

# FIRRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETING: 22 FEBRUARY 2010

Minutes of meeting held at the Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre.

Members: H Levy (Chair), P Wright; A Hunter; G Hunter; L Linn; P Podd; M O'Brien; J Napier.

In Attendance: E Aitken (Cllr); E Barry (Cllr);

### 1. Apologies

Received from M Milne; J Rust (Cllr).

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting: held 25 January 2010

Minutes circulated prior to meeting. The following errors were noted for correction.

Correction to date from 23 to 25.

Correction to street name from Oxgangs Road South to Oxgangs Road North.

Correction to spelling of member's name.

With those corrections the minutes were moved for approval by G Hunter, seconded by L Linn.

There were no amendments.

### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting: held 10 Feb 2010 at the ONC.

Minutes circulated at the meeting. The following errors were noted for correction.

Item 6 – the name of the pathway is incorrectly spelt and should be 'Cockmylane'

Item 7 – the Latin word for the motto is incorrectly spelt and should be 'ASPERA'

Item 7 – under Colinton Mains Park – Footbridge – the action taken by the Secretary had not been proposed at this meeting and should be deleted.

With those corrections and amendments the minutes were moved for approval by G Hunter, seconded by L Linn.

### 4. Matters Arising

No matters arising

### 5. Community Police Report

No police report

### 6. Ward Councillors' Reports

Councillor Aitken gave a report on a meeting of the new Oxgangs Lochan Residents' Association which was also attended by Councillor Barry, PC Crawford and council officers.

Gave an update on the Hunters Tryst site.

Referring to the item on Cockmylane in the previous minute, she had received complaints about flooding on this path which supports the Community Council's action to seek Neighbourhood Partnership funding to upgrade this walkway

Pentlands Primary School - reported she had received more complaints about the parking at this location.

Colinton Mains Park - Councillor Barry gave an account of a report on the park which was raised at a City Council meeting. He objected to the fact no reference had been made in the report about the discrepancy between the plans for the park's regeneration to those for Dunedin Canmore's

housing development. The result of which may lead to the loss of one of the 3 renewed football pitches as it encroaches on to land acquired by the housing association for phase three of their Central Oxfords Regeneration Programme.

Colinton Mains Community Centre - reported on the recommendations for the redesign of the Community Learning and Development Services in order to achieve the £345,000 of savings required in 2010/11, which includes proposals to close six Community Centres one of which is this Centre. This led to a general discussion on the CLD budget reductions agreed at the City of Edinburgh Council on 11 Feb 2010. Argued that as the average cost of running the centres was approx £20,000 per annum each this was a minimal financial saving to the Council but a severed loss to the community. Cllr Aitken indicated she has asked for all the cost figures for all of the community centres.

Noted that whilst all the other centres have identified locations where their organised activities will be relocated, this was not clearly stated for Colinton Mains Community Centre activities.

Support action organised by Cllr Jason Rust had started that morning and the Secretary reported the management team for CM Community Centre were holding a meeting on Wednesday night (24<sup>th</sup>).

It was indicated the Education and Families Committee may have the final say regarding the closures and not the Executive Committee. Stakeholder meeting in the WHEC on the 9<sup>th</sup> March.

Oxfords Avenue Pedestrian Crossing - received the final report but it is looking less likely as time goes on. It has moved from No.10 on the list to No.134 and as they are currently only doing 4 per year, it is going to take a while.

Query on plans for a new car park to be situated at the east end of Oxfords Avenue next to the Children's Home to replace the loss of car parking spaces across the road from it.

Traffic Regulation Orders for tram work - the Edinburgh Tram Network will operate through the city centre and surrounding areas, which are already subject to control under TROs. These existing orders regulate or control matters such as parking, loading and unloading, banned turns etc. The new tram lines are located on the existing roads in this area. This means that some of the existing traffic measures, such as parking bays, have to be adjusted or removed and new measures introduced, to accommodate the operation of the ETN. These Orders are therefore necessary to allow the ETN to operate in accordance with the objectives of its approved business case. Full information can be found at: -

[http://www.edinburghtrams.com/index.php/story\\_so\\_far/phase/design\\_and\\_development/](http://www.edinburghtrams.com/index.php/story_so_far/phase/design_and_development/)

For clarification there will be a tram depot is on the A.8 but the tram line is going all the way to the airport and will terminate at the end of the walkway that runs down between the other public transport stances.

## **7. Feedback from Office Bearers' Meeting 10 Feb 2010:**

The minutes of this meeting were circulated to members at the start of tonight's meeting and form part of this report. The following is a record of actions taken since that meeting.

