

West End Community Council

5 April 2016 at Ashfield, 61 Melville Street, Edinburgh

Present: Jock Miller (Chair), Alan Weddell, Isabel Thom, Gordon Renton, Colin Johnston, Rory O’Riordan, Ian Robertson,

In attendance: Pascale Adriaens (resident), Alan Barclay (resident), Andy Duncan (resident), Christina Dickson (resident), Sheena McGuigan (resident), PC Saunders, Naomi Rayner (minutes)

Discussion	Action
<p>1. Apologies and welcome Apologies were received from Dierdre Brock MP, Marco Biagi MSP, Sarah Boyack MSP, Cameron Buchanan MSP, Cllr. Karen Doran, Cllr. Joanna Mowat, Cllr. Alasdair Rankin, Alexander Hamilton, Martha Baur, Gordon Wylie.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of meetings held on 1 March 2016 Typo at 8.2 “JW” should be “JM.”</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p><u>5 January 2016</u> 1/20 Douglas Crescent. Ref: 15/05499/LBC. AW stated that there was an issue in relation to the earlier application where WECC had objected as a CC. A report was put on the planning website that suggested that we had withdrawn our objections.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. Completed.</p> <p><u>1 March 2016</u> JM to put the poster on website and WECC notice board. Completed.</p>	
<p>4. Police Report</p> <p>PC Saunders gave the following report: Crime statistics until March are not available. The following stats relate to February: 20 house break-ins which is average; vehicle theft is slightly more prevalent especially via thieves stealing car keys from houses; alcohol related offences occur, but are not overly problematic in the West End; homelessness is a high profile matter, but there have been few reported crimes in the West End; cycling on footpaths remains an issue, and community officers are patrolling. Hope Street Lane saw football related disorder involving 71 people, of whom 50% have been identified. The localities project has now come into force, the city is now in four ward areas.</p> <p>A resident brought up the issue of a homeless man living next to the clinic who they find to be intimidating and who exhibits erratic behaviour when drunk. He has been threatening on one occasion. The residents</p>	<p>PC Saunders to arrange for a briefing for</p>



<p>have already contacted all the relevant social bodies.</p> <p>PC Saunders says that all police engagement with the man they have found him relatively pleasant. The police are limited as homelessness is not a crime. If it can be found that he is camping the Police can use roads legislation to move him on. If the man is sleeping on church ground, it is up for the church to make a complaint. A resident asked about the drinking on public land. PC Saunders explained that it is only an offence if it is linked to antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>A resident asked about the traffic on Chester Street, and the redirection of cars from Shandwick Street to Chester Street. RO explained that it was due to the trams, and worry about the emergency services not being able to get through if cars were allowed. IR explained that the WECC objected to the trams at the time, and the objections were not heeded.</p>	<p>the Community Officers about residents' concerns, and arrange for patrols to be made in the area.</p> <p>JM to write to councillors asking for more social support.</p>
<p>5. Neighbourhood Partnership Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>6. Councillors' Report No councillor present.</p>	
<p>7. Correspondence Nothing further.</p>	
<p>8.1 Financial Report £274.78 and no outstanding debts.</p>	
<p>8.2 Planning IT presented the planning report.</p> <p>Mixed use development (Old Town CC) Hotel, restaurant, retail, bar, etc. 1 India Buildings Ref:15/04437/LBC - int. and ext. alterations 20 Cowgate Ref: 15/04438/LBC - remove all extensions and car park 11-15 Victoria Street Ref: 15/04439/LBC..45/FUL - remove all int. walls and rear extension Amendments have been submitted. IT outlined the changes. An objection has already been submitted. Any further comments required by 7 April.</p> <p>Ref: LBA-230-2076 Former Royal High School (hotel application) WECC was notified by DPEA on 17 March - 14 days allowed to note our request for our objection to be disregarded. WECC objection stands.</p> <p>Ref: 16/01510/FUL 189 Morrison Street Isabel outlined the amendments to the consented scheme. WECC supported the removal of the columns from the pavement on H5. WECC</p>	<p>IT to submit comments.</p>



<p>would prefer to see more sandstone, including on the interior of the site. WECC objected to the removal of the lower basement parking spaces.</p> <p>GR brought up 24-28 Torphichen Street, and worries about the asbestos content. GR spoke with CEC who said it is not their responsibility, HSE have not responded.</p>	<p>GR to contact Cllr Alistair Rankin.</p>
<p>8.3 Environment and Transport</p> <p>A resident raised the lack of recycling bins in the area. IT told the explained that Drumsheugh Gardens did not want recycling facilities, and perhaps this puts pressure on the other existing facilities. JM advised that the residents should contact the city councillors to request better facilities.</p> <p>A resident brought up the gull bags being left out all week long. IR suggested that the matter should be brought up at the WECC next walkabout with the councillors.</p> <p>A resident from Glencairn Crescent reported that over the past 3 months, the bottle box has been frequently been left behind on collection day. The resident has contacted the council on several occasions, but no action or suitable response has been received. The resident suggested if there is a problem with the box, there should be a note which can be left. There are also a limitations on what can be recycled: polystyrene and glazing cannot be recycled.</p>	<p>JM will raise the issue with the city councillors.</p>
<p>8.4 Liquor/Gambling Licensing Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>8.5 Civic Licensing Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>9.0 AOCB A note of thanks to Rory O’Riordan for over a decade of stalwart service to the community council.</p>	
<p>10. Date of the next meeting 3 May 2016.</p>	