

NORTHFIELD AND WILLOWBRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 12 June 2014: 19:30 Northfield Community Centre

Present:

John	Fayrer	Chairman
Margaret	Alexander	
George	Callaghan	Treasurer
Christine	Kerr	
Stewart	Kerr	
Dave	King	
Gordon	Macdonald	
Nick	Marshall	Appointed at this meeting
Ian	Murray	Vice-Chairman
Geoff	Pearson	Secretary

In attendance: Sergeant Keith Murray, Police Scotland

One member of the public was present.

Apologies

1. Apologies for absence were received from:

Caroline Kaye; Rob Mackay; Shami Khan; Councillors Joan Griffiths, Alex Lunn, Stefan Tymkewycz; Sheila Gilmore MP, Cameron Buchanan MSP and Faye Gray, CEC.

Minutes of Meeting

2. The minutes of the meeting of 10 April were approved.

Matters arising

3. None.

Co-option of Member

4. Nick Marshall, a member of the committee of Duddingston Village Conservation Society, was proposed for membership in his own right by Stewart Kerr and seconded by Margaret Alexander. The Council unanimously approved his appointment under section 7(b) of the Constitution.

Police Report

5. Sergeant Murray presented an oral report on recent policing activity in the area; he offered to provide statistics to future meetings. He referred to Operation Wolf which was bringing in police resources from outside the area to reinforce effort in a couple of areas

where there had been difficulty; he emphasised that visible and regular policing in these areas was being increased. He explained that Scottish Government funds had been given to improve enforcement of 20 mph speed limits across the City; officers were being trained in the use of hand radars and the expectation was of low tolerance to speeding. He said that issues could be reported via:

EdinburghCraigentinnyDuddingstonCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

6. Council members drew attention to:

- Parked cars and obstructions in the lane beside Domino's Pizza and parking on double yellow lines in the area.
- Motorbikes doing wheelies on the grass at Meadowfield Drive.
- The need for enforcement of speed limits in Holyrood Park and possible extension of the 20 mph zone (http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/news_search_results.htm/news_article.htm?articleid=30653)

Treasurer's Report

7. The proposal to appoint John Fayrer, George Callaghan and Geoff Pearson as signatories on the bank account was approved and Paper 1 was adopted as part of these minutes.

Planning

8. Geoff Pearson reported that he and John Fayrer had attended the Council's training session on planning for community councils on 7 June. A key outcome was a request to sign the Council's Planning Concordat which would ensure that developers gave community councils early warning of planning applications to which community councils could then be statutory consultees. See Paper 2/2014.

9. George Callaghan and Geoff Pearson explained that the weekly lists of planning applications and decisions were being monitored. One large application is the renewal of permission for the St Margaret's House site for which there would be a public exhibition on 18 August. The Community Council had attended a meeting between Portobello CC and Aldi+Crudens about their plans for the old Scottish Power site in Portobello – a public exhibition would be held on 18 June, and N&W CC had been invited to a preview that day.

10. The Council agreed to sign the Planning Concordat.

Communications

11. Geoff Pearson reported that a website, mailing list and Facebook page were in place and would increasingly be the main way to connect with people in the area. The Manager of Morrisons, Scott Culliven, had agreed that the Council could run a "Meet the CC" in the store. This would mean 2 or 3 community councillors being in the store to discuss concerns and ideas with the public. Dates for Saturdays in July and September were being looked for.
12. The Council welcomed these developments.

Current Issues and Work Programme

13. The Council discussed ideas for improvements in the area which included:
 - Community art programmes – perhaps involving Edinburgh Palette
 - Schools arts and photography competitions
 - Signposting of quiet routes for cyclists
 - Promotion of energy efficiency in the home, perhaps with help from the Energy Savings Trust.
 - An event in the winter or spring 2015 to improve community cohesion, harnessing the community itself to do the work
14. It was agreed to:
 - Set up an informal cycling sub-group
 - Approach all the schools to seek their participation in various aspects of the community council's work, including the appointment of a student member.
 - Review possible funding opportunities.

Date of Next meeting

15. The next meeting would be on Thursday 25 September.
16. The Chairman closed the meeting at 19:55.

Geoff Pearson
Secretary