

**Grange Prestonfield Community Council**  
**Cameron House Community Education Centre**  
**17<sup>th</sup> February 2010**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** John Palmer(**JP**) (Chair), Tony Harris(**TH**)(Vice-Chair), Sue Tritton(**ST**)(Secretary), David Stevenson(**DS**), Gillian Dennis (**GD**), Graham Muir(**GM**), Ray Footman(**RF**), Alistair Pugh(**AP**), Leyla Usmani(**LU**)

**In Attendance:** Cllr Cameron Rose, Alan Stewart (CEC)

**Apologies:** Lucia Barrett, Alasdair Smith, Andreas Grothey)(Treasurer), John Fulford, Mike Hunter, Maureen Edwards, PC Mark Dickson

**Public (7):** including Catherine Murray(Prestonfield Residents Ass), Dale Finlayson, J.D.Peacock,

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

John Palmer welcomed all present.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

These were approved – proposed by Gilly Dennis and seconded by David Stevenson.

**3. Matters arising (not on the agenda)**

**a) Possible Memorial.** GM had suggested that residents in the CC area who had been killed in action should be commemorated – he has the names. One soldier was Mark Wright, a former resident in Lady Road whose parents now live in Dalkeith. His parents had raised considerable funds to support returning soldiers and contributed to a new wing of the Erskine Home and a support centre in Dalkeith. The CC commended them for their efforts.

A question to the City Council on 28<sup>th</sup> January had asked about a City memorial to those killed and various locations had been suggested, including a Garden of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens West. This should be funded by public subscription with two years being allocated to raise the funds.

It was agreed that the CC would support the City position and publicise it in our next newsletter.

**b) Lady Road.** GM had raised the matter of accidents and various traffic problems in Lady Road which were exacerbated by the hotel development. A Traffic Impact Assessment had been requested in relation to the Cameron Toll Planning Application. TH agreed saying this was an important point and would be followed up when the application becomes live.

The Chair reported that a letter had been sent to GM saying that there were no fatal accidents in Lady Road and that this matter should be dropped unless evidence to the contrary is produced.

c) **Nigel Griffiths MP.** It was agreed that a letter thanking him for his work for the area should be sent to Mr Griffiths after the General Election.

d) **West Savile Terrace/Mayfield Road junction.** JP reported that revised drawings had been received about 10 days ago; these did not appear to agree with a previous letter sent from the Council which implied that the CC's comments had been agreed. The CC was concerned about this and felt that a delay was preferable to getting the design wrong. JP would talk to Cllr Mackenzie and then possibly request a delay.

e) **Snow problems.** JP had written to the Council about problems caused by not gritting hills and been told that Blackford Hill was not a priority area for gritting. Cllr Perry had agreed to take up this issue and Cllr Rose said that priorities were being checked. It is also possible to request additional grit bins for the public to use to help clear nearby pavements etc.

#### 4. **Parking Proposals for S6 - update**

The paper written by the CC presented at the January meeting had been amended and sent to the Council. A letter from Cllr Mackenzie had been circulated to all west of Mayfield Road indicating that some of the CCs objections had been accepted – in particular, changing the proposed single yellow lines to residents parking bays. The CC was concerned that there was no mention of protecting the local shops and that the area east of Mayfield Road had not been contacted. New proposals (for informal consultation) were being produced by Council officials and, if acceptable, these would then go to formal consultation.

Letters from the Council had been sent to residents in zones 1- 8 and S1 describing proposed changes to parking bays in those areas (mainly making more bays “shared use” and allowing residents to buy visitor permits). Mike Hunter had reported that the West Blasket Association was happy with the proposals. As no objections had been sent to the CC no action was required.

#### 5. **External Reports**

€ **Police Report** no report had been received. ST described, in outline, the proposed new “Safer Neighbourhood Team” for the ward which would come into operation on March 1<sup>st</sup>. ST explained the Police wanted, within this new structure, to consult communities on their priorities for policing. Members expressed some confusion as to how this might be achieved; how would the CC judge what to prioritise; over what time scale would an action plan be in force; would the agreed priorities conflict with immediate policing requirements. The CC wanted further information from the Police before deciding whether to support this initiative (Southside CC had written expressing opposition).

€ **CEC Report.** Alan Stewart said that requests for new bus shelters could be submitted for Capital Roads Funding but would have to compete with other proposals (there are requests for 88 bus shelters in the city). Requests could be made to the Roads Team for extra grit bins. A Statutory Notice had been served on 216-218 Dalkeith Road and work should start soon.

#### 6. **Reports of Interest Groups**

**a) Planning:** TH had circulated a report. Updates since then:

Royal Blind School: we had asked for further notification.

5 Alfred Place: Revised drawings had appeared on the portal today – there would be further neighbour notification. RF reported concerns over density, materials and parking.

Parking Standards Guideline – now 2 spaces per dwelling.

Relocation of the Sick Kids – public consultation had been postponed to late February or later. JP noted the 150 years celebration of the Sick Kids.

**b) Roads and Transport:**

Capital Roads Funding – proposals should be in by 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Car Club Bays in West Savile Terrace – proposals for spaces seemed acceptable.

**c) Environment:** Report had been circulated.

Earth Hour (Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup>) – CEC is taking part and encourages all groups to support this.

**d) Licensing:** Nothing in our area.

## **7. Reports of Office Bearers**

**a) Chair's Report:**

JP said he had been interviewed about disability and whether there is a monitoring policy for CCs. It was noted that the Vice Chair of Southside CC and the Treasurer of Merchiston CC are both in wheelchairs. Eileen Hewitt had asked if the CC would be prepared to help pilot a disability monitoring scheme for CCs. There was assent from the meeting for this.

**b) Treasurer's Report:**

AG had reported that there is £1100.57 in the Bank but cheques had been written for £150 but not yet cashed (therefore funds available are £950.57).

**c) Secretary's Report**

ST circulated information about a CC Training event (no takers), a seminar on Planning Aid, information on "Garden Share" and "Care and Repair".

## **8. Reports from Other Groups**

None

**9. GPCC Communications and Publicity**

There was a fairly wide ranging discussion on how the CC could better advertise itself. Suggestions included:

Better Public Notices – LU agreed to contact her school (Boroughmuir) Art Department to produce a more eye-catching poster and letterhead for CC correspondence. We should also ask the Library and public noticeboards to display our posters more prominently

Gilly said she was on Preston Street Parent / School Council and they did not know for instance about the Roads Capital fund proposal for an improved crossing on Bernard Terrace, which they had campaigned about. It was agreed all School Councils in the area should be contacted to advise them about the CC.

The CC needs a Press/Communications Officer. RF thought the web-site was not as easy to read and use as it might be and we could perhaps ask AG to look at this again.

All members should distribute the agenda etc. to local shops, notice boards etc. We should also use the established distribution networks of the Tenants and Residents Associations in the area to inform people about the role of and issues discussed by the CC.

**10. Date of Next Meeting – March 17th**

The meeting closed at 20.55