

**COUNCIL MEETING: 28 JUNE 2010**

Minutes of meeting held at Colinton Mains Community Centre

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

In Attendance: J Rust (Cllr); E Barry (Cllr) E Aitken (Cllr); N Tinlin (Fairmilehead CC)

**1. Apologies**

Received from P I Podd and PC D Crawford (Oxgangs Community Police);

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting: held 24 May 2010**

Minutes had been circulated prior to meeting. There were no corrections to be made.

The minutes were moved for approval by A Hunter, seconded by L Linn.

**3. Matters Arising**

Re Item – Future 'Open day' to be held at Tesco's (under Matters Arising). Chair reported that a space had been booked for the Community Council to be shared with representatives from the Neighbourhood Partnership and the South West Area Board

Re Item 11 Community Council Website (under AOB). JN advised he had still to hear back from the website builder service and had sent another email querying the position.

Re Item 8 Annual General Meeting: Monday 27 September 2010 (under Meeting Reports see attached report on the FCC Business Meeting 23 June 2010). Secretary reported Colinton Mains Church is unavailable for that date; Chair will ask at ONC and Pentland Centre.

**4. Community Police Report**

The following report was received from PC Crawford for this meeting and read out by the Chair.

Total No. of incidents recorded for the Oxgangs Station area between 01/06/2010 and 28/06/2010 is 447, broken down by beats: -

Beat PF 56 – Fairmilehead/Buckstone etc. – 78

Beat PF 57 – Central Oxgangs area – 243

Beat PF 58 – Colinton/Bonaly etc. – 126

On 17<sup>th</sup> June a targeted operation was carried out at a flat in Harperigg Way re suspected drug dealing. A substantial amount of Class A Drugs and cash was recovered. The male and female occupants were arrested. The male is currently in custody pending trial.

Enquiries are still ongoing into the incident where a local disabled male was assaulted and robbed. Exhaustive enquiry has been carried out with an as yet negative result.

The Chief Constable's Annual Report was published on 25<sup>th</sup> June. The headline is that recorded crime has been reduced by 8.3% which works out as 6,000 fewer crimes compared to 2008/2009.

Full details and the report itself can be read at [www.lbp.police.uk](http://www.lbp.police.uk)

## **ADVICE**

On the weekend 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June, two Distraction Thefts happened at Morrisons in New Swanston and Tesco at Colinton Mains car parks where older members of the community appear to have been selected.

The method used was for 2 foreign females to approach the people after they had just come away from the cash machines and point to a £10 note lying on the ground. They were then told they had dropped the money and during the well constructed verbal confusion, one of the females has placed her hand over the purse/wallet of the person and removed the bank card just used. Both people did not even realise it had happened until much later. A check with their banks revealed that both cards had been used and large amounts of money had been withdrawn. It would appear that these females have observed the person making their withdrawal and have been at close enough distance to obtain the PIN number by sight and then stealing the card by the above method.

Could everyone be aware of this “sleight of hand theft” and make friends and family and especially our elders, aware.

## **5. Ward Councillors' Reports**

EA reported on complaints about discarded contaminated needles, litter and problem neighbours. The risk to young children from discarded needles is of particular concern. Discussions have been held with Diane Rodger, Senior Environmental Warden regarding this concern for community safety. An additional litter bin is to be located in Oxgangs Road North adjacent to Oxgangs Primary School.

The private contractors, AMEY, who manage Firrhill High School, are responsible for maintaining the public footpath through its grounds. This had been in dispute.

Pentland Community Centre will be running a programme of activities during the school holidays (July) aimed at the youth in the community.

Pentland Primary School – concerns have been expressed that cars parking on the access road are blocking emergency access to the school. The recent school fair raised £2,800.

Tesco are proposing to run a Fun Fair in aid of the Charity ‘Kids with Cancer’. The event is to take place over 4 days from a Thursday through to the Sunday. EB attended a meeting with the Store’s management to discuss. The size of this event is causing concerns about the loss of car parking spaces and the management are looking to get permission from the Army to use their land next to the Store to avoid this. An alternative site would be across the main road on the ground of the old Oxgangs Primary School.

