

Firrhill Community Council

'Nec Aspera Terrent'

(Undaunted by Adversity)

Minute of Ordinary Meeting of the Council on 26 September 2011 held in Oxgangs Care Offices, Firrhill Neuk.

Members:

H Levy (Chair)
A Hunter (Vice Chair)
P Wright (Secretary)
PI Podd (Treasurer)
L Linn
G Hunter
MJ O'Brien
J Napier (Minutes Sec)

Ex-Officio Members:

E Aitken, Councillor, CEC
E Barry, Councillor, CEC
J Rust, Councillor, CEC
D Crawford, LBP, Oxgangs Police Stn

Visitors:

S Duffy
G Duncan

Apologies:

P Podd; J Rust; E Aitken; G MacDonald (MSP)

Non-attendance:

D Crawford; E Barry

The meeting started at 7pm. H Levy in the Chair.

Agenda Item	Narrative	Action & Owner
Approval of Previous Minute	Draft minutes of meeting held on 22 August 2011 were reviewed. Members asked to note an error in the draft minutes. There being no other corrections, the minutes were moved for approval by L Linn and seconded by P Wright. Approved.	J N to publish
Matters Arising	<p>Barracks: concern that the meeting/working group about the barracks had not taken place. Cllr Rust attended another meeting on the barracks and would keep us informed (see his report).</p> <p>Burn clear-out: due to take place during the September weekend was cancelled when it was discovered the hogweed along the banks of the burn had been sprayed with weedkiller. Possibility of health risk as the chemical used was not known. Another date to be arranged</p> <p>AH reported a Tesco trolley and a bike were in the burn. Proposed this be reported to the Community Safety Team. Proposed also that contact information for the CST be available on the Community Council's website.</p> <p>Tesco voucher: Secretary has written to Tesco manager concerning their offer of a 1000 bulbs for planting in the park. Awaiting a response.</p> <p>Thrift Shop: the second opening of the shop on 12 September had gone ok but turn-out was low. Needed to improve advertising. Chair to forward a list of the dates shop will be open for circulation on the website and by word of mouth.</p> <p>Flooding Issues: Propose to advise residents, whose properties were affected by the flood prevention work and are still having problems or wish to seek compensation in relation to any loss or damage, to get in touch with the</p>	<p>HL to action</p> <p>AH & JN to action</p> <p>HL to action</p>

	Community Council.	
Community Police Report	No report received. <i>To pass on information about crime anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or fill out their secure, encrypted online Giving Information Form.</i>	
Ward Councillor's Reports	Due to the absence of all three City Councillors no verbal reports were given. Two written reports were received and are copied below. The second report which was sent by Councillor Rust to the Secretary prior to the meeting but unfortunately not received in time. It was circulated to all members the day after the meeting and is included here as a record.	
Councillor Elaine Aitken's Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Following the last meeting, I contacted Tom Dougall re ongoing problems due to the flood prevention scheme. Al Hunter is preparing a list of locations to visit with Tom. 2. Also, as requested at the meeting, I asked the Environmental Wardens to clear Colinton Mains Park of broken glass, refuse etc and highlighted the dog fouling problem again. I also made the police aware of possible underage drinking in the park. 3. Residents near Colinton Mains Park have complained about excess noise caused by youths riding mini motos in the park in the late evening. I have reported the complaints to Inspector Dolan. 4. I've received complaints about inconsiderate parking near Pentland Primary School, especially in Oxfangs Bank where drivers are parking across drives and blocking in vehicles. Following a site visit with police officers, a request for monitoring by traffic wardens will be made and I have contacted Mrs Mackay, Head Teacher, for her support. 5. Parking round all primary schools in our ward was set as one of the new priorities by Pentland Neighbourhood Partnership Community Safety Sub Group on 5th September. Al Hunter, Firrhill Community Council representative, will report on the meeting. 6. I met with David Jamieson, Head of Parks & Open Spaces, and Jim Galloway, Parks Officer, to present a petition with over 400 signatures requesting a fence round the new children's' play equipment in Fairmilehead Park. Funding has been identified and the fence will be installed before the end of this year. 7. Members of Community Learning and Development staff and the chair of the Pentland CC Management Committee attended the Education Standards Sub Committee on 8th September to discuss the review and action plan. The committee acknowledged the strengths indicated in the review and welcomed the actions suggested. 8. Pentland Community Centre has also held its AGM and elected its management committee. 9. The Police Safety Day was held on 14th September and was attended by 10 groups of P3 pupils from 6 local schools. This was well organised and the children listened to talks by environmental and community safety officials, the army and fire service. 10. The Tryst Quilting Exhibition held 26th & 27th Aug in Pentland CC was a 	

