

Grange Prestonfield Community Council

Minutes of 17th April 2019 meeting

at Cameron House Community Education Centre

Present: Janet Sidaway (JS) Chair, Mike Hunter (MH) Vice-Chair & Secretary, Ian Chisholm (IC), Maureen Edwards (ME), Alan Gilmour (ALG), Tony Harris (TH), Ellen-Raissa Jackson (ERJ), Julian Newman (JN), Henry Philip (HP), Joe Griffin (JG), Sue Tritton (ST), Bill Reid (BR), Cllr Cameron Rose (CR).

Apologies: Andreas Grothey, Isabel Clark, David Stevenson, Ian Murray MP.

Absent: Denis Stevens.

In attendance: Stuart Tooley (Community Relations Manager), Jim Aitken (Director of Sport and Exercise), Aislinn Wood (Project Manager), University of Edinburgh .

1. Welcome and Apologies: JS welcomed all to the meeting and invited the contingent from Edinburgh University to commence their presentation.

Edinburgh University are commencing a consultation period, revealing their plans to create a state-of-the-art Sports Village.

Accommodation is planned near Cameron Toll to house between 400 and 600 students.

Indoor sports hall to be built to include fitness rooms, gym and tennis courts.

Wish to engage with the local community throughout the planning process.

Required due to capacity issues at other sporting facilities in the area.

Further consultation sessions are planned on 24th April at Cameron House Community Centre and on 25th April at the Peffermill Playing fields.

Any further questions can be emailed to Stuart.Tooley@ed.ac.uk

2. Declarations of Interest: None

3. Minutes of 20th March 2019 Meeting: Approved

4. Matters Arising not covered by agenda: None

5. Reports (External)

5a Police report: No police representative present.

5b Councillors Report : CR suggested the police absence may be due increased activity in the Moredun area and also with climate change protests in the city centre.

A pilot scheme to combat graffiti is to be trialled in June using surveillance.

Refuse collection appears to have improved and this was agreed by those present.

A meeting is planned on the 4th May to discuss Neighbourhood Networks and how they will operate.

Funding for the pavement at East Mayfield has been approved but has been delayed as it may be included as part of a larger job.

IC mentioned there had been a number of near misses at the entrance to Mayfield Terrace from Minto Street and suggested making it No Entry may solve the issue: CR took note.

6. Reports of Subgroups

a) Planning:

Report circulated prior to the meeting.

A public meeting with Cala regarding the development of the Blind School took place and a revised proposal now being put to the council.

RBS Head Quarters at St Andrews Square to become a music and entertainment venue .

ST enquired if there had been any developments with the Royal High School. IC to make enquiries.

HP alluded to the fact that Cala may be paying the council to be allowed to build the affordable housing at an alternative site rather than at the Blind School .

b) Licensing:

Nothing to report .

c) Roads/Transport:

Report circulated prior to the meeting.

The main issue being the Waverley Station Master Plan. It was thought that the plans may not be ambitious enough. The possibility of the Station being the focal point of transport in the city was discussed although it was recognised there may be limitations due to the listed status of the station. It was suggested that the response to the survey should be circulated as deemed appropriate. BR raised the issue that there is a lack of access for old and disabled people .

d) Communications/Publicity:

Details of this meeting had been posted on our FB page, and £2 paid to advertise it in the GPCC area over the weekend. This reached over 500 people and, although none of them had attended the meeting, the publicity is worthwhile.

A newsletter is being planned to coincide with the elections in Sept/Oct. Agreed that all articles should be submitted and a draft version of the newsletter produced for the May meeting.

e) Environment:

ST attended a public meeting regarding the triangle in Rankin Terrace . Many options were discussed without any agreed outcome. The issue is compounded by parking issues in the area.

Living Streets have begun a campaign to try and reduce street clutter.

Astley Ainslie held a Vision Day get a view from the public of how the site should be utilised. Nothing was agreed and further discussions are planned with the NHS and the Council.

7. Reports of External Bodies:

a) EACC. Committee meeting due to take place on 18th April. Items to be discussed include the Edinburgh Partnership, Neighbourhood Networks and the future of Community Councils.

b) SCNP. This has now ceased to function. ST had attended the final meeting celebrating its achievements.

8. Reports from Office Bearers

a) Treasurer's Report. Current bank balance £5,143.53 of which £2,317.15 belongs to Newington Cemetery which includes a grant of £1,995.00. With outgoings of £380.27 this leaves a GPCC bank balance of £2,446.11. A budget will need to be agreed for the newsletter at the meeting in May.

b) Secretary's Report. MH announced that after 12 years as a member of GPCC he would not seek re-election and would be willing to stand down as Secretary at the May AGM.

9. ACOB

HP questioned whether the non appearance of the police at the meeting reflected cut backs on community policing. JS agreed to email to ascertain why they failed to attend.

CR explained there is a rota of Councillors to ensure attendance at local meetings.

The timetable for Community Council elections are still unknown. TH to enquire at the EACC meeting and speak to Ross Murray.

Concerning the Lothian Regional Transport discussion at the March meeting, CR said that the new 100-seater buses are now in operation in our area. This could be as a result of complaints about the buses in Morningside and our concerns over buses being too busy in our area.

JS thanked everyone for their contribution and announced that she also would not stand for re-election to the GPCC so will be resigning as Chair and would assist in handing over duties to the new Chair.

10. Date of Next Meeting : 15th May 2019

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Minutes AIG