Firrhill High School – the installation of flashing 20 mph lights on Oxgangs Rd N. (main road section) + Colinton Mains Drive (near Tesco) is due to be carried out shortly for road safety.

## **6. Re-structure of Neighbourhood Partnerships and how sub groups fit in**

Scott Neil, Partnership Development Officer gave an informative presentation on Neighbourhood Partnerships and how their structure has changed following stakeholder consultations. The critical measure of success in local community planning is that services are more responsive to local needs and priorities as a result of service providers engaging with local people and that local people feel that services are improving because they are being listened to.

The review found that the Partnership did not do well in the areas of communication and community engagement, particularly with minority/disabled groups and this was the focus of the re-structure and the proposed format of meetings.

The main forum for community engagement is through the Neighbourhood Partnership public business meetings, but in order to develop forums that allowed stakeholders with a common

interest in specific areas of community activity to develop and action strategies and initiatives, a number of sub groups had been formed:

- The Funding Panel sub group is responsible for deciding applications to the Community Grants Fund. The Panel will make recommendations to the Neighbourhood Partnership on the distribution of the Fairer Scotland Fund.
- The aim of the Environment, Infrastructure and Transport sub group (formerly the ETG) is to plan, develop and review the delivery of environmental and transport services as identified in the Local Community Plan of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership.
- The aim of the Health, Community and Employment sub group is to plan, develop and review the delivery of Health & Employment services for the Pentlands area.
- South West Area Board. This sub group worked between both the South West and Pentlands Partnerships. The role covers Environmental Projects, Landlord Performance/ Housing Activity and Communications. A standing agenda rotates between selection and monitoring of Neighbourhood Environment Projects (NEP'S) and Landlord/ Housing activities.
- The aim of the Community Safety Group - the latest sub group to be formed - is to plan, develop and review the delivery of Community Safety services as identified in the Local Community Plan of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership.

The number of stakeholders involved in the partnership makes it difficult to set dates for meetings and a draft schedule is out for consultation.

## **7. Health and Social Care Centre: Update Meeting**

Cllr Barry gave a report on the meeting he had arranged here on 14<sup>th</sup> June to update community representatives of the development of the proposed centre to be built on the site of the old Oxgangs PS on Colinton Mains Drive. Two speakers had attended – Steven Witton, CEC Social Work, to cover the social care part of the project and Robert Aitken, NHS, to cover the health part.

This represents a joint project between these two functions and supports the aim of achieving an improved spread of services throughout Edinburgh. In addition to the centralisation of the three medical practices in Colinton Road, Colinton Mains Drive and Oxgangs Path, the NHS services currently based at Springwell House and McLeod Street will be relocated either in their entirety or in part in the proposed new Health and Social Care Centre. Social Work services currently based in Oxgangs Path will also be relocated here.

Proposed services include a physiotherapy suite and gym; podiatry and midwifery.

The project is reliant on £3.5 million funding from Scottish Government.. It is hoped the business case is approved before the end of the year and passed through the Scottish Procurement Information Hub by Aug 2011.

The proposed building will be no higher than 3 levels and will have an estimated occupancy of 168 staff. Car park spaces estimated at 60. The entrance will be off the driveway to Oxgangs Primary School car park, which has approximately 80 spaces.

EA to organise a meeting with Social Work on the progress of this project.

## **8. Meeting Reports**

1. PNP<sup>1</sup> – Review Meeting, 8 June 2010, H Levy:

Meeting held in Colinton Mains Parish Church. Chair reported that the purpose of the meeting was to carry out a review of the decisions made and work carried out by the Partnership and its sub-groups. Those decisions have been recorded in previous minutes.

2. PNP – Community Safety Sub Group Introductory Meeting, 15 June 2010, H Levy.

This was the first meeting of the Community Safety sub group which will be chaired by Councillor Elaine Aitken. There was a constitution tabled which was agreed although Eric Barry raised concerns of community membership only being open to Community Council reps.

An update on Safer Neighbourhood Teams, which is now settling down to the new structure. This means teams are larger and are able to tackle Hot spots quicker.