	<p>huge success and raised over £2,000 for Help for Heroes and Oxgangs Care. The quilts were a joy to behold and expertly displayed.</p> <p>11. I visited the Living Through Change in Challenging Neighbourhoods held in Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre on 18th September. The research was funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and undertaken by a team from Sheffield University. Oxgangs was the only area in Scotland to participate. Heather Levy was a major contributor.</p> <p>12. The Oxgangs Care AGM will take place on 10th October at 1pm in the Oxgangs Care offices, Firrhill Neuk.</p>	
Councillor Jason Rust's Report:	<p>I may have managed to secure some funding to bolster the play equipment within Spylaw Park, basically this will give us an additional two toddlers swings and dish roundabout. These seemed to be the most requested and work is being scheduled.</p> <p>I am taking soundings on the proposal to widen the junction at Oxgangs Avenue nearest Colinton Mains/the Police Station as discussed previously at Community Council. Early days, but most of the comments are favourable and this can be fed in to Gordon Drysdale's successor in Roads.</p> <p>Slow markings are to be shown at Oxgangs Road following requests from local residents. The exact schedule for the lining marking is not yet known, but should be soon.</p> <p>I am investigating with the Council upgrade to St Mark's RC Primary School playground.</p> <p>Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership is tomorrow evening at 7.00pm at Fairmilehead Parish Church. The Winter Weather Review is one of the items for presentation.</p> <p>Colinton Mains Community Centre AGM is this coming Friday (Peggy may know about this!!!).</p> <p>I have a meeting with Inspector Dolan at Oxgangs Police Station on Monday.</p> <p>I have been liaising with roads (along with Elaine/Eric) re parking issues at Oxgangs Bank.</p> <p>I met with the Head of the Army in Scotland, Brigadier George Lowder and the Commander of the Edinburgh Garrison, Colonel Bates in relation to the Barracks at Dreghorn and Redford. Discussions are ongoing and I will be in a position to update further at the next Community Council.</p>	
Constitution & Standing Orders	<p>Final draft copies of the bespoke Constitution and Standing Orders had been circulated to all members along with a covering proposal (Appendix 1) that the drafts be agreed and that the documents duly signed by the Chair and two other members be forwarded to Eileen Hewitt, Community Council Liaison Officer, CEC for the City Council's formal endorsement.</p> <p>The Secretary raised concerns on the standards applicable to the circulation of the minutes of a meeting where it was stated that the draft minute shall be circulated within 14 days from the date of that meeting (Section 11(e) of the Constitution). The Minute Secretary acknowledged this standard would be difficult to meet. Members agreed to accept the minutes being circulated asap after the meeting but decided against revising the standard.</p> <p>There being no other issues, the proposal was agreed. Two master copies would be produced, one to be retained by the Secretary and the other by the CEC Community Council Liaison Officer. A copy of each document would be</p>	JN to

