

Grange Prestonfield Community Council
Cameron House Community Education Centre
Minutes 17th September 2014

Present: Tony Harris (**TH**) (Chair), Mike Hunter (**MH**) (Vice-Chair), Sue Tritton (**ST**) (Secretary), Andreas Grothey (**AG**) (Treasurer), Eileen Francis (**EF**), Barbara McNaught (**BM**), Graham Dann (**GSD**), Gilly Dennis (**GD**), **Doreen** Allerton (**DA**), Denis Stevens (**DeS**), David Stevenson (**DS**), Sergey Gorobets (**SG**), Maureen Edwards (**ME**), Hazel Dunn (**HD**), Janet Sidaway (**JS**), Cllr Cameron Rose (**CR**)

In Attendance: PC Misheck Muchemwa, PC Alan Jenkins

Apologies: Julian Newman (**JN**), Alan Stewart (**ASt**) (**CEC**)

Absent: Bill Reid (**BR**), Simon di Biase (**SdB**), Graham Muir (**GM**), Maria Ullibbarri (**MU**), Derek Howie (**DH**)

Public: Clive and Yrsa Greated

1. Welcome - Introduction and Apologies

TH welcomed everyone after the summer break. The meeting was being held in the Art Room as the Media Room was needed to be set up for the Referendum the following day.

2. Declarations of Interest. None

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 18th June 2014

These had been previously circulated and were approved; proposed by DeS, seconded by GD.

4. Matters Arising (not on the agenda)

Low bridges at Cameron Toll: ST had written to CEC about vehicles hitting the bridges and had received a reply – this would be circulated again. The meeting asked that the matter be raised again as the problem still occurs. **ST**

5. External Reports

a) Council Report: No report as ASt away.

b) Police Report: PC AJ reported:

- **Bike thefts:** Current problem is the theft of high value bikes – thieves work in a gang, check garages etc. for bikes which are taken away in a van and sold elsewhere (e.g. Gumtree). Advice is to have secure garages and sheds with items out of sight. Thieves often return a few weeks later and steal the replacement bike. Owners should note the frame number (most retrieved bikes cannot be identified), and get their postcode stamped on the frame. Also buy shed alarms (£10) and strong locks (£12) from St Leonard's.
- **Police Presence:** There are more Police in Uniform and a larger Police presence on the streets.

c) **Councillor's Report:** Cllr CR said he had very little to report – mainly due to the Referendum being held the following day

- **Planning Application for East Suffolk Road:** This should be considered in the context of the Local Development Plan – TH will have more to say about this matter
- **Council Budget:** This will be set the second Tuesday in February. Documents, on which comments can be made, will be available soon.
- **Speeding in Priestfield Road:** In reply to a question from GSD he said that he is working on this with Cllr Jim Orr – he will pursue this.
- **Residents Priority Parking:** This is ongoing – implementation expected in November. EF said there are problems in Gilmour Road which are being dealt with by CEC officials.
- **Planning Application in Observatory Road:** Clive Greated (public) asked what is happening about the planning application at the top of the street which had received 19 objections. Cllr CR said that it will have to go to the sub-committee and asked for emails to be sent to him.

6. Reports of Interest Groups

a) **Planning:** A report had been circulated. TH reported in addition:

Student Accommodation in Causewayside: The original application had been withdrawn and a new one submitted. If the period for consultation finishes before the next meeting TH will circulate a draft response. TH is liaising with West Blacket Association – he considers that the principle of student accommodation is OK but the density may be too high.

St Margaret's Playing Field: Application is for 10 semi-detached villas and an open space area with the pavilion – very different to the proposal shown at the exhibition in February. TH suggested that the GPCC objection should simply be that this is contrary to the designation of the whole site as open space. He confirmed that individuals can also submit objections – EF has a leaflet with more information.

Street Design Guidance: GPCC had submitted comments (by MH and GSD)

Local Development Plan 2: There are no changes to LDP1 in our area – however, all comments need to be repeated if they are to be considered. The subject headings which GPCC will comment on include (a) support for Open Space policies (b) support for safe pedestrian routes (c) lack of playgrounds (d) confusion over the 4 strategic areas which aren't defined (e) deplore loss of green belt.

Green Belt: TH welcomed the work done by SG on Green Belt issues. He suggested a meeting to discuss this matter and whether comments relate to LDP2 or wider issues. Meeting to be arranged for the following week (TH, SG, AG).

Craighouse: Application was approved.

b) **Roads and Transport:** Minutes of last meeting had been circulated. Points to note:

- **Bins rolling down hill:** TH congratulated SG for pursuing this matter.
- **Street Design Guidance:** SG reported on the Workshop – discussions included (a) what should be included in the document (b) high level objectives for each street (e.g. pedestrians, materials, junction design, cycle routes) (c) integration with other transport. 300 comments had been submitted – including from GPCC.

- **East Mayfield:** BM said there had been 2 recent accidents; she had a letter from Ian Murray who will support the one-way petition; she will start door-knocking with the petition soon.
- **Roads Capital programme:** Send suggestions to GSD (closing date 31st December)
- **20 mph Consultation:** There is a meeting on 23rd September when there will be an opportunity to talk with other local reps and perhaps agree to support proposals. Draft response had been circulated. TH thanked GSD for coordinating this.
- **Residents Priority Parking:** There is an opportunity to limit new poles (by persuading residents to agree that signs can be attached to their wall or railing. TH said this had been very successful in B1.

c) **Licensing.** Nothing in our area.

d) Publicity (including website and newsletter)

- **Newsletter:** MH was thanked and congratulated for his work on the design etc. BM's husband also thanked for the printing. Delivery had been completed by GPCC members and a delivery company. Thanks to everyone who wrote articles and/or helped with delivery.
 - **Newsletter feedback:** JS said 5 people had contacted her following the publication.
- e) **Newington Cemetery:** JS reported that the group is growing. She distributed a flyer for Doors Open Day (28th September) when 10 members will be present to show visitors around.

7. Office Bearers Reports

- a) **Chair's Report:** Nothing additional to add to the circulated report which included a report of a recent meeting about the Astley Ainslie Hospital site. It is probable that the site will be disposed of by 2020.
- b) **Treasurer's Report:** AG reported that the annual grant of £770.14 had been received. After paying the newsletter costs (£820) there is £1253.30 available to spend.
- c) **Secretary's Report:** Report had been circulated. Meeting confirmed that members would like a presentation on the new Waste Management collection arrangements in October.

8. Reports of Outside Groups

- **SCNP Action Groups:** Details in the Secretary's report – confirmed that anyone can attend the meetings – first meetings due shortly.
- **EACC matters** – No meeting

9. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 15th October 2014

ME commented that the room had much better acoustics and asked if future meetings could be held here. ST to ask if this could be available.

10. AOCB and Open Forum

The meeting closed at 9.00pm