There was then a power point presentation on what the Community Safety Team, Environmental Wardens, Community Safety Concierge and Police are doing.

This was followed by an update from members round the table of any concerns in your local area as well as any community events that have taken place or are about to take place. There was some discussion re Colinton Mains Park, trolleys in the burn, and Dennis Williams 'Your Shop My Shop week' where the community safety team visited and distributed information and dealt with some inquiries. This was a success and it was agreed that it is better to tap into existing events as opposed to creating new ones.

Dates of further meetings - 26th August, 28th October and 10<sup>th</sup> February 2011. All meetings will be from 6p.m to 7.30p.m. Venue to be confirmed but could be in Oxfords Library

3. Community Councils Joint Meeting, 21 June in the City Chambers. Five members attended this meeting in order to make full use of the various workshops forming part of the meeting. See attached report (Appendix 1).
4. PNP – Funding Panel, 22 June 2010, H Levy: see attached report (Appendix 2).

## **9. Treasurer's Report**

There was nothing to report other than closing the old account is in the process of being completed but the money has still to be transferred. Still to obtain copies of missing statements.

## **10. Planning Applications Report**

There are seven applications for the Firrhill ward recorded in the weekly bulletins over the reporting period. Three were new applications and the remainder were decisions, all of which were granted. One application is for alterations to Scotmid's store in Oxfords Road North. Information on the applications and of major development proposals within the city, extracted from the CEC's Planning Applications Report, was circulated at the meeting and is attached as Appendix 3.

## **11. Correspondence**

A full list of the correspondence received by the Secretary for the period since the last meeting is contained in Appendix 4.

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<sup>1</sup> Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership

**12. A.O.B.**

Funding Panel – it has been agreed that the Local Development Officers will provide a breakdown of where the money is going for the next meeting.

**13. D.O.N.M.**

The Centre has received an application for the hire of the hall on a Monday evening of each week. This will mean the loss of these facilities and the Community Council may have to either look for a new venue or change the day/date of the meetings. The scheduled date and time is Monday, 26 July 2010 at 7 pm but this is to be confirmed along with the venue.

COMMUNITY COUNCILS JOINT MEETING: CITY CHAMBERS, 21 JUNE 2010

David Lyon, Head of Performance & Community Engagement, Services for Communities (SfC), addressed the audience of Community Councillors and Council Officials/Staff re issues that Community Councils (CCs) and Neighbourhood Partnerships (NPs) may have to face up to:

Lots of improvements to be made in how NPs conduct their business; NP Board Meetings are a very small part of the whole.

Neighbourhood Approach: CEC has devolved services (mainly SfC) to six neighbourhoods. NPs also bring together other stakeholders, including police and Community Councils - agreeing local priorities and influencing and coordinating local services. CCs have a critical role in passing on local knowledge and expertise so that NPs can function. CCs are represented on their NP Board and in sub/action groups, as well as attending conferences, other meetings and local walkabouts. Participatory Budget: Leith pilot.

**Focus is on Clean, Green and Safe.**

Expectation of Tackling Wider Issues: health inequalities; income and employability; better outcomes for children and young people. **Early intervention needed** – huge disparity/inequality between different parts of the city (Fairer Scotland Fund should help). Edinburgh has highest level in Scotland of children leaving school without a positive destination.

Changes Ahead for Local Govt: £90m to be cut from budget = public spending cuts. **Need to prioritise:** Is there an appetite for debate? Role of Community Councils in this? Will be consultation during the summer for next year's budget (+ following two years').

Challenges: How do we respond to a widening and challenging agenda?

- Findings from Annual Neighbourhood Survey showed low public awareness of Neighbourhood Partnerships and Community Councils.
- Do we have the capacity to represent and reflect the views of the community?
- How do Community Councils feed back to the community?

**This introduction led appropriately into the Workshops, pre-booked by CC reps:**

1. **The role of sub-groups/action groups within NPs (attended by Peggy Wright)**
2. **Communications (attended by Jim Napier)**
3. **Social Networking (attended by Mary-Jo O'Brien and Pauline I Podd)**
4. **Young People (no rep from Firrhill CC)**
5. **Managing Conflict (attended by Heather Levy and Alistair Hunter)**
6. **Libraries (unfortunately, had to be abandoned: insufficient uptake)**

**Peggy Wright, Firrhill CC Secretary**

Firrhill Community Council  
Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership  
Funding Panel  
6.00pm, Tuesday 22 June 2010

There was a chair selected for this sub group. Nominations were Judy Wightman, Ronny Cairns and Steuart Campbell. Five members voted and Judy was elected.

Fairer Scotland Fund: Contract proposals, there were eight proposals discussed coming to a total of £281,238. All proposals were agreed except one decision to be made within the next fortnight. There will be some monies left over it was unclear exactly how much but it was agreed to be used for Mental Health issues within the Pentland NP High schools.

Community Grants Fund applications- The Neighbourhood Partnership budget allocation is £47,373 for period 2010/11. There is **£32,823 left**.

There were two applications to discuss,

1. £3,231 to improve Fairmilehead Play Area in Fairmilehead Park. This work will include the elevation of the site and the installation of additional drainage work to prevent flooding of the facilities, fixing a new timber edge around the play area and adding a woodchip safety surface, improving access to the facilities with the installation of a new raised tarmac path and replacing the current items of play equipment with seven new items. This grant will fund the costs of removing the existing play equipment, fencing and sides, lifting the existing tiles and setting them aside for re-use in the refurbished site, as well as lifting and removing the old playground surface. This grant would also fund the installation of a litter bin and three metal benches at the site.

Agreed

2. **Everybody Online** works in partnership with Dunedin Canmore Housing Association, Stevenson College and Oxfams Neighbourhood Centre and new social enterprise, Digital Skills for Scotland delivering Trained Up. Their project provides graduated and supported learning progression for disadvantaged learners in some of Edinburgh's poorest neighbourhoods. Application is made for £3,500 to contribute to the costs of a new training suite. Further investigation needed.

Date of Next Meeting- there was no date set

Heather Levy

## **Planning Report for June 2010 Meeting**

### **24 May 2010**

- Section 1      Application 10/01115/FUL for car parking and drop kerb for access at 16 Oxfords Ave.
- Section 2      No proposals of applications for Ward 08 - Firrhill
- Ward 05 – Inverleith – 10/01238/PAN. Extension to existing hotel and members clubhouse (all to operate with hotel liquor license), alterations to boundary wall at Raeburn House Hotel, 112 Raeburn Place and the Edinburgh Academicals Sports Centre Clubhouse, Portgower Place, Edinburgh at Raeburn House Hotel, 112 Raeburn Place, Edinburgh, EH4 1HG. Additional consultation required.
- Section 3      No decisions

### **31 May 2010**

- Section 1      No applications
- Section 2      No proposals of applications for Ward 08 – Firrhill
- Ward 11 – City Centre – 10/01414/PAN. Proposed demolition of existing buildings and structures, regarding of existing car park and comprehensive redevelopment comprising hotel, offices, retail, commercial, leisure, public houses, restaurants, care parking and associated landscaping/public realm and utilities infrastructure at 189 Morrison Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8DN.
- Section 3      Application 09/01057/FUL for the demolition of existing and erection of new church at 1c Oxfords Avenue has been granted.

### **7 June 2010**

- Section 1      No applications
- Section 2      No proposals of applications for Ward 08 – Firrhill.
- Ward 04 – Forth – 10/01489/PAN. Partial demolition, alterations, conversion and extension of B listed former college building to residential and construction of new build residential accommodation at 347A Pilton Avenue, Edinburgh, EH5 2LB
- Ward 11 – City Centre – 10/01414/PAN. See above. Additional consultation required.
- Ward 17 – Portobello / Craigmillar – 10/01515/PAN. Green Belt. The development proposed includes new housing, potential local mixed use facilities together with open space, access and services infrastructure at Land 335 Metres Southwest of 103 Newcraighall Road, Edinburgh
- Section 3      Application 10/01115/FUL for a driveway for car parking and drop kerb for access at PF2 16 Oxfords Avenue has been granted.
- Application 10/01211/FUL has been granted for the following:
- a) proposed removal of existing O2 10m high monopole and replacement with a 15 m high O2/Vodafone Jupiter 830 pole incorporating 3 O2/Vodafone antennae.



b) proposed new Vodafone equipment to be located within the existing o2 type 'C' cabinet at Telecomms Mast 42 metres southwest of 66 Oxfords Farm Drive, Edinburgh.

**14 June 2010**

- Section 1      Application 10/01571/FUL – to alter shop frontage at 82 Colinton Mains Drive Edinburgh EH13 9BJ.
- Section 2      No proposals of applications for Ward 08 - Firrhill
- Ward 04 – Forth – 10/01489/PAN. Listed category B. Partial demolition, alterations, conversion and extension of B listed former college building to residential and construction of new build residential accommodation at 347A Pilton Avenue, Edinburgh, EH5 2LB
- Ward 17 – Portobello / Craigmillar – 10/01515/PAN. See above. Additional consultation required.
- Section 3      Application 10/00742/FUL to create a driveway in front of house with a drop kerb, approx size is 7.9m long x 6.4m wide by 1.4m deep, double block retaining wall with a facing brick finish (amended to three metres wide) at 208 Colinton Mains Road Edinburgh EH13 9BU has been granted

**21 June 2010**

- Section 1      Application 10/01677/ADV – Signage at 230 Oxfords Road North, Edinburgh, EH13 9BQ. (Scotmid)
- Application 10/01677/FUL for sub-division of existing store to form 2 retail investment units, alterations to existing shopfront, formation of new access ramp and stairs for Scotmid store at 230 Oxfords Road North, Edinburgh, EH13 9BQ
- Section 2      No proposals of applications for Ward 08 - Firrhill
- Ward 04 – Forth – 10/01489/PAN. Listed category B. As previous.
- Ward 09 – Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart – 10/01687/PAN. Listed Category CS. Planning permission in principal for a mixed use development including offices, residential, retail, hotel, care home and student housing at Fountain Brewery, Gilmore Park, Edinburgh
- Ward 17 – Portobello / Craigmillar – 10/01515/PAN. As previous.
- Section 3      No decisions.

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM 25 MAY – SECRETARY**

**By e-mail**

- 1 Eileen Hewitt: Notice of CCs Joint Meeting, 21 June, City Chambers.
- 2 f. by Cllr Rust: Colinton Mains Park Play Area Tender Return: lowest tender accepted, from JKF (Group) Ltd – programme of works and start date to follow.
- 3 f. by H Levy: EVOC has launched Charter for Change re support and planning for the future of people with disabilities being looked after by relatives over 65 (20%).
- 4 f. by H Levy: Health All Round Community Health Project: free workshop on Building Self-confidence, 25 Aug, 10-12 noon, Springwell House; Communicating More Assertively, 30 Sept, 10-12 noon, S'well House; 4-week course on Confidence-building, 2-23 Sept, 10-12 noon, S'well House; (Tel Claire for any of above: 537 7530)
- 5 Alan Flockhart, CEC, in reply to my e-mail to Graham Croucher re electricity supply to, and storage cabin for, Bowling Club when pavilion is demolished: utility company has been asked to 'progress their design and programme based on providing a separate electricity supply to the bowling club'. Also, Gerry Masson confirmed that metal storage cabin would be added in to schedule.
- 6 George Williamson: Link to CLD Re-Design Committee Report:  
[http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/internet/Attachments/Internet/Council\\_Bus-design\\_committee\\_report.rtf](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/internet/Attachments/Internet/Council_Bus-design_committee_report.rtf)
- 7 Rhona Sinclair: Pentlands NP Grants Report.
- 8 Cllr Barry: re booking of CMCEC on 14 June at 7 pm for presentation by Steven Whitton & Robert Aitken on proposed Health & Social Care Centre on Colinton Mains Dr.
- 9 Scott Neill, Partnership Development Officer, re SW & Pentlands Digest for July: looking for articles/photos showing partnership working.
- 10 Eileen Hewitt: re introductory session on VOiCE – a database planning and evaluation tool designed to help organisations plan, conduct effectively, monitor and evaluate community engagement – on Tues 29 June, 6pm (tea and sandwiches), City Chambers.
- 11 Rachel Somerville: Pentlands NP Business Meeting Minutes for 12 May.
- 12 Eileen Hewitt: Agenda & Workshops for CCs Joint Meeting, 21 June.
- 13 Jim Napier: re need to look at communications plan for CCs that avoids duplication and/or inefficient service (will raise at CCs Joint Meeting on 21 June).
- 14 Patricia Watson: following lots of construction work on streetscape in Balerno Main Street, there will be opening celebrations (including Farmers' Market) on 14 August.
- 15 SW N'hood Services for Communities (f. by Cllr Barry): Colinton Mains Play Park work scheduled to commence 16 Aug (est. 4 weeks); 11 columns to be lit up from w/c 10th June (other 3 delayed because of possible change to car park area in pavilion plans).
- 16 City Development (Road Safety) - f. by Cllr Barry: two new sets of 20mph flashing safety lights to be installed on Colinton Mains Dr at top + near Tesco in school holidays.
- 17 f. by Cllr Barry: info re travellers parked at Dreghorn Link, Longstone, Kinleith Mill.
- 18 f. by Scott Neill: CEC Activity Funding for sports and physical activity events from Sept '10 – March '11; application forms to be in by 16 July.
- 19 Scott Neill: asking for CCs meeting schedule for the next year.
- 20 f. by Norman Tinlin: links to CEC Reports on new Pavilion Funding & Planning Applic:  
[http://cpol.edinburgh.gov.uk/getdoc\\_ext.asp?DocId=141337](http://cpol.edinburgh.gov.uk/getdoc_ext.asp?DocId=141337) and DocId=141382