	held on the website for reference.	action
PNP Report	<p><u>Pentlands Business Meeting</u> – 30 August 2011, 7pm at the City Chambers</p> <p><u>Community Council Conference:</u> S Neill gave an update on the results of the themed consultation that had taken place early this year with people from different focus groups, including community councils. An online survey was also employed to obtain feedback. The six themes discussed were –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health; • community safety; • children and families; • environment and greenspace; • transport; • skills and employment. <p>Two hand-outs were circulated identifying the priorities and actions arising from each theme.</p> <p>Updates and reports provided on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the Local Community Plan 2011-2014 • Development of NP performance indicators and new area profiles • PNP Subgroups • Green Flag Accreditation (Muir Wood, Easter Craiglockhart and Pentland Hills Regional Park) • Healthy Living Centre • Edinburgh Youth Issue Forum Event Report • Sustainable Edinburgh 2020 – Consultation and Engagement – Neighbourhood Partnerships 	
PNP Report	<p>The next public meeting is to be held in Fairmilehead Parish Church, 27th Sept at 7.00 pm. Two presentations will be given:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Winter Weather – Working Together, Autumn Briefing 2. Update on Pentlands Local Community Plan Development <p>Report will be given on the Neighbourhood Partnership Community Grants Fund/Community Engagement Fund. The purpose of report is to provide details of applications to the Neighbourhood Partnership’s Community Grants Fund in 2011/ 12.</p> <p>The report described the 2011/ 12 budgetary position of the Partnership as at April 2011 and contained a recommendation for one award to be granted from the Community Grants Fund.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Partnership budget allocation is £43,583 for period 2011/12. Grant applications invited from fully constituted organisations with open membership criteria. The upper limit for grants is normally £5,000.</p> <p>A delegated authority award of £1,500 has been granted to Colinton Village Events for the purchase of services & equipment for the local community event taking place in Spylaw Park in early September 2011.</p> <p>The Community Grants Fund allocation for the Neighbourhood Partnership for the Pentlands area for period 2011/ 12 is £43,583. The remaining balance for period 2010/11 is £33,323. No awards are recommended in this report. With the of grant of £1,500 above this leaves a balance of £31,823 for future allocation.</p>	

PNP Report	<p><u>Health, Community & Employment Group</u> - 21 September 2011, 6pm at SWNO and attended by Mary-Jo O'Brien</p> <p><u>Health Sub Group Workshop of 12 September</u></p> <p>There were 3 main points from this workshop</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The need to make sure that the right people are on board 2. Mental health and wellbeing was considered important from the Pentland/South West workshop session 3. Is each Sub Group fit for purpose <p>The workshop also recognised that there was scope for more joint working between Health Sub Groups, e.g. Pentland and South West.</p> <p><u>Community Consultation Results</u></p> <p>The Chair summarised the conferences and circulated a handout of the key themes and actions. These still had to be endorsed by the PNP business group meeting at end of September.</p> <p>It was agreed it would be best if each Sub Group had the potential to prioritise actions within each theme.</p> <p>The point was made that the poor attendance currently experienced at the Sub Group (both CC Reps and partnership officers) would make it difficult to progress many of these themes/actions. It might be best to work with other sub groups to deliver on them.</p> <p><u>Wester Hailes Health Living Centre</u></p> <p>Building work due to start in October 2011. Centre will actually sit within PNP ward but most of patients likely to reside in SW.</p> <p><u>Consultations</u></p> <p>Scottish Government Mental Health Strategy - closing date 31 January 2012</p> <p>Alcohol and Drug Use Commissioning Plan Consultation - closing date 21 October 2011.</p> <p>http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/674/consultations/1454/eadp_commissioning_plan_consultation</p> <p>Milestone House Consultation (social care service for people with HIV) - closing date 12 December 2011.</p> <p>http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/HIV</p>	
Treasurer's Report	<p>The Treasurer's report was read out by JN.</p> <p>On 24th August the grant from Edinburgh Council was paid into our bank account in the sum of £675.04. This was £2 less than last year's grant as the insurance increased by £2.</p> <p>Three cheques have been issued:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. £100 donation to Lothian & Borders Police Safety Day on 14th September. 2. £25.44 to Secretary Peggy Wright for printer ink. 3. £120.00 to Peggy Wright as a contribution to broadband which was agreed last year. 	

