**Grange/ Prestonfield Community Council**

**Minutes of 26 October 2022**

Meeting held at Cameron House Community Centre, 34 Prestonfield Avenue, Edinburgh, EH16 5EU,  and via Zoom

**Office Bearers -**

Chair - Ian Chisholm; Joint Vice Chairs - Paul Rowllings, Ellen-Raissa Jackson; Secretary- Raphael Bleakley; Treasurer - Paul Rowllings; Minute Secretary - Isabel Clark.

**Members present:**

Sue Tritton, Alan Gilmour, Ken Robertson, Tony Harris, Scott Paterson, Stanley Bird, Peter Jones, Bill Reid, Sally Griffiths, Cllr Pauline Flannery.

**In attendance and members of the public**

Jean Gardner, Denise Fisher

**Absent:**

Andreas Grothey,

1. **Welcome. –**Ian welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ian noted the resignation of Julian Newman
2. **Declarations of Interest** - None.

3.  **Minutes for 15 September  2022**-  Previously circulated Minutes were agreed.

Action Points -

i).  City Fibre cable works- Raphael advised that he had emailed City Fibre and gas contractors regarding broadband and gas works in Dalkeith Road. No follow up received.

ii) Damaged wall at Newington Cemetery. Cllr Burgess had advised that it would be repaired by the end of the year. Cllr Flannery after discussions with Jane Mathieson (Bereavement Services) and Andy Hume, suitable stone had been identified to use.   Trying to get contractor to do it and hopefully done by late Spring 2023 following a re-tendering process.

iii) GPCC Meetings -  use of TV in meeting room to view on-line attendees now set up.

iv).Summary of CEC Committees - Cllr Flannery advised re-structuring ongoing which included Legal services and Political parties.

v) Police Scotland -  Discussion that Neighbourhood Watch Scotland (NWS) updates from Police being put upon GPCC Facebook Noticeboard as well as local association websites to help residents.

vi). Bins - Dalkeith Road - Longstanding issue that bins on Dalkeith Road are incorrectly positioned.  Cllr Burgess had advised via email that the bins have been moved up the street with a longer-term solution sought for the issue. Cllr Flannery asked residents to take photos of incidents and send to her as she was monitoring the Bins issue. Alan advised that there was a Communal Bin review being carried out.

vii)  Bus changes - Cllr Burgess had responded to the matter of bus routes being changed without consultation. Discussion that impact on services due to staff shortage and Lothian Buses highlighting lack of demand on some routes. Cllr Flannery agreed that local residents depended on the  previous No 42 bus route.  General view was that residents should be informed by LRT of bus route changes in their area.

Peter enquired what the criteria was for removing bus stops creating longer gaps/walking distances.  Discussion about the Lothian Buses presentation a while ago when advised that it depends on the needs.

viii) Planning Issues -

9 Relugas Road - Update by (TH) later at 6(a). Planning

ix). Newington Cemetery -  (ERJ) proposed erecting a sign on the planters sponsored by GPCC.     Discussion  that CEC may assist with erecting the sign.   (ERJ) to raise with CEC

x)   EACC Meeting - (KR) advised the meeting had happened.

**4. Notice of Matters Arising -  Included in the agenda**

**5. Reports (External) -**

1. Councillor Pauline Flannery advised -

Scottish Water - Recent training session with CEC.   CEC has a large stake in Scottish Water and trying to work together.   Scott Frazer is co-ordinator for CEC and Adam Warner for Scottish Water.   If problem is underground it is Scottish Water, however trying to work together for connected response

Short Term Lets (STL) - STL were under consultation at present by CEC.   Licensing Policy being  set.  She encouraged local residents to make their views known to CEC about STL’s and HMO’s while consultation ongoing.

Confirmed that GPCC will be consulted on this issues as there will be change to non-statutory guidance.   Also requires change of use planning application and consent by CEC.   Legal requirement for all businesses.

Micro Asphalt - Preston Street - Local residents know about this, however, Cllr Flannery encouraged residents to keep reporting any issues to CEC.

Low Emission Zone - Raphael enquired if there is a review of the LEZ in particular the current boundary. Cllr Flannery advised not specifically but constantly comes up.  She is pushing for a review as she had visited Preston Street and seen the issues first hand.

Community Payback Scheme - Sue enquired if restoring this very valuable scheme.

Cllr Flannery advised she was aware of the scheme and asked for views on whether the scheme worked or not. Sue confirmed it had worked at the Grange Cemetery.Cllr Flannery and Sue to email regarding importance of this scheme.

(b) Police Report -   Quarterly Police Newsletter received.    Discussion this was very useful - format and content helpful.   Police have spent a lot of time in community engagement.

6).  Reports of Interest Groups -

1. **Planning**

Tony had spoke to his planning report circulated to GPCC members .

* 9 Relugas Road Tony and the Grange Association speaking to EACC on 27 October about the planning issues raised by 9 Relugas Road.
* Cameron Toll Development - 108 objections. Still awaiting assessment.

* 15 Dalkeith Road – former Scottish Widows Site - Detailed planning application now with CEC. Objection drafted by Tony considered at the meeting. Discussion focused that GPCC objections should be stronger on the height of the proposed flats; the loss of trees, and impact on the local area due to reduction of car parking space for the offices. Agreed that the positive views of the proposal are equally reflected in the response.

Tony intimated his intention to stand down from January 2023. He will submit his November 2022 Planning Report. Further, he will submit the January 2023 Report but will not attend the meeting. Tony will continue with issues (eg Cameron Toll, Caravans issue etc) and work with whoever takes on the Planning Role.

**b) Licensing**-   None.

**c). Roads/Transport**

Alan raised the following points -

Picardy Place roundabout - being landscaped with a statue - cost £2.7 million.

* Trams - 96% complete and hoping to be fully operational Spring 2023.
* Bins -  Location of Bin Hubs (5 Bins) has been a problem.   Residents do not want glass bins near them due to the noise of glass bins.
* Bridge - Leith - Lindsay Road Bridge - closed - but recently painted with rainbow colours. Cost to re-open is £500,000.
* 20mph zone to be extended - CEC to hold meeting with police to discuss extending 20 mph zone.
* Under 22 Concessionary free travel - CEC concern about increased cost with extension of tram route for this free travel which is in region of £2million.
* First Buses - now taken over by McGills. Concern over three services which were to be scrapped prior to takeover.

**d). Communications/Publicity.**

Scott advised had update GPCC site and there were some GPCC Posters if anyone required them to display within the local area.

Paul advised that a few months ago there had been discussions to apply for a CEC Grant to put up a GPCC Noticeboard  (Dalkeith Road)  Discussion of possible other places such as Newington Library or GP Surgeries to display posters. Paul to make enquiries into applying for this Grant.

(**e) Environment**

Sue advised:

* Leaf Clearing - Grange area ongoing.   Waverley area also started.   Discussion that CEC were very quick in removing the collected leaves in these areas.
* Astley Ainslie Hospital - likely no development for 6 years.
* Grange Cemetery Open Day had been very successful.
* Community Payback Scheme - very valuable scheme to help restore Grange Cemetery headstones. Sue to discuss with Cllr Flannery.
* Electric car power points - more applications to remove garden walls for drive ins and installing electric power points.   Require more charging points on the street.   Discussion that compromise requires to be made to accommodate this.

**f) Newington Cemetery**

Ellen-Raissa said that they had 82 visitors at the Open Day.  The tree trail had been a great success.  A child had been involved in an accident with a headstone and CEC were informed.  Visitors had been advised on the new guidance about dogs being kept on leads in cemeteries.

**7. Reports from Office Bearers**

1. Treasurers Report

There is no change to GPCC and Newington Cemetery expenditures. The bank stands at £6,032 and comprises:

•**GPCC Account Balance - £2,438**

**• Newington Cemetery Balance - £3,594**

1. Secretary’s report

Raphael reported that Ken had raised whether GPCC should register with Information Commissioners Office as the Community Council may be a data processor. This had been previously discussed when GDPR was originally introduced and the view at the time that it wasn’t necessary to to do this.

