

Grange Prestonfield Community Council
Cameron House Community Education Centre
Minutes 17th June 2015

Present: Tony Harris (**TH**)(Chair), Sue Tritton(**ST**)(Secretary), Andreas Grothey (**AG**) (Treasurer), Derek Howie (**DH**), Julian Newman (**JN**), David Stevenson (**DS**), Sergey Gorobets(**SG**), Maureen Edwards (**ME**), Hazel Fletcher(**HF**), Janet Sidaway (**JS**), Graham Dann (**GSD**), Bill Reid (**BR**), Graham Muir(**GM**), Cllr Jim Orr (**JO**)

In Attendance: PC Neil Mackay (and female PC)

Apologies: Mike Hunter(**MH**) (Vice-Chair), Eileen Francis (**EF**), Denis Stevens(**DeS**), Barbara McNaught (**BM**), Doreen Allerton (**DA**), Gilly Dennis(**GD**),

Public: Clive Greated

1. Welcome - Introduction and Apologies

TH welcomed everyone.

2. Declarations of Interest. None

3. Minutes of the Meeting 20th May 2015

SG commented that full details (at item 6) discussed had not been noted in the minutes – it was agreed to raise this under “Matters Arising”.

The minutes had been previously circulated and were then approved; proposed by ME, seconded by HF.

4. Matters Arising (not on the agenda)

- **Dalkeith Road Shop:** Cllr Jim Orr had been in contact with DeS – he will contact him again when the “Community Empowerment” bill is in force.
- **Criteria for selecting roads for resurfacing:** Cllr Ian Perry had circulated details of the criteria (this had been circulated to all members). SG commented that he wanted details for the assessment of particular roads – Blackford Road, Whitehouse Loan and East Mayfield were suggested. It was not thought that this information was generally available – ST agreed to ask Cllr IP for this (*Cllr JO arrived later and agreed to do this*).
- **Street Trees:** DH has been in contact with Cllr IP about trees causing obstruction and has received replies which he will forward for circulation to everyone.
- **Faulty Bins:** SG had asked David Mark (Community Waste Officer) why faulty bins (e.g. without lids) are not reported by the crews – apparently only bins which cannot accept rubbish are reported by the crew.

5. External Reports

a) Police Report: The PC reported:

- **Break-ins etc.** The increase in break-ins to garages etc. continues. Two juveniles have been caught committing crimes – they are often found in gardens and then have an excuse such as they are looking for a ball. Operation RAC is continuing.
- **Legal Highs:** Checks for “legal highs” are continuing – including in Newington Cemetery.
- **Parking in Cameron March:** ME had been contacted by a resident complaining about commuter parking in Cameron March. It was confirmed, as there are no parking restrictions in this street, that the police can only take action if there is obvious obstruction.

Cllr JO arrived

b) Councillor’s Report: Cllr JO said that he had nothing particular to report but was happy to answer questions. He also said that he understood that the Police would be moving to “ward” operations and therefore there might be more consistency in the attendance of officers.

- GSD thanked the Council for the new street light in the lane connecting Prestonfield Road and Priestfield Avenue.
- Cllr JO said that complaints about new white street lighting had been received from the Prestonfield Residents Association.
- Cllr JO also agreed to ask for the assessment of repairing the roads noted above.
- ME asked if there is any rule about the number of rented flats in a stair. There is no such rule.
- GM thanked Cllr JO for getting black bags removed from Drummond Street.

6. Reports of Interest Groups

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

- **KB Campus – School of Biological Sciences.** Meeting about the proposed development has still to be arranged. Clive Greated asked to be notified about this meeting.
- **LDP2:** So many objections had been lodged that it is expected that a small team will be formed to look at the issues and to assist the Reporter in conducting the Examination.
- **SESPlan:** This is the first stage of the next LDP – it looks at the strategy for growth in the whole of SE Scotland. Formal consultation is proposed as 21/7 to 15/9. Cllr Ian Perry has asked for the consultation period to be extended to the end of September as many CCs do not meet over the summer.

b) Roads and Transport:

- **TRO for 20mph:** Agreed that GSD will re-iterate the comments made on behalf of GPCC to the informal consultation. Cllr JO said that it is expected that there will be a review of streets designated 30/20 mph and vice versa in about 2 years.
- **Speeding in 20mph streets:** Local speed checks have been carried out – on 5 May 13 motorists were cautioned on Causewayside and on 3 June 5 motorists cautioned on Priestfield Road. At present motorists travelling between 20 and 30 mph are being cautioned only unless they are considered to be driving dangerously.
- **Crossing in Prestonfield Avenue:** GSD is in contact with DeS about the petition for a pedestrian crossing.

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

d) **Publicity.** Nothing new

e) **Newington Cemetery:** JS reported:

- The grant for £478 for the signboards had been awarded by the SCNP. The plan is for the boards to be erected in time for Doors Open Day (Sept 27th) – possibility of an unveiling before then.
- Website is now up and running. New interesting graves have been identified for inclusion in Doors Open Day.
- Cllr JO said that there are various plans for restoring the roundel – cost could be 5-figure – fundraising team is needed.

7. **Office Bearers Reports**

a) **Chair's Report:** TH – everything has come up elsewhere.

b) **Treasurer's Report:** No change from May - £1096.87 in the account. The next grant is expected to be received over the summer.

c) **Secretary's Report:** had been circulated.

8. **Reports of Outside Groups**

a) **SCNP and Action Groups:** ST had attended the SCNP meeting on 1 June and submitted two motions (on “Securing street wheelie bins” and “problems at Newington Library”). A report on bins will come to the September meeting and the noise problems at the Library noted. A meeting to decide on “Participatory Budgeting” for the SCNP area may be arranged over the summer.

b) **EACC matters:** TH reported that the AGM had resumed on 21st May and new office bearers elected. The secretary had since stood down. There will be a meeting of nominated representatives on 25 June. No open Q&A sessions had yet been arranged.

9. **Date of next meeting – Wednesday 16th September 2015**

10. **AOCB and Open Forum**

TH wished everyone a good summer and said he looked forward to seeing everyone again in September.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm