

FIRRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 29 May 2007
at 7.30 pm in Colinton Mains Parish Church

Present:

G Lightheart (Chair), P Wright (Secretary), L Linn, J Napier, A Hunter, G Hunter, L Maguire, T Gordon, Councillor J Rust, Councillor E Barry, D Fountain & D Hoy

1 APOLOGIES: H Levy (Treasurer), B Brand, Inspector S Wilson (Oxgangs Police Station)

2 MINUTES of AGM held on 30 May 2006 had been distributed and were approved as a true record - Proposer: J Napier; Seconder: L Linn

3 MATTERS ARISING: It was agreed that matters arising had been covered at monthly meetings.

4 PRESENTATION: Our Chair introduced D Fountain and D Hoy, Senior Community Learning & Development Workers, who gave an interesting presentation on the proposed new Neighbourhood Boards (replacing LDCs) which should give communities efficient and quick access to Council services, tailored to their individual needs. A useful Q & A session followed.

5 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Mr Lightheart said that it has been an on-going challenge to recruit more members to make our Community Council stronger, then gave a resume of the many matters and issues which the Community Council has been involved in during the past year: construction work over whole area - * flood prevention/new bridge over Braid Burn; * new houses to replace high-rise flats at Oxgangs (many residents in first phase); * new Pentland PS; * upgrading of Colinton Mains Park (should be good if well maintained), but no date yet for new changing rooms & showers (on-going for years). Firrhill HS seems to be operating well under PPP system - but running of sports hall was taken over from Pentland Centre. Sandra Purnell's death has been a sad loss to many in the area: she has still not been replaced at Pentland (temp part-time staff only) and Firrhill Community Council must continue to support PCC re staffing upgrade. We also supported local shopkeepers against Tesco's proposal for expansion to be included in Edinburgh City Local Plan. City-wide issues: PPP system resulting in loss of school playing fields + proposal to sell off Meadowbank for Sighthill with very little consultation (much more difficult to access by public transport for this area) + CCs have no legal representation in disputes (issue still on table).

Mr Lightheart then thanked all members of Firrhill Community Council for their hard work and support for himself when he had to take over as Chair from C Morrison during the year.

6 TREASURER'S REPORT: Heather Levy could not be present, so there was no report.

7 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS: Councillor Jason Rust took the Chair, and members were elected as follows:

Chair: G Lightheart Proposer - J Napier Seconder - L Linn

Vice Chair: (Position left vacant meantime)

Secretary: *P Wright Proposer - G Lightheart Seconder - J Napier

Treasurer: H Levy Proposer - G Lightheart Seconder - L Linn

* Peggy agreed to stay on, as Jim Napier volunteered to act as Minute Secretary.

[It was suggested that A Hunter and G Hunter be admitted as co-opted members. The Constitution will be looked at to see whether this is feasible.]

8 NOMINATIONS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIPS BOARD: G Lightheart, having returned to the chair, asked that a member be nominated to represent our Community Council on the Pentland Hills & Colinton /Fairmilehead Board, this resulted in:

Nominee: P Wright Proposer: J Napier Seconder: G Lightheart

Substitute: G Lightheart Proposer: J Napier Seconder: P Wright

9 CORRESPONDENCE: The only item requiring to be dealt with at this meeting was a letter from Inspector Wilson re Oxfords Police Child Safety Day on Wednesday 20 June. In the absence of our Treasurer and knowledge of our current bank balance, it was agreed that we would again give a donation of £200. [PW will explain to them that this will arrive late as we have still to sort out paperwork for new cheque signatories.]

10 AOB: None

11 DONM: Tuesday 26 June 2007 in Colinton Mains Community Centre