defeated on principle than to win on lies." --Arthur Calwell

"The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do."  
Steve Jobs (1955 - 2011)

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Conversely, if you no longer wish to receive these briefing notes, simply click reply and type "unsubscribe" into the subject line.

If there are other issues you think we, as a community, should be aware of, email BN outlining them, preferably with a contact phone number please.

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## **Re: Briefing Note No. 67 - 13th. November 2013**

Posted by DJ - 15 Nov 2013 20:10

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From: "Green, Elaine (Cllr)"

Date: 15 November 2013 15:28:38 GMT

To: 'Nmcc'

Subject: RE: URGENT please respond asap.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for the invitation but I have already visited the site.

Regards

Councillor Elaine Green

From: D J

Date: 15 November 2013 20:09:05 GMT

To: &quot;Green, Elaine (Cllr)&quot;;

Subject: Re: URGENT please respond asap.

Dear Elaine,

Delighted to learn you have visited the site rather than just the school.

Obviously as ERC Education convener you will have taken a closer interest in this matter than many of your colleagues.

Can you please therefore advise:-

1. Do you accept that the site under discussion and as identified by both ERMEC and most helpfully by ERC planning is indeed within the existing campus, having been so since the 1960s and was granted consent as part of the new school development?
2. Can you confirm the allegations which have been made by three different members of the Muslim community that members of your party were instrumental in bringing this site to the attention of their community?
3. As Education Convener, are you generally in favour of shrinking or maintaining school campuses?
4. As a councillor for this ward do you support the Muslim and non-Muslim community of Newton Mearns and in particular Crookfur who are totally opposed to this site?
5. Are you prepared to meet publicly with representatives of the Muslim community of Newton Mearns?
6. As education convener are you for or against religious institutions being built adjacent to non-denominational schools?

Kind regards,

David

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## Re: Briefing Note No. 67 - 13th. November 2013

Posted by Concerned ERC Parent - 15 Nov 2013 20:12

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DJ,

Well done for extracting a reply from Cllr Green. I reckon it's the first one I've ever seen.

Comedy gold this. Buried pigs? If you'd said to me a while back we are getting a brand new £30million state of the art non-denominational school and the Council are going to build a religious building in the grounds that are currently undergoing £1million worth of landscaping, i'd have thought we were discussing flying pigs! But then again.....

I see the press mentioned a lot. If the News of the World were still around they wouldn't have to hack phones. Just send this lot an email. Front page every time.

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## Re: Briefing Note No. 67 - 13th. November 2013

Posted by DJ - 15 Nov 2013 21:05

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**Concerned ERC Parent wrote:**

DJ,

Well done for extracting a reply from Cllr Green. I reckon it's the first one I've ever seen.

Comedy gold this. Buried pigs? If you'd said to me a while back we are getting a brand new £30million state of the art non-denominational school and the Council are going to build a religious building in the grounds that are currently undergoing £1million worth of landscaping, i'd have thought we were discussing flying pigs! But then again.....

I see the press mentioned a lot. If the News of the World were still around they wouldn't have to hack phones. Just send this lot an email. Front page every time.

Thanks CERCP. Good to note I potentially am now Madam J in her eyes. Obviously doesn't understand that as my invitation was in the first instance to three men, I addressed it as 'Gentlemen.' I apologised to her and it's good to know she has a sense of humour.

I said at the very beginning this is going to be the biggest issue potentially of all time especially when folk realise that if the Labour party supported by the Nats pull this off no school campus is safe. Will we have Macdonalds and Greggs queuing to buy a corner of the playgrounds and save the pupils from any unnecessary exercise?

The politicians are sending a clear signal demonstrating their utter contempt and arrogance. They're saying 'We can do whatever we want, wherever we want, however we want, because you the local peasants whom we now deem racists, cannot stop us, the kings of the East Ren universe.'

This proposal flies in the face of ScotGov guidance, Scottish Futures Trust statement on open space provisions, see SFT 'lessons learned' as well as almost every other body you can think of.

The lies have been incredible and without the arrogance I cannot see what they get out of this as we are still objecting to the site for the new denoms and remain opposed to Maidenhill.

Are we missing some rational or are they as incredibly stupid and inept as they seem hell bent on proving?

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## **Re: Briefing Note No. 67 - 13th. November 2013**

Posted by DJ - 18 Nov 2013 12:45

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From: 'Green, Elaine (Cllr)'

Date: 18 November 2013 12:02:55 GMT

To: 'D J

Subject: RE: URGENT please respond asap.

Dear Sir,



Thank you for the email.

Regards

Councillor Elaine Green

From: D J

Date: 18 November 2013 12:44:02 GMT

To: &quot;Green, Elaine (Cllr)&quot;;

Subject: Re: URGENT please respond asap.

Dear Elaine,

It is disappointing that you have ignored every single one of the questions put to you, especially given that you are the ERC Convenor for Education.

The Community Council, Parents, Pupils and Residents are seeking answers, particularly from yourself, given your overall responsibility for education.

Therefore I must repeat my questions to you (appended below) and seek answers.

EHS is within your ward. Therefore are you refusing to meet publicly with your Crookfur constituents and in particular our Muslim community members as per question 5? Please answer this and the other 5 questions.

Regards,

David

Questions repeated:-

1. Do you accept that the site under discussion and as identified by both ERMEC and most helpfully by ERC planning, is indeed within the existing campus, having been so since the 1960s and was granted consent as part of the new school development?
2. Can you confirm the allegations which have been made by three different members of the Muslim community that members of your party were instrumental in bringing this site to the attention of their community?
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## **Re: Briefing Note No. 67 - 13th. November 2013**

Posted by flyboy - 18 Nov 2013 18:27

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I know why Jim was not interested in coming to the site over the weekend - on friday night he had a more impotant meeting. He stood in the queue in his favourite take-away in Busby road, Clarkston waiting for his take-away, and was probably worried in case he got Bombay tummy.

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