Tesco – the action agreed at the business meeting was for the Chair and Vice Chair to seek a meeting with the Store's management about the problems identified and seek a resolution. This has been arranged for Friday.

South Edinburgh Public Partnership Forum – relaunch 6 April - the South Edinburgh Public Partnership Forum (SEPPF) is to be re-established and it should reflect the many communities that live and work across the area. The SEPPF will be a network of existing local groups, voluntary organisations, community groups, community planning structures, support groups, self-help groups, communities of interest, condition specific groups, thematic groups, and interested individuals – in other words – a wide and varied membership. Individual members must live in

South Edinburgh – anyone who lives in the North of the city is invited to join the North Edinburgh PPF. For groups and organisations, their geographical location is not important as long as they deliver services or represent people or communities in South Edinburgh. The date and time of the first meeting of the SEPPF Coordinating Group are Tuesday 6 April 2010 at 12.00 noon to 2.30pm in the ECHP Headquarters, St Roque, Astley Ainslie Hospital, 133 Grange Loan, Edinburgh EH9 2HL. For further information about the South Edinburgh PPF or the planned Co-ordinating Group contact Lesley Baxter on 0131 537 9290 or email [lesley.baxter@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:lesley.baxter@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk).

Cockmylane Path – the action agreed at the business meeting was for the Secretary's proposal to be put forward through the Neighbourhood Partnership for funding.

### **Colinton Mains Park**

Footbridge – Chair was to write to Brian Torrance, City Development Department and this has been done. A copy of the email is attached as Appendix 1. The Secretary similarly wrote to Scott Neill, Partnership Development Officer, South West Neighbourhood, and a copy of her email is also attached as Appendix 2. See also item 1 under Correspondence.

Portacabin – Chair has contacted Linda Felli at Scottish Water by email and requested that the drainage from the old toilets be investigated to facilitate the use of this temporary changing facility whilst the new Sports Pavilion in Colinton Mains Park is being built.

Landscaping – Chair to contact Stuart Mackay, Carillion re the landscaping to ensure it fits in with the new timetable caused by Scottish Water's work in the park

## **8. Local Planning Applications**

See Appendix 3 for list of planning applications, proposal of application notices and decisions.

## **9. Correspondence:**

See Appendix 4 for a list of correspondence from 26 January to 15 February, circulated with the notice of meeting. The items listed below were received after those dates. If anyone would like to view any item listed under this section, please contact the Secretary.

1. Resulting from local concerns about Council not committing to upgrade work on bridge over burn in park, especially installation of wheelchair ramp on north side, as Firrhill CC rep on Pentlands NP Environment & Transport Group Secretary e-mailed Scott Neill (SW Neighbourhood Office) re possibility of funding from SWAB 'pot', or any other fund available to community. Reply from SN: unfortunately, bridge is City Development responsibility, not Services for Communities + not an HRA asset.
2. Scottish Community Development Centre: VOiCE (Visioning Outcomes in Community Engagement) – tools for engaging with the community. [Scottish Govt funded to meet National Standards for Community Engagement.]
3. Edinburgh Allotment Strategy Consultation: now extended to 23 April.
4. Frank Gunning, ASCC National Secy, re City of Edinburgh Area Election Ballot Paper + Nomination Statements from Norman Bonney, Terry Tweed, Norman Tinlin.
5. George Williamson: Children & Families Community Learning & Development Redesign Report [one reason for Colinton Mains Community Centre being proposed for closure].

## **10.A.O.C.B.**

### **Pavement Repair**

The Vice Chair reported that the damaged pavement at Oxfangs Road North opp No.139 (at lamp post number ODH22) was resurfaced on Thursday 28 January 2010, thanks to the improved weather conditions. Clarence ref no 78381.

**Maps of the Area**

Chair reported that she had been successful in obtaining a large scale map of the Community Council's area. Hoped

**11. Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Firrhill Community Council will be held in the Colinton Mains Community Centre on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010 at 7pm.

**From:** heather levy  
**Sent:** 10 February 2010  
**To:** Brian Torrance  
Re- Flood Prevention in Colinton Mains Park

Dear Brian,

We met last July 2009 in Colinton Mains community centre at a meeting/surgery held by Stuart McKay of Carillion re the Flood prevention work reach 1-5 which was taking place.

There was some in depth discussion re the bridge crossing Firrhill Drive and Colinton Mains Park the current condition of the bridge and the likely requirement to replace this in the near future. It has been identified that the bridge is in poor condition and there are safety concerns within the community.

Firstly the bridge access on the park side, work that will require heavy machinery at some point and work that the community feel should be done now, rather than waiting until all the works and contractors (both SW and Council) are gone. The current situation is that people see a disabled access on one side and an unsuitable access is found at the other. Feedback from the community is that all the other areas of the work seem to have ramps built at both sides and this seems to have been overlooked. Other bridges along the burn have been replaced in both public areas and those in private gardens.

This bridge is a vital link for the community to access services and local amenities.

The Firrhill Community council in partnership with other funders have secured funding for two new play areas, path lighting, Sports Pavilion, landscaping and Park furniture within Colinton Mains Park Considering 50% of the Flood prevention construction works has taken place in our area the cost of a replacement bridge is negligible.

I acknowledge that the Flood Prevention work is of benefit to many but we have an opportunity to enhance and upgrade the Park for the whole Pentland area and God willing there will be no more need for work to happen for another fifty years.

I look forward to your response,

**From:** margaret wright [mailto:peggy.wright@live.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 19 February 2010 12:13  
**To:** Scott Neill  
**Subject:** BRIDGE OVER BRAID BURN IN COLINTON MAINS PARK

Hullo, Scott

I have been contacted by Councillor Barry about concerns of local residents of Firrhill and Oxgangs re the condition of the above.

The north side of this bridge has been completely rebuilt by Carillion to current standards, with an entrance wall, handrail and beautifully-surfaced wheelchair ramp, as the flood prevention works impacted on that side and so this was part of their remit. But the bridge itself is dilapidated, with no wheelchair access/egress on the south side, which is a ridiculous situation.

Eric has been in correspondence with Marshall Poulton and Bill Stewart, as this structure comes under Maintenance (Bridges) and, although a site meeting is planned (8 March at 10 am), and Bill has said that the bridge is on a 'priority list', it has also been made clear that nothing will be happening in the near future.

I am now asking you if this work could be funded by the SWAB 'pot'\* that you mentioned at our last Pentlands NP Env'ment & Transport Group meeting. I feel that the project is an ideal candidate for this: actually in SWAB territory + it meets all the criteria for funding, especially the Health & Safety aspect.

Local residents have tolerated years of disruption - revamping of Colinton Mains Park + flood prevention scheme + Scottish Water are now laying new storm-surge drains along the burn - and having to go 'the long way round' to access shops, buses, etc, because they couldn't get across the burn, and I feel that they deserve the Council's consideration by having this work done at the earliest possible date.

(\* or any fund available)

Regards

Peggy Wright (on behalf of Firrhill Community Council)

## **1. Planning Report for February 2010 Meeting**

### **25 Jan 2010**

- Section 1      Application 10/00064/FUL to erect single storey rear extension at 38 Oxfangs Farm Drive
- Section 2      No proposals of applications for Ward 08 - Firrhill
- Ward 01 – Almond – 10/00043/PAN – Development of 1 hotel building incorporating a 150 bed hotel and a 200 bed hotel together with associated ancillary uses, car parking and landscaping. The final development form will be determined through design evolution at Site at Almond Avenue Edinburgh (Green Belt). Additional consultation required.
- Ward 01 – Almond – 10/00112/PAN. Construction of an Anaerobic Digestion Plant comprising enclosed reception area, processing and storage facilities together with controlled access point and associated parking at Land 104 metres southeast of 21 Claylands Road, Newbridge.
- Ward 13 – Leith – 10/00045/PAN – Residential development, Constitution Street / Ocean Drive, consisting of around 50 – 60 flats providing a mixture of accommodation and tenure at Land 96 metres south of 2 Ocean Drive, Edin.
- Section 3      No decisions

### **01 Feb 2010**

- Section 1      No applications
- Section 2      No proposals of applications.
- Section 3      No decisions

### **08 Feb 2010**

- Section 1      No applications
- Section 2      No proposals of applications for Ward 08
- Ward 01 – Almond – 10/00112/PAN. see above
- Ward 02 – Pentland Hills – 10/00232/PAN. Erection of residential accommodation providing replacement accommodation for 225 students, proposal will include associated car parking, ancillary works and landscaping at Land 80 metres southwest of Lord Home Hall, Lord Home Road, Edin.
- Ward 15 – Southside/Newington – 10/00253/PAN. Extend the Edinburgh festival theatre on land to the rear, on Potterrow/South College Street, to provide rehearsal and performance space, commercial space and student residences at land 40 metres southwest of 15 South College Street, Edinburgh.
- Section 3      Application to erect a white PVC conservatory to the rear of property at 74 Colinton Mains Road has been granted (09/02611/FUL)

**15 Feb 2010**

Section 1 No applications.

