

West End Community Council
3rd March at Ashfield 61 Melville Street Edinburgh at 7.30 pm
Minutes of Meeting

Present: Jock Miller (Chair), Ian Robertson, Martha Baur, Alan Weddell, Gordon Renton, Isabel Thom, Rory O'Riordan, Dr. Gordon Wyllie

In attendance: Police Officers Scott & Webster, Gina Miller (Minutes)

Apologies: Marco Biagi, Sarah Boyack, Mark Lazarowicz, Cameron Buchanan, Alasdair Rankin, Karen Doran, Joanna Mowat, Colin Johnston

It was with sadness the CC noted the passing away of Norman Bonney a previous Chair of the CC and his involvement with EACC.

Note: The Police Report was dealt with first before any business to allow the two Police Officers to get on with their duties.

Previous Minutes:
Minutes of meeting 3rd February were approved.

Matters Arising:
Meeting 3rd February

Dr Herbert talked of a restriction at the exit from Haymarket Station. **Action** Joanna to contact Roads team.

A discussion took place about toilet provision. **Action** Joanna Mowat to see whether there was a response to her previous questions.

Isabel asked if anything further had happened with Haymarket Terrace re taxis. **Action** Joanna Mowat.

Police Report:
Police Constable Scott advised the main issue was the significant increase in non-domestic break-ins. There needs to be more awareness in the business community. The break-ins had taken place within the last three weeks but had tailed off in the last few days. Small businesses needed to be alarmed with signs saying no cash on site.

Gordon Renton advised that Dr Herbert had said cars were turning left out of Palmerston Place onto Coates Place which is a Green Man crossing. The turning from Charlotte Square to Colme Street was also raised along with cars cutting the corner into Torphichen Street. **Action** Jock Miller to raise these issues with our Councillors.

A discussion took place with regard to legal highs which is becoming an increasing problem.

Following a break-in in another part of the city where it took a day for the police to

arrive PC Scott told the CC there was a diary system for non-serious/ urgent calls. This involved a dedicated officer coming at an agreed time.

A discussion took place regarding CCTV in the area. **Action** Jock Miller to raise with West End Association.

Neighbourhood Partnership

Douglas Crescent safety island £5,000 can carry over to the next financial year.

Councillor's Report:

There were no Councillors present however Cllr Rankin had advised he might be late because of Council business. **Action** Jock Miller to make sure they are all aware of issues raised within the meeting.

Correspondence:

HMICS Local Policing Survey was discussed. Those present felt that the police should attend the monthly meetings as it was good to establish a relationship. It was also felt it was a two way relationship. **Action** Jock Miller to respond to survey and direct with Police Inspector Emma Croft saying if they couldn't attend a small report indicating the crimes committed in the previous month.

EACC Workshop 31st January 2015 was discussed. It was decided that the CC did not want to be involved with EACC. It was felt that current arrangements with Gorgie/Dalry and DAAA were working well and that any joint working should be at Neighbourhood Partnership level. Gordon Renton made the point that any joint working that residents should take precedence over businesses every time.

Reports from Conveners:

Financial Report: Alan Weddell, Treasurer
£657.47 balance.

Planning: Isabel Thom

Isabel went through her report.

Springside was a developer design workshop by Grosvenor. The development will be building to rent for the upper market.

Haymarket started clearing.

Torphichen Street has been granted. Feeling local residents have been let down by the planning officer. **Action** Jock Miller to raise issue with Councillors why planning officer allowed mission creep (height, width and depth) from existing consent.

Holiday Lets without CofU had to be pinned down. Nancy Jamieson was asked to investigate. Passed to the Case Officer, who is waiting for a report from CEC Environmental Health.

Walker Street - sound proofing. **Action** Isabel Thom to investigate.

Manor Place - position of BT cabinet. **Action** Isabel Thom to investigate.

22AB Palmerston Place roof deck. **Action** Objection to be submitted.

Torphichen Street 11 flats - considered to be overdevelopment. **Action** Marta Baur & Gordon Renton to report back on local opinion.

Planning Performance Framework. Action all to complete Survey Monkey 100 Years of Planning - go and see it.

Communications and Publicity: Jock Miller

Noticeboard is up. Recruitment of new members has been done through social media. **Action** Jock Miller to put something on noticeboard.

Environment & Transport: Rory O'Riordan

Rory advised he couldn't make meeting on cycle paths next Thursday. **Action** Jock Miller to email community councillors.

Liquor/Gambling Licensing: Alan Weddell

Nothing to report. Gordon Renton was opposed to the Octoberfest and the use of Princess Street gardens for anything else. **Action** Jock Miller to advise Councillors of CC's position.

Civic Licensing: Jock Miller

Nothing to report. Gordon Renton felt that HMOs license fee should at least cover the cost of CEC providing the services such as refuse collection. **Action** Jock Miller / Gordon Renton to take up with Cllr Rankin.

AOCB:

Jock advised that Bruce Ryan has too much work on to become our Minute Secretary. He has approached a partner in a legal firm to see if there is anyone who could help. There is also going to be a notice on the noticeboard. Isabel Thom advised that Saturday evening was lights off day.

Ian Robertson advised of a new planning vision CPPP (Customers, Partnership, Place making, Performance.) He thought a meeting in the likes of the Walpole Hall bringing together the players Katie Swann, Iain MacPhail and others to shape the West End. **Action** Ian Robertson to table ideas at next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 7th April.