

West End Community Council
7th April at Ashfield 61 Melville Street Edinburgh at 7.30 pm
Minutes of Meeting

Present: Jock Miller (Chair), Alan Weddell, Gordon Renton, Isabel Thom, Dr. Gordon Wyllie, Colin Johnston,

In attendance: Police Sgt. Simon Acheson, Jamie Miller (Minutes)

Apologies: Marco Biagi, Sarah Boyack, Mark Lazarowicz, Cameron Buchanan, Alasdair Rankin, Karen Doran, Joanna Mowat, Ian Robertson, Martha Baur, Rory O'Riordan,

Previous Minutes:

Minutes of meeting 3rd March were approved subject to a typo Gambling Licensing Princes Street.

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.

Meeting 3rd March

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. Feedback awaited. Gordon Renton advised there was a very large sign saying no left turn into Palmerston Place.

A discussion took place regarding CCTV in the area. **Action** Jock Miller to raise with West End Association. Jock advised he had asked for a meeting.

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. Jock advised he had missed this and an email had been sent that day.

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

Isabel advised that she had attended the cycle path meeting. The underlying issue was the difficulty of cycling from/to Haymarket station. There were two proposals the

first being to bring a path from Devon place to turn into Magdala Crescent, then Eglinton Crescent, then Palmerston Place, then Chester Street and onto Melville Street the difficulty with this route was the number of traffic lights. The alternative route went from Devon Place along to Haymarket Terrace to Roseberry Crescent, problem being the taxi rank at Haymarket, along Bishops Walk around by St Mary's Cathedral (walk to be maintained by the CEC) and along Melville Street. Nearly criticism about this route was something would need to be done about the statue. They were talking about three levels a road level a cycle level and pedestrian level.

With regard to the outstanding action regarding HMO's Gordon Renton advised that the licensing needs legislation. It was felt that this should be set aside while the present elections were underway but should be discussed with Sarah Boyack at a future time. **Action** Gordon Renton to put something together.

Police Report:

Sgt Acheson felt that attendance at community council meetings should be possible. It would only be in the event that required high attention that it would not be possible to send a representative of police Scotland.

He highlighted the main problem within the extended area was still break-ins to businesses. There have been two attempted break-ins, two break-ins with nothing taken and four break-ins where things had been stolen. This was generally cash from small businesses. He advised that he could provide signs and also range from visits from a prevention officer.

Gordon Renton made the point of disturbance outside Platform Five involving shouting/glassing. Sgt Acheson advised that they were working with the owners of the premises. He also advised of the cycling accidents happening outside Haymarket Station and wondered whether there could be 'sandpapering' of the road and reduced speed signs. Sgt Acheson said if it became an accident blackspot it will be highlighted to police Scotland. He however said he would raise the issue with his colleagues. **Action** Sgt Acheson. Isabel Thom asked if there was cycle training for children he replied that this was now done by the council as with all road safety.

Sgt Acheson advise that the Edinburgh city centre email was EdinburghCityCentreCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Neighbourhood Partnership

Ian Robertson to bring a paper to the next meeting about the new planning vision CPPP (Customers, Partnership, Place making, Performance.) **Action** Ian Robertson to circulate in advance of this meeting..

Councillor's Report:

There were no Councillors present. **Action** Jock Miller to make sure they are all aware of issues raised within the meeting.

Correspondence:

DAAA newsletter received. **Action** Jock Miller to put on website.
Ageing Well - Come for a walk refer website for more info.

Constitution **Action** Gordon Wyllie to review for next meeting.

Reports from Conveners:

Financial Report: Alan Weddell, Treasurer

£435.61p balance. Main change from last month was the joiner had been paid for putting up the noticeboard. We should receive the annual grant in late July.

Planning: Isabel Thom

Isabel went through her report.

Donaldson's: was discussed in detail following the recent public consultation. The CC was in the main broadly supportive of the scheme. However discussion took place on the fact that it should be a gated community, there should be adequate parking of at least one car per residence, there should be no additional lighting to the front and we should question why there was the change to the exit and entrance strategy.

Springside: no real issues generally supported by the CC. Feedback questionnaire to be completed.

Skyparks: It was felt that a presentation by GVA was not needed. The CC was supportive of both the Tollcross CC letter and the letter from transport. **Action** Isabel Thom.

Haymarket 189 Morrison Street: Tunnel was nearing completion. Archaeological investigation undertaken. Planning application expected at Committee in May.

37 Palmerston Place: a meeting arranged by the case officer for 08.04.2015 with the agent and CEC environmental officer.

Clean and Green City Centre workshop: was conducted around themes such as - Why does it matter to have a clean and green city centre, what is your favourite outdoor space and why, how to involve community and youth?

Scottish Older People Shaping the Future: Presentations from A city for All Ages advisory Group, Scottish Older People's Assembly, Age Scotland and LOOPS (council initiative for getting retired people involved in their communities).

Isabel Thom advised that she has booked a place for the EWHT event celebrating World Heritage Day 17th April.

Communications and Publicity: Jock Miller

Jock Miller advised that all forms of social media had been used to attract new members to the community Council.

Environment & Transport: Rory O'Riordan

None.

Liquor/Gambling Licensing: Alan Weddell

None.

Civic Licensing: Jock Miller

None.

AOCB:

Jock advised that Sophie Cogle had agreed to become our Minute Secretary. She starts next month.

Jock Miller advised of possible ward changes to the boundaries which involved Roseburn, Wester Coates and the Donaldson's area would become part of the city Centre Ward. **Action** Jock Miller to write to city councillors to see if this affects the Community Council.

A discussion took place with regard to Princes Street Gardens' exploitation by Edinburgh Council. **Action** Jock Miller to write to New Town & Broughton and the Old Town community councils to see whether a joint approach could be agreed and taken to the council. **Action** Gordon Wyllie to raise at next Neighbourhood Partnership Board meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th May.