<p>Planning Applications Report</p>	<p>See attached appendix for details of applications and decisions as recorded in the weekly planning bulletins from 23rd August to 19th September for the Firrhill Ward.</p> <p>Two items of note and they are :</p> <p>12 September 2011: the re-application for the erection of a 14.8m tall monopole to accommodate Vodafone antenna within GRP shroud plus ground level cabinet on the pavement 38 metres south of 41 Colinton Mains Drive (11/02746/FUL). The applicant revised the original proposal reducing the depth of the ground installation in order to come within the guidance standard used by the Planning Department to refuse the original application.</p> <p>19 September 2011: the application for a change of use from office to dental laboratory at 78 Colinton Mains Drive has been refused and as the application was in retrospect it is being enforced (11/00942/FUL).</p> <p>Committee agreed to maintain its opposition to locating the telecom mast on the pavement at this point for the reasons given previously</p>	<p>JN to action</p>
<p>Correspond/</p>	<p>See appendix 3 for list of correspondence received since last meeting.</p>	
<p>AOCB</p>	<p>Police Perception Survey: Chief Constable is supposed to be reporting back on the results of this survey, region by region, therefore we should get information that is relevant to this area.</p> <p>Pavilion: article in the Evening News</p> <p>Newsletter: proposed articles on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barracks • Medical Centre • Councillors, etc surgeries with an invite for Councillors to contribute. • Thrift Shop <p>Flood Prevention Work: Fence panels missing from the top of the flood walls on the Braid Burn path. Resident would like to know the specification of the wood so it can be replaced. Consider that if panels have been pulled out they may not have been installed properly.</p>	<p>Action ?</p>
<p>Date, Time & Venue of Next Meeting</p>	<p>24th October 2011 at 7.00pm.</p> <p>The venue will be the Board Room in the Oxgangs Care Offices, 12 Firrhill Neuk. The Board Room is not able to accommodate many visitors thus the Council are asking those who wish to attend to advise the Secretary beforehand.</p>	

The meeting ended at 9 pm

Firrhill Community Council

Dear Community Council Member,

Constitution and Standing Orders

As you are aware we discovered that Firrhill Community Council no longer have the original signed documents setting out its constitution and standing orders and a decision was taken to remedy this loss by drawing up replacements and having them duly endorsed.

At our last meeting it was intended to agree the bespoke drafts, which are based on the model documents issued by the Scottish Government after its review of Community Councils in 2009. Unfortunately it was found that members were using different versions of the draft, which led to confusion and it was agreed a new set of drafts would be issued to all members prior to the next meeting.

Please find enclosed with this cover note the documents I propose to put forward for adoption. They are to all intent the model documents amended to include the name and detail applicable to Firrhill Community Council and its standard arrangements for the conduct of business. The changes are highlighted in red.

If accepted by the Community Council members, I also propose the documents be forward to Eileen Hewitt, Community Council Liaison Officer, CEC for the City Council's formal endorsement.

During the discussions on the subject it was also expressed that members should have the opportunity to understand more fully the rules contained within these documents and it was proposed some form of tuition be arranged to cover this. A start was made with a successful roles and responsibilities event held in Oxfangs Neighbourhood Centre on 27th April 2011, which was attended not only by our members but also representatives from other community groups. The topics covered related to the roles of the main office bearers in any organisation and that is the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. It was intended that further sessions were to be held in August and again in January covering the topics: "How to conduct a good meeting" and "Challenging Behaviour".

Information for community council members is provided on the CEC website and includes a 68 page document titled Community Council Guidance Notes 2009. This guidance is probably a must read for community councils members. For those unable to download it from the website, copies should be obtainable from the Community Council Liaison Officer or from the public library on request.

It would be helpful if members could give consideration to this matter for the next meeting on 25th September 2011.

Respectfully

Jim Napier

13 September 2011

Weekly Planning Bulletin Report for September Meeting

23 August 2011

No applications or decisions for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC

Proposal of Application Notice for:

Ward No.A09 – Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart: Craiglockhart Hills Conservation Area - Listed Category: A – Application 11/02543/PAN for a proposed change of use and conversion of existing buildings from university campus to residential and erection of new build residential, together with ancillary development, public realm, utilities infrastructure including access roads, car parking and landscaping at Napier University Craighouse Campus, Craighouse Road, Edinburgh.

Ward No. 12 – Leith Walk: Leith Conservation Area: Application 11/02532/PAN for the demolition of existing buildings, phase one of a mixed use development site, providing 220-240 mixed tenure residential flats and installation of all other associated infrastructure at 30 South Fort Street, 20, 21 Graham Street, Edinburgh, EH6 5NU.

