

Grange/Prestonfield Community Council Planning & Development Report – January 2012

Royal Observatory – 21 Observatory Road – planning application 11/04134/FUL

The Institute for Astronomy has submitted an application to install photo-voltaic panels on the roof of a building at the Royal Observatory which is “A” listed. A site visit will be made before the closing date of 3 February to check if there are concerns about this, but in the meantime any comments welcome.

Care Home on the north side of East Suffolk Road – consent 11/02170/FUL

Following approval of an amended scheme largely acceptable to local residents and CPA, work started on site just before Christmas, initially of agreed demolition work on part of the former school buildings. Work is scheduled for completion by the end of 2012.

Royal Edinburgh & Astley Ainslie Hospital Sites

Agreed Minutes of the meeting held with NHS Representatives on 17th November 2011 have been circulated to those involved. A response has been received from NHS Lothian Facilities Management to concerns about access through the Astley Ainslie site raised by John Palmer and this will be referred to in more detail at our meeting on 18 January. A further meeting of CC representatives only to look at future health issues about these two sites is to be held on 23rd January.

Draft Natural Heritage Strategy for Edinburgh

A draft of this Strategy was approved for consultation at the CEC Planning Committee on 8 December and any comments should be submitted by the end of January. It mainly draws together existing mechanisms and guidance for the protection and enhancement of Edinburgh’s natural heritage and will complement the CEC Built Heritage Strategy comprising planning guidance etc. A copy has been downloaded and is available for consultation if required or alternatively the download reference can be provided.

Edinburgh Local Development Plan – Main Issues Report

Following a presentation on this at the Civic Forum on 29th November and exhibition events at various localities, the consultation closes on 27th January. A short meeting is suggested before then involving the GPCC planning group and any other GPCC member interested to look at the documentation and make any comments from GPCC. A date and time will be agreed at our meeting on the 18th and in the meantime some spare copies of the Main Issues Report are available.

Planning & Building Control – Management Reporting Re-alignment

Further information was provided to the City Council meeting on 22nd December on the proposal that Planning & Building Control be re-aligned to Services for Communities from City Development and this change was then approved. Transport Planning & Management will also now come fully under SfC and not partly under City Development.

Tony Harris