Section 2 No proposals of applications for Ward 08.

Ward 12 – Leith Walk – 10/00339/PAN. - Residential development with commercial space at McDonald Road ground floor frontage, associated parking, landscaping and accesses at Site 35 metres southwest of 132 McDonald Road, Edinburgh.

Ward 17 – Portobello/Craigmillar – 10/00274/PAN. – Application to vary condition (ii) of planning permission 2264/85 to erect to non-food retail warehouses and garden centre, variation required to allow for the sale of food from this existing retail unit at 25 Milton Link, Edinburgh

Section 3 No decisions.

CORRESPONDENCE: 26 January – 15 February

If anyone would like to view any item below, please contact the Secretary.

By e-mail

- 1 Cllrs J Rust and E Barry: re Council's suggestion of Spruce Gait for new street in Firrhill - put on our website for any comments from residents (none received).
- 2 [f. by Eileen Hewitt] first Community Empowerment e-Newsletter to inspire, encourage and support community empowerment across Scotland: [www.scotland.gov.uk/empowerment](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/empowerment)
- 3 Scott Neill: papers & agenda for Pentlands NP Environment & Transport Group meeting, 1 Feb.
- 4 Cllr Barry: further TTRO for Oxfangs Avenue, 4 & 5 Feb. [put on FCC website calendar].
- 5 [f. by EH] Edinburgh Civic Forum meeting, 16 March, 4.30 pm, in City Chambers.
- 6 Eileen Hewitt: Edinburgh Scheme & Guidance Note on Dealing with Disputes; refers to disputes at meetings between Community Council members (the definitive guide) [f to JN, HL]
- 7 [f. by EH] Capital City Partnership's Social Inclusion e-newsletter, Feb '10.
- 8 Edinburgh Equalities Network 'Working Together Workshop': City Chambers, 11 March, 12-3pm; 4-7pm; to explore attitudes, behaviours and experience re discrimination [f. to HL; see me if you want to be booked into this event].
- 9 E Hewitt: updated (Nov '09) Community Councils Planning Guidance Note; more info at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/communitycouncils](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/communitycouncils)
- 10 Angela Hall, Volunteer Coordinator, re The Risk Factory [photocopied for members].
- 11 [f. from HL] sent to Linda Felli, Scottish Water, re use of services from old bothy while new pavilion is being built – but problem of blockage in drain to be sorted out.
- 12 Eileen Hewitt re Planning Training Event (run by Planning Aid for Scotland); Sat 27 March, 9.30am-3.30pm, City Chambers. To book: [polly@planningaidscotland.org.uk](mailto:polly@planningaidscotland.org.uk) or 0131-220 9730 [f. to JN & HL; information papers + programme photocopied for members]
- 13 'Changeworks': Fuel Poverty & Energy Assistance Seminar, 23 Feb. [f. to HL]
- 14 'Childline': local volunteers wanted. [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) Tel 0844 892 0280
- 15 SfC - Pentlands NP Fairer Scotland Fund Briefing: 22 Feb, 2pm, Oxfangs Library [f. to HL]
- 16 [f. from HL] to Brian Torrance, re state of footbridge over burn in Colinton Mains Park.
- 17 Community Councils Induction Training: 16 March, 6.30-9pm, City Chambers [photocopied]
- 18 Gary Turner (obo Cllr Jenny Dawe): City Council Budget for 2010-11.
- 19 [f by HL] SfC re Funders Event Drop-in: 6 May, 1-4 pm, at Faith Mission, 548 Gilmerton Rd.

By post

- 1 Senior Community Safety Officer: Draft Antisocial Behaviour Strategy, prepared jointly by City Council and L & B Police, for consultation. Sets out vision for tackling antisocial behaviour until 2012. View online [www.saferedinburgh.org.uk](http://www.saferedinburgh.org.uk) e-mail feedback/comments to [antisocialbehaviour@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:antisocialbehaviour@edinburgh.gov.uk) [document will be passed round members without internet]
- 2 'Inside Letting': Edinburgh's Link with Landlords
- 3 Cockburn Assoc/Edinburgh Civic Trust Meeting: 16 March, 4 pm, City Chambers
- 4 Scottish Natural Heritage "The Nature of Scotland" (Winter '09)