

West End Community Council Minute

6th of August 2019 at the Ashfield House, 61 Melville Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7HL

Present: Gordon Wyllie (in the Chair), Ian Robertson (Vice Chair), David Duncan (Secretary), Isabel Thom (Planning), Colin Johnston and Gordon Renton, Community Councillors, along with Siobhan Mannion (Police Scotland), Marie Graham, Douglas McGregor, Ian Woollen and Jacqueline Anderson

Discussion	Action
<p>1. Apologies and welcome</p> <p>Apologies were received from or on behalf of Deidre Brock MP, Ruth Davidson MSP, Cllr. Alasdair Rankin, Cllr. Claire Miller, Cllr. Karen Doran, Cllr. Gavin Barrie, Cllr. Hal Osler, Cllr. Iain Whyte, Cllr. Max Mitchell, and Community Councillors Alan Weddell (Finance) Marta Baur, Cameron Buchanan and the Very Rev'd John Conway.</p>	
<p>2. Minute of meeting held on the 2nd of July 2019</p> <p>The Minute from the last meeting was approved.</p>	
<p>3. Short- term lets</p> <p>The Secretary was unaware of any developments since the meeting on 2 July and had heard nothing further from the City Council.</p>	
<p>4. WECC website</p> <p>Although attractive in appearance the current website is difficult to update and to manage, and it was accordingly resolved that the Secretary should obtain a quotation from Campbell Mills for updating it. Some discussion took place regarding a Facebook entry, which it was resolved not to proceed with.</p>	
<p>5. St Mary's Cathedral Workshop</p> <p>In the absence of Provost John Conway there was nothing to report.</p>	
<p>6. Police Report</p> <p>Community Police Officer Siobhan Mannion of the West End Police Scotland station was sorry that no one had been able to attend the last several meetings and explained that various reorganisations had placed increasing strains upon resources, to effect that there were now 3 Community Police Officers for a district previously served by 7. The Edinburgh area had gone in to "Summer City" mode with the advent of the Edinburgh Festival, which involved drafting in additional personnel from out of town areas. Work being undertaken included checking licensed premises and places of resort for Fringe etc events. Incidence of shoplifting had decreased since the closure of the Cooperative store in the West End although some vandalism had been reported at the Prêt à Manger shop opposite. Monitoring had shown that reasonable respect by motorists was now being shown in the 20mph speed zones and that most drivers were travelling beneath the 24mph tolerance level.</p> <p>Ms Mannion was thanked for her report and left the meeting.</p>	

<p>7. Councillor's Report</p> <p>As no Councillors were present there was no report.</p>	
<p>8. Financial report</p> <p>The Treasurer had written to advise that current funds stand at £520.72</p>	
<p>9. Planning report</p> <p>Mrs Thom spoke to and was thanked for the very helpful report which she had circulated prior to the meeting. In response to a question from Mr McGregor, Mrs Thom explained the mechanisms by which the Community Council fulfilled its role as a statutory consultee in planning matters. She went on to advise that in terms of the City Council website, such matters are now part of "Place". It was noted that responses to the CCWEL cycle track need to be in by 16 August. Concern was expressed over the lack of detailed information over how various aspects were being addressed, especially parking issues, and also, more generally, the abuse of "trade" parking licences. Mr Woollen was awaiting a reply from the City Council to a number of queries in that regard including a breakdown of permits issued and what was being done to address the loss of over 100 spaces on Melville Street.</p>	
<p>10. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Scottish Water are holding their annual consultative meeting at 5:30pm on Tuesday 27th of August at the Macdonald Holyrood Hotel. (b) The City Council had renewed with a number of alterations the Scheme for Community Councils at their meeting on 27 June, to take effect from the next elections. 	
<p>11. Date of next meeting</p> <p>3rd of September</p> <p>Subsequent dates: 1st of October, 5th of November and the 3rd of December.</p>	

This was all the business