

**GRANGE PRESTONFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL.
PRESTONFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL, PEFFERMILL ROAD.
WEDNESDAY 17th JUNE, 2009.
Minutes**

PRESENT:

Kate Arnott, Chairman; Sue Tritton, Deputy/Secretary; Andreas Grothey, Treasurer; Graham Brown, Minute Secretary; David Stevenson, Barbara Robertson, Myra Reid, Erick Davidson, Mike Hunter, Tony Harris, Maureen Edwards, Ray Footman,

In attendance:

Councillor Cameron Rose.

Members of the public:

Two.

Apologies:

Mat Lopez, John Palmer, Alastair Pugh, Joseph Henderson, Kirsty Pacitti, Mansour Ahmadian, Douglas Fisher, Alan Stewart (Edinburgh Council), Constable Leadbetter (Lothian and Borders police)

Kate Arnott welcomed everyone present to the meeting this evening and thanked Prestonfield Primary School for hosting the meeting at such short notice. The meeting had been scheduled to take place at Cameron House Education Centre, but, due to heavy rain and flooding earlier in the week, the centre was closed on a temporary basis.

1. Minutes of Business Meeting 20th May, 2009

Kate Arnott intimated that the minutes had been circulated and agreed to be a true record of the meeting held on 20th May, 2009. This was proposed by David Stevenson and seconded by Tony Harris.

Minutes of AGM 20th May, 2009. The chairman stated that at this stage they were for noting only and would be considered as a true record at the AGM to be held in 2010. If there were any details not noted on these, she asked that details be sent to her.

2. Matters arising not covered by the agenda

There were no matters arising.

3. Reports (external) Police report

Due to commitments there were no police officers in attendance.

4. Reports of Office Bearers

Chairman - Kate Arnott spoke about her attendance at Fairer Scotland meeting. One of the identified possible projects was to remedy the lack of good support to carers within the Prestonfield area. Progress was being made in this area and she will report to the council on further developments as they arose

Treasurer - Andreas Grothey gave details of the account held by the council. At present there are funds of £704.11, with cheques due to be paid amounting to £55.76, which will leave a balance of £648.35. There is also the cost of the printing of the second newsletter which has been printed and will be distributed by council members: a total of 7,374 newsletters. He also stated that the social fund, which is solely paid for by the community council members (on a voluntary basis), requires donations.

Secretary - Sue Tritton reported that she had received correspondence from the local MP

requesting that the Minutes be emailed to him. She emphasised that the Minutes are available to everybody on the community council website.

She also said that the MP invited members to a meeting on Friday on the Trident campaign.

An email had been received from Friends of the Meadows regarding the overuse of this facility and an outline of steps being taken by the Edinburgh City Council to conserve this central park area. A long discussion followed regarding the use of the area by various groups during the Festival and the possibility of the Council moving certain events i.e. food stalls and the Moonwalk to other sites within the city. This is an ongoing issue of concern and a challenge to resolve satisfactorily. She also stated that the Boundary Commission was considering changing the name of the Holyrood Constituency. There was a boundary difference between the Westminster and Holyrood constituencies. Members were encouraged to nominate a new name. Any suggestions should be forwarded to the Chairman for consideration at the next meeting.

5. Reports of Interest groups

Planning - Tony Harris stated that he had circulated the Planning Report via emails and he handed copies to those present. The report included the Cameron Toll Shopping Centre planning application, along with comments the council had made after the presentation at the meeting held in May. He also spoke about the planning document for consultation on Edinburgh Parking Standards review, the Civic Forum and Edinburgh Open Space Strategy. This was connected with the aim of ensuring that a co-ordinated approach is taken in protecting and developing the city's network of open spaces. A member of the public spoke about the Cameron Toll Shopping Centre not being in the Community Council area. The Chairman replied that, whilst the centre was not in the community council area, it was close to the boundary, and comments had been made on that basis. The member of the public also asserted that the residents of Lady Road are against the proposed re-development partly based on concerns that there is a sewage disposal problem in the Prestonfield/Lady Road area.

Roads and Transport - Following the rejection by the City Council of alterations to the Controlled Parking Zone (S6), the chairman stated that she will be attending a meeting with the four councillors of the area within the next ten days to consider possible solutions. She will report to the council on any developments at the next meeting, in September, when consideration will be made of what is desirable and, most importantly, legally practicable.

Environment - Sue Tritton informed the meeting that the council had received a grant for ten graffiti kits and they had been distributed to several members of the council, to be used if and when required. She will also attend a meeting tomorrow regarding Houses of Multiple Occupancy. This involved Marchmont, Sciennes, Bruntsfield, Grange and Prestonfield. She spoke of a survey that had been carried out, the findings of which suggested that there are positive aspects of having students living in the respective areas and also negative aspects, such as problems regarding litter and noise. It was also found from the survey that the students complained as much as residents about common problems such as bins not being used properly, recycling, etc. There followed a long discussion and it was felt it would be useful to have a presentation on HMO's as there were a considerable number of students in the council area. Topics will include excessive noise and the availability of council resources if the council is made aware of problems in a particular area.

Consultations Open Space - Tony Harris presented the document and plans for consultation respecting open spaces. There is a list of different categories, such as parks, tennis courts and open spaces. John Palmer pointed out that the open space at the junction of West Savile Terrace and Mayfield Road was not on the list. Tony informed us that there was a certain size designated as open space and that on one of the open spaces listed, Cameron House Education Centre had been built on open space. He also mentioned golf courses and accessibility. Kings Buildings was highlighted as there are edge strips around the main roads and these are not shown. There is no differentiation between open private and open public space. Details of the open spaces are available on plans and Tony invited members, at the end of the meeting, to view them at their

leisure.

Publicity and Newsletter - Sue Tritton pointed out that the community council elections are coming up in October and nomination papers will be sent out as soon as possible. There followed a discussion during which it was agreed that, for the community council to continue, it would require a minimum of eight members. If members were not standing again it was suggested that if they could look around for a possible replacement to stand. She referred to the newsletter and asked members to assist in delivering copies to houses and shops in the areas.

Dates of next meetings:

Wednesday, 16th September, 2009; Wednesday, 21st October, 2009; Wednesday 18th November, 2009. It is hoped that these will be held in Cameron House Community Education Centre, 34, Prestonfield Avenue, Edinburgh.

AOCB and Open Forum

Andreas Grothey spoke about the school places provision in respect of Sciennes Primary. Whilst the school was not in the council area a large number children lived there. The question of the appeal process, implications for the rest of the city, the physical limits of the school. Sue Tritton also spoke about the number 24 bus and problems brought to her attention. It was felt that the community councils could make representations to Lothian Region Transport and this could be implemented when details are collated. Tony Harris also said this Saturday it was the AGM of Edinburgh Community Councils at City Chambers, Edinburgh.

The chairman closed the meeting and wished everybody a good summer and is looking forward to seeing you all in September