

West End Community Council Minute

7:30pm on the 3rd of December 2019 at Ashfield House, 51 Melville Street, EH3 7HL

Present: Dr Gordon M Wyllie (Chair), Ian Robertson (Vice-Chair), David Duncan (Secretary), Isabel Thom (Planning), Dr Leonora McAndrew, Marta Baur, Colin Johnston, Gordon Renton, Leigh Dingsdale (Police Scotland) and local resident Dick Forbes.

Discussion

Action

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from or on behalf of Cllr. Hal Osler and Community Councillor Alex Milne.

2. Minute of meeting held on the 5th of November 2019

The Minute from the last meeting of the Community Council was approved subject to a typographical correction.

3. Police report

Leigh Dingsdale noted an issue with homeless Romanian nationals in the West End. They have been directed towards the appropriate Council services to help them.

Pavement cycling remains an issue in several Community Council areas.

Colin Johnson and Gordon Renton mentioned that Deliveroo cyclists in particular were spotted cycling on the pavements recently in the West End area.

With regards to traffic issues, Isabel Thom mentions the private hire cabs travelling at speed in the local area.

4. Finance and Engagement Officer

Ian Robertson stated that he would consider the full scope and commitment required for the role of Engagement Officer for the WECC

The role of Treasurer remains unfilled.

The bank balance in the Community Council's favour as of October was £1141.44

5. Commercial Use of Princes Street Gardens

It was unanimously agreed to join with the Cockburn Association and the New Town and Broughton, Old Town and Tollcross Community Councils in a comprehensive statement of solidarity regarding supporting the "Quaich Project". Colin Johnson requested a letter be sent to the legal department of the City Council regarding the use of the Garden for commercial purposes.

It was noted in a newspaper article that annual planning applications will be required for the Princes Street Gardens Christmas Market from 2022.

Gordon Renton referred to the noisy and polluting diesel generator which produces power for the ride and the surrounding lights as being a public health hazard.

Ian Robertson suggested lodging a freedom of information (FOI) request with the City Council to establish the number of exclusion days (of the public) to the garden over the past 3 years.

6. South East Locality Report

A report on the topic was produced and circulated prior to the meeting. There was no questions from the Community Council about the report.

7. Report on Website

The website was reported as having been updated. A number of small updates were required, these will be sorted for the next WECC meeting in January 2020.

8. Councillor's report

As there were no City Councillors present at the meeting no report was delivered.

9. Planning report

Isabel Thom spoke to and was thanked for her planning report which she produced and circulated round the Community Council prior to the meeting.

10. AOCB

Dr Leonora McAndrew delivered a report about the elderly in our modern society and how to assist them in carrying out their daily lives.

11. Dates of next meetings

7th January, 4th February, 3rd March, 7th April, 5th May, 2nd June, 7th July, 4th August, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December

This was all the business