

# Northfield and Willowbrae Community Council

# **Meeting Minutes**

Date and time: 26/10/21 19.00 Location: Remote, Microsoft Teams

Community Council Members: Gordon McDonald (Chair), Dave Armstrong (minutes), John Nisbet, Charlie Wood. Due to administrative issues, councilors had not been notified of the meeting.

## 1. Approval of minutes of last meeting (AGM, 24th August 2021)

Due to the ill-health of Secretary Nick Marshall, these were unavailable.

## 2. Treasurer's Report

There have been no recent transactions, so the balance was unchanged. Progress has been made re last year's accounts and they should be ready for approval at the next meeting.

#### 3. Police Report

Unavailable as PC Anna Morrison was on COP 26 duties.

#### 4. Transport

#### 69 Bus

Dave attended two online meetings arranged by Ash Denham MSP (now Regan). Although full minutes of these meetings are awaited, the following is a summary of the discussions. Dave was able to outline how the withdrawal of the 69 bus has affected residents in our community, especially around Lady Nairne. Handicabs, a local community transport charity, was represented at the meeting, and could provide a regular service in the area. At the second meeting, Dave, as a representative of the CC, discussed the potential for a solution in more detail with Handicabs and Lothian Transport Services. Handicabs run a similar service to the 69 in Broxburn, West Lothian, running from Monday-Friday, 9am-6pm, but could also provide a service on Saturday. Financial support would be required from Edinburgh Council - the Broxburn service gets £60,000, partly from West Lothian Council. Edinburgh Council provides £1.5m annually to support services which are not commercially viable. This figure has not been reviewed for several years, so the 69 could be included in any review. The buses provided would be 16-seaters. N&WCC would be able to help with publicity if given the go-ahead. Handicabs can complete a plan but require more information from Edinburgh Council and Lothian Buses re passenger numbers and costs.

#### Cycling

The proposal to alter the Seafield Junction, due to recent cycling fatalities, was discussed. It was noted that the decision to divert HGVs away from Harry Lauder Road may not be the best long term solution. Fishwives Causeway may be the safest route for cyclists, at least in the short term.

#### 5. Meadowbank

Dave and Brenda Devlin (Craigentinny/Meadowbank CC) attended a recent meeting which discussed the Procurement Process for the housing developments on the land formerly part of the old sports centre. Designs are not yet finalised, but the first stages of the procurement process are proceeding, with initial tenders for the contracts to be submitted by 19th November. Then, presentations take place, leading to the contract award. CCs will be involved in the process. It was agreed that the Community Council would continue to monitor the designs with regard to pedestrian and cycling circulation routes e.g. Holyrood Park towards Lochend Park.

#### 6. AOCB

None

#### 7. DONM

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 7th December.