**8. Reports of Outside Groups**

1. EACC (Edinburgh Association of Community Councils - Ken advised that Tony and Grange Association were speaking at the EACC meeting tomorrow night.

Ken had sent a Note for the EACC meeting where Andrew Field had spoken about

Community Empowerment and Engagement.  Further developments in this area included neighbourhood network which works well in some areas.   GPCC position is alongside other community groups.

Vaccine programme - works well in some parts but there is a need for GP boundaries to be reviewed.  Community Councils to reinforce this message.

EACC - AGM in a month’s time.  Ken advised that he is currently Acting Secretary and is putting himself forward for this position at the AGM. Ian as GPCC Chair and Raphael as GPCC Secretary and GPCC members expressed their support for Ken in this role.

9**AOB - Open Forum -**

Raphael advised he had received emails relating to various concerns -

1. Lack of bus shelter on Craigmillar Park between Wilton Road and Suffolk Road.
2. Speeding
3. State of grounds opposite the parade of shops on Mayfield Road near West Saville Terrace

Continued to next meeting due to lack of time.

Sue to arrange for a card and flowers for Maureen Edwards. Also agreed that GPCC should thank Julian Newman for all his service over a long time.

Ian asked GPCC members to consider the future Planning post vacancy as Tony Harris was standing down in January 2023.

Cllr Flannery advised that the Southeast Local Partnership had just met which included community empowerment, health and social care, infrastructure, education (Primary, High, University).There were three Councillors involved in this but no Community Council involvement. Cllr Flannery to keep GPCC and EACC informed.

10.  **Date of Next Meeting   -  Wednesday 16 November 2022 at 7pm**.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| **3  Actions****ii)****5(a) and 6(f)****ix)** | Newington Cemetery -Wall damage tenders out for repair againCllr Flannery advised vendors out and may take until Spring 2023 for work to be doneDalkeith Planters - Erect a sign sponsored by GPCC | Tenders out again. Continued to next meeting for update Ellen-Raissa to email CEC about sign being erected on Planters in Dalkeith Road. |
| **3 Actions****iv) Summary of CEC Committees****vi) Bins - Dalkeith Road** | CEC Review ongoing.Bins - Dalkeith Road Last 4 years have blocked pedestrian access.Bin relocation review ongoing. | Review of CEC Committees update from Cllr.GPCC keeping watch on progress  |
| **5) a Councillor Report****5(b) Police Report** | Bins - Dalkeith RoadCllr Flannery advised some Bins had been relocated.   Cllr Flannery encouraged residents to take photos of Bins and issues then forward to her. Sue advised it had been a valuable scheme at the Grange Cemetery.GPCC to put Police Quarterly Report and NWS police updates on website  | GPCC keeping watch on progress Cllr Flannery and Sue to email and discuss the importance of this scheme Paul to action |
| **6(a)****6(d)****6(e)** | 9 Relugas Road issuesCommunications and Publicity -Options for a GPCC noticeboard.Community Payback Scheme - Sue to discuss importance of this scheme with Cllr FlanneryNewington Cemetery -damaged wall - tender out again.Planter on Dalkeith RoadErect sign - sponsored by GPCC  | GPCC keeping watch on progress of this planning issue.Paul to enquire about CEC grant for GPCC NoticeboardSue to email Cllr Flannery and discuss value of this scheme GPCC watching briefEllen-Raissa to send email to CEC about erect sign  |
| **9 AOB - Open Forum** | 1. Lack of bus shelter on Craigmillar Park between Wilton Road and Suffolk Road
2. Speeding
3. State of grounds opposite the parade of shops on Mayfield Road near West Saville Terrace.

Card / flowers to be sent to Maureen Edwards GPCC Planning vacancy. | Raphael to add to next GPCC Agenda Sue to arrangeGPCC members to consider planning role.  |