**By Post**

- 1 'Spokes' Bulletin [to J Napier].
- 2 'Tenants Voice': Edinburgh Tenants Fed.
- 3 Draft Open Space Strategy Consultation Feedback Survey (responses by 2 July)  
questionnaire at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/openspacestrategy>
- 4 SESplan Strategic Development Planning Authority: Main Issues Report (72 pps)
- 5 CCs Joint Meeting 21 June: Agenda, Workshops, Application Form

**Correspondence Update to 28 June 2010**

**By e-mail**

- 1 Gary Turner obo Cllr Jenny Dawe: Council Leader's Report June 2010.
- 2 Terry Tweed, Secy, Craigmillar CC: petition to save Niddrie Mill School.
- 3 Norman Tinlin: link to report re Dennis & Linda Williams, Broadway Convenience Store, named as Scottish Retailer of the Year – also awarded Community Involvement Retailer, and Confectionery Retailer.
- 4 Rachel Somerville, CEC: confirmation of receipt of e-mail sent by Secy naming H Levy as Firrhill CC rep on Pentlands NP for Business & Public Meetings.
- 5 Eileen Hewitt: re need to get missing documents to audit Firrhill CC accounts.
- 6 Eileen Hewitt: confirmation of booking made by Secy for CCs pull-up banner for Tesco Open Day on 4 September.
- 7 Secretary: e-mail sent to Jackie McIntosh booking H Levy & J Napier on VOiCE training event, City Chambers, 29 June (no confirmation received, but assume okay).
- 8 Scott Neill: request for entertainment group (singing/dancing) for Balerno Main Street Opening on 24 August.
- 9 Eileen Hewitt: request for photos/articles for next CCs Newsletter (by 19 July).
- 10 Scott Neill: Pentlands Meetings Draft Schedule 2010-11 (+ revised version).
- 11 f. by P I Podd: Facebook/Twitter Workshop Presentation from CCs Joint Meeting.

**By Post**

- 1 'Tenants Voice'.
- 2 2 NHS 'Link' newspaper, Summer 2010, (for distribution)
- 3 'SEPA View' magazine, Summer 2010.
- 4 Mike Bell, Project Leader, Streetwork, re new lottery-funded Youth Service being launched by Streetwork UK this summer providing support to looked-after and accommodated young people, 14-25 years, at risk of or experiencing homelessness.