

West End Community Council

5 January 2016 at Ashfield, 61 Melville Street, Edinburgh

Present: Jock Miller (Chair), Alan Weddell, Isabel Thom, Colin Johnston, Ian Robertson, Gordon Wylie

In attendance: Callum Fraser (Holder Planning), Michael Cernicchiaro and Mark Allan (Comprehensive Design Architects), Hiba Alkhalaf (Edinburgh University PhD student), John Forsyth, Carol Forsyth, Ailsa Cameron (minutes).

| Discussion | Action |
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| <p>1. Apologies and welcome Apologies were received from Marco Biagi MSP, Sarah Boyack MSP, Cameron Buchanan MSP, Cllr. Joanna Mowat, Cllr. Alasdair Rankin, Cllr. Karen Doran, Gordon Renton, Rory O’Riordan, Martha Baur.</p> | |
| <p>Michael Cernicchiaro (MC) from Comprehensive Design Architects distributed plans for 4 star hotel on the land at Torphichen Street/Dewar Place.</p> <p>Mark Allan (MA) stating that the site has been empty for more than 20 years, mainly due to the physical constraints of the railway tunnels which make development above particularly tricky. Network Rail constraints have to be observed and foundations will have to be at least 3m away from tunnel constructions.</p> <p>MA describing the plans for a 9 storey hotel. Materials used to be natural stone - debates going on between limestone and sandstone. Various analysis of key views have been carried out, it has been determined that there are relatively few where the building will be visible.</p> <p>Callum Fraser (CF) stating that the proposal of application notice was submitted in November and a public exhibition was held in December. They met with the Council for pre application discussions in December and are awaiting written feedback - particularly on design - which is expected next week. CF noting that the earliest the planning application could be submitted is February and welcomed any pre application responses from the CC members.</p> <p>Colin Johnston (CJ) raised concerns about the height of the building. CF agreeing that height is a key issue and that he is expecting design advice from the council which will touch on height issues. Stating that they have carried out daylight and sunlight analysis which will take into account the properties on Dewar Lane.</p> <p>CF stating that there is no car park involved in the plans for the site. There is a proposed drop off point at the front of the hotel. Site will be next to the trams so will be easily accessible by public transport.</p> | |



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| <p>Callum Fraser, Mark Allan and Michael Cernicchiaro left the meeting.</p> | |
| <p>2. Minutes of meetings held on 1 December 2015 Accepted subject to two amendments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cameron Buchanan was in attendance rather than present 2. Reference to Mairi Williams should have read <i>Marion Williams</i> | |
| <p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p><u>1 September 2015</u></p> <p>JM to write to KS with further details of the ARTWESTART proposals. JM wrote to KS; no response received. JM to chase. Outstanding. WECC discussed the proposals. GR suggested a triangular route linking the West end of Princes Street, Haymarket and the North. JM met with a representative of the portrait gallery. Outstanding</p> <p>JM to enquire at Haymarket visit regarding signs for “Alight here for the Gallery of Modern Art.” Completed. JM thought it was an issue to do with Network Rail. He has been told that more signage requires consent from Transport Scotland which is unlikely to be accepted.</p> <p><u>6 October 2015</u></p> <p>Cllr JM to investigate whether it is possible to influence the routes on Google Maps. Outstanding</p> <p>Cllr JM to look for more info regarding conditions on HMOs. Outstanding</p> <p>Cllr JM to chase response as to when Magdala bins will be emptied. Outstanding</p> <p>1/20 Douglas Crescent 15/02691/LBC Cllr JM to investigate why change to a principal room have been allowed under a LBC. Outstanding</p> <p>Jock Miller to contact the chairman of the Old Town CC to offer support regarding India Building at Victoria Street. Outstanding</p> <p>Cllr JM to contact CEC regarding gully clearance. Outstanding</p> <p>Cllr JM to investigate why anti-jaywalking fence was removed at St John’s Church Princes Street. Outstanding</p> <p><u>5 November 2015</u></p> <p>JM to contact Cllr JM regarding outstanding actions.</p> | |



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| <p><u>1 December 2015</u></p> <p>Phil Noble to confirm whether or not Magdala Cres. will be one-way under new cycle path scheme. Outstanding</p> <p>204 Rose Street, (Charlotte Chapel) Ref: 15/05261/FUL...4/LBC Change of use to dance studio. IT to submit supportive comments. Completed</p> | |
| <p>4. Police Report No police present.</p> | |
| <p>5. Neighbourhood Partnership Nothing to report.</p> | |
| <p>6. Councillor's Report No councilors present.</p> | |
| <p>7. Correspondence Email from Gordon Watson about permit parking which IT responded to.</p> | |
| <p>At 8pm Hiba Alkhalaf from Edinburgh University explained the purpose of her research and asked the committee to discuss their opinions on the local character of Edinburgh and new developments.</p> | |
| <p>8.1 Financial Report £486.23 and no outstanding debts.</p> | |
| <p>8.2 Planning Isabel Thom (IT) presented Planning Convener's report.</p> <p>West of 2 Dewar Place. Ref:15/05132/PAN. It was agreed that the main concern is the height of the building.</p> <p>204 Rose Street, (Charlotte Chapel) Ref: 15/05261/FUL...4/LBC. IT has submitted support. Still pending consideration.</p> <p>6-8 King's Stables Road. Ref: 15/05715/FUL. Need to object by 14 January.</p> <p>Douglas House/Belford House 59,60 Belford Road. Ref: 14/04512/FUL. Complaint was made by a resident in December and some documents were received after the closing date.</p> <p>Donaldson's School. Ref: 15/03780/FUL/1/LBC. Granted at committee.</p> <p>Springside, Fountainbridge. Ref: 15/02892/PPP. Discussion over whether IT will present at the hearing, decided against this as not even Tollcross CC are attending.</p> | <p>IT to make objection.</p> |



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| <p>1-3 Rutland Street. Ref: 15/04505FUL. Application has been withdrawn.</p> <p>Haymarket Station. Ref: 15/04831/LBC. Application for advertising units has been refused.</p> <p>1/20 Douglas Crescent. Ref: 15/05499/LBC. Alan Weddell (AW) stating that there was an issue in relation to the earlier application where we had objected as a CC. A report was put on the website that suggested that we had withdrawn our objections. Councillor said that our objections do not carry any weight as we made representation, not as statutory consultees. It was suggested that JM should write to the chief executive of the council for clarification on this.</p> <p>Former Royal High School. Ref 15/05662/FUL. Listed Building Consent: 15/05665/LBC. Proposal for building for a St. Mary's Music School. In principal we're in agreement but CC have not seen anything. Support is urgently needed by Thursday 14 January.</p> | <p>JM to write to CE of council to ask what their policy is.</p> |
| <p>8.3 Communications and Publicity Nothing to report.</p> | |
| <p>8.4 Environment and Transport JM in the absence of RO.</p> <p>Proposed plans for new cycle paths: Email received from Terrence Daintith objecting to the plans and expressing concerns about the central parking spaces in Melville Street. GW noting that it appears on the plans that Rosebery Terrace is to be closed which he strongly objects to.</p> | <p>JM to make objection.</p> |
| <p>8.5 Liquor/Gambling Licensing Nothing to report.</p> | |
| <p>8.6 Civic Licensing Nothing to report.</p> | |
| <p>9.0 AOCB CC still need to appoint a secretary. JM noting that the chairman, treasurer and secretary should not be the same person as long as you get permission from the council. AW agreed to help the chairman by putting notices on noticeboard.</p> | |
| <p>10. Date of the next meeting 2 February 2016</p> | |