Ward No. A15 – Southside/Newington: Southside Conservation Area: Application 11/02519/PAN for a proposed development of student residential accommodation (incorporating part conversion and part demolition of former NHS hospital buildings) with associated ancillary uses and amenity spaces at 142 - 148 Pleasance, Edinburgh, EH8 9RR. Decision: Colinton application 11/01868/ADV for external pod and canopy signage and directional signs in car park at 10 Colinton Mains Drive, Edinburgh, EH13 9AH (Tesco) has been granted.

29 August 2011

No applications or decisions for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC

Colinton (Green Belt) application 11/02733/FUL for a change of use for a land to dog exercise at land 470 metres northeast of 156 Woodhall Road, Edinburgh

No Proposal of Application Notices for any Ward.

5 September 2011

No applications or decisions for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC

No Proposal of Application Notices for any Ward.

12 September 2011

No applications or decisions for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC

Colinton Ward application 11/02746/FUL for the erection of a 14.8m tall monopole to accommodate Vodafone antenna within GRP shroud plus ground level cabinet at Telecomms Mast 38 metres south of 41 Colinton Mains Drive, Edinburgh. Planning Officer is Ruth Bradford 0131 529 3464, ruth.bradford@edinburgh.gov.uk

No proposals of Application Notices for any Ward

19 September 2011

No applications for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC

No proposals of Application Notices for any Ward

Decision on application 11/00942/FUL for a change of use from office to dental laboratory (in retrospect) at 78 Colinton Mains Drive, Edinburgh, EH13 9BJ. Application has been refused and enforced

CORRESPONDENCE: 23 AUG – 16 SEP, 2011: SECRETARY

By e-mail: forwarded to members with e-mail facility + appropriate info put on website at www.firrhillcommunitycouncil.btk.com

1. Marie Hitchen: 'Sustainable Gov.' News, 25 Aug.
2. Sarah Boyack MSP: e-newsletter
3. f. by J Napier: response from Council's W Henderson re flooding on part of Braid Burn path – possibility of new drain being put in.
4. f. by S Neill: Lifestyle Management Course for 16-64s with physical disability.
5. Gordon MacDonald MSP re army's move to Kirknewton: letter to him from Rt. Hon. Andrew Robothan MP, Minister for Defence Personnel Welfare & Veterans re decisions by MoD having broader regional, economic and social consequences.
6. f. by H Levy: Info Bulletin from L Baxter, Ed. Comm. Health P'ship, NHS Lothian.
7. Cllr Rust: Report following Winter Weather Review to Policy & Strategy C'ttee, 6 Sep.
8. " " : re Council vote to take tram line to St Andrew Square.
9. Eileen Hewitt: updated list of Edinburgh C.C. Office-bearers.
10. Cllr Jenny Dawe: Edinburgh Tram Project update.
11. J Napier re Firrhill CC info on Council website: our venue is shown in Craiglockhart.
12. Eileen Hewitt: re City Council's Recycling Incentive Scheme.
13. Library Dev't Officer re Edinburgh4Community: free resource giving info to groups/individuals seeking funding; can be accessed on PC with internet, or in library.
14. Cllr Rust: Council officials appointed from relevant depts. to officer group re barracks; their first official meeting with army is on 23 Sept.
15. Planning Aid for Scotland: training workshops for CCs on Scotland's Zero Waste Plan [Sec. has booked J Napier for Edinburgh w'shop, 5 Nov.]
16. Cllr Rust: official notification that there's no basis for a legal challenge on Reporter's decision to allow housing on Polo Fields.
17. JN/PW: e-mails re arguments against mobile 'phone base station on pavement at Tesco
18. E Hewitt: Winter Weather Report approved by Policy & Strategy C'ttee on 6 Sep.
19. Cllr Elaine Aitken: info + bus route maps re Princes St diversions for tramworks.
20. f. by Cllr Barry: letter from S Whitton, Edin. Community Health P'ship – update re Firrhill Health & Social Care Centre; possible site start spring/summer 2013.
21. H Levy: Regeneration Study (including Oxgangs); exhibition 18 & 19 Sep, ONC.
22. Cllr Elaine Aitken re Flood Prevention site visit with Tom Dougall to look at issues.
23. S Boyack MSP: free event to provide info to home owners on how to ensure correct maintenance of property: 30 Sep, 9am-12 noon, Edin. World Heritage, 5 Charlotte Squ.
24. Sec. to Gordon