

Grange Prestonfield Community Council
Cameron House Community Education Centre
Minutes 16th September 2015

Present: Tony Harris (**TH**)(Chair), Mike Hunter(**MH**) (Vice-Chair), Sue Tritton(**ST**)(Secretary), Andreas Grothey (**AG**) (Treasurer), Julian Newman (**JN**), David Stevenson (**DS**), Sergey Gorobets(**SG**), Maureen Edwards (**ME**), Janet Sidaway (**JS**), Graham Dann (**GSD**), Graham Muir(**GM**), Eileen Francis (**EF**), Denis Stevens(**DeS**), Barbara McNaught (**BM**), Gilly Dennis(**GD**), Cllr Steve Burgess (**SB**)

In Attendance: PC Neil Mackay, PC Paul Gunderson

Apologies: Doreen Allerton (**DA**), Bill Reid (**BR**), Hazel Fletcher(**HF**), Derek Howie, Cllr Perry

Public: Daniel Johnson

1. Welcome - Introduction and Apologies

TH welcomed everyone to the first meeting after the summer break.

2. Declarations of Interest. None

3. Minutes of the Meeting 17th June 2015

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

4. Matters Arising (not on the agenda)

- **SCNP – Faulty Bins:** TH said the promised report was not ready and would be produced for the next meeting in December. Noted that David Mark had left his position in Waste Management.
- **Bin men:** AG said rubbish was left on the streets after collection and the men wouldn't clean up. Agreed to contact Cllr Perry about this. **ST**

5. External Reports

a) Police Report: PCs Stewart and Gunderson reported:

- **Summer activities.** Resources over the summer had concentrated on the Centre and University areas due to the tourist season, Festivals etc.
- **Incidents:** 93 for 2 months in the Grange area (this is a low number) – 3 house break ins were all solved. Prestonfield had 2 break ins.
- **Speeding:** Mainly in Prestonfield Ave – officers have been out with speed guns – no powers (yet) to formally charge motorists driving 20-30mph.
- **Ward Officers:** Both are now (for the past 2 months) local officers and will be more often seen on foot. This seems to be working well and will be reassessed to see if they will be retained. Main problems are drugs in Newington and legal highs (not really in our area).

Questions and comments:

- **Speeding:** Several members raised concerns about the non-enforcement of the 20mph limit. Police said they can only “warn” motorists driving 20-30mph; this seems to contradict CEC advice that exceeding 20mph would attract a fine. PC Stewart said he would check the Police information and get back to us.
- **Graffiti:** TH had an email complaining about graffiti with the tag “CIGS”. Police replied that any graffiti can be considered vandalism; the owner of property can be instructed to remove it.
- **Drugs in stairs:** GM said CEC is not maintaining stairs such as Castle Rock and allowing drugs to be used there. Cllr SB asked for further details.

b) Councillor’s Report: Cllr SB said he was deputising for Cllr Perry but could only stay for about 30 minutes.

- **Speeding:** He said that he had understood that enforcement could be used for >20mph and would ask for clarification.
- **SCNP (September meeting):** There will be an event in early 2016 on Participatory Budgeting – various stalls to put ideas to the public – had been very successful in Leith.
- **Astley Ainslie site:** The Local Access Forum to discuss rights of way through the site will be on October 21st. Can GPCC support two routes (South Oswald Road to Canaan Lane and Whitehouse Loan to Canaan Land and Egypt Mews). ST agreed to write - GM objected to this suggestion – TH asked for a vote: to support writing – 14; against 1. **ST**
- **Southside CC:** There had been 11 nominations to join this CC – no election required. Cllr Orr will host a meeting soon.

6. Reports of Interest Groups

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

- **28 Moston Terrace:** Agreed not to object but leave to Planners.
- **9 Ross Road:** Agreed not to object to uPVC windows.
- **KB Campus – School of Biological Sciences.** ST had attended a meeting with the developers – in principle the plans seemed to be OK. ST raised the issue of a bridge over the railway (West Savile to Relugas Road for pedestrians and cyclists) and this was noted.
- **SESPlan:** TH had been to two meetings which were very poorly attended. JS had also attended one meeting. TH explained that this is the Regional Plan and that it won’t really affect the GPCC area which is already mostly built up. After discussion it was agreed that GPCC should comment but that the response should only focus on limited issues (e.g. housing needs, associated infrastructure, protecting green space). TH asked for comments to be sent to him by Sept 23rd.

b) **Roads and Transport:**

- **East Mayfield:** GSD said this will now be resurfaced in October (road, not pavement) and that the whole street will be done.
- **£50k award:** GPCC agreed to support the proposal for West Savile Terrace - meeting to decide on which project(s) will be supported will be held on 22nd October – GPCC can have 3 reps (GSD can attend). Final decision on who will attend to be made on Oct 21st.
- **Capital Roads Programme:** Reminded that proposals for 2106/17 are needed by Dec 31st.

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

d) **Publicity.** Nothing new

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

- **Boards:** The new Board has been installed and will be unveiled by Ian Murray, MP on September 21st at 11am (all welcome). This should provide good publicity.
- **Doors Open Day:** New graves have been identified.
- **Future actions:** Will be decided after Doors Open Day

7. Office Bearers Reports

a) **Chair's Report:**

- **SCNP:** Had attended meeting on Sept 3rd – reported elsewhere.
- **EACC:** Meeting on Sept 24th – TH is working with others on the constitution.

b) **Treasurer's Report:** AG reported that over the summer we have received our annual maintenance grant of £770.14. We have also received a grant for the signage at Newington Cemetery of £478, and issued a cheque over £369 for the first sign (the balance of £109 is for another sign).

Current balance: £2345.01 - outstanding cheques: £369. Available to spend: £1976.01

c) **Secretary's Report:**

- **Parks Survey:** Details had been circulated.
- **Local CCs meeting:** An email had been received inviting GPCC to join other "local" CCs in an attempt to make CCs more effective. Agreed to send a rep to the first meeting (date not yet known) and then decide if GPCC should participate. ST

8. Reports of Outside Groups

a) **SCNP:** Reported above

b) **SCNP Action Groups:**

- **Older People's:** DS had attended the meeting on 17 August – main item was the announcement of an "Older Person's" meeting on 3rd October at the Southside Community Centre.
- **Community Safety:** MH reported the following (already circulated) - Police Scotland have reorganised the arrangements for Community Policing. There will be 2 named beat officers for each ward (currently Ross Stewart & Neil Mackay for Ward 15) but emails should be sent to generic address EdinburghSouthsideNewingtonCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk There will be a series of drop in events (organised by Kathy Evans, South Edinburgh Community Safety Team) where you can meet local community officers. In our area, Newington Library, Thu 15 Oct 1400-1600 & Mon 16 Nov 1600-1800.

9. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 21st October 2015

10. AOCB and Open Forum

Meeting reminded about CEC "Training events" – details had been circulated. .

The meeting closed at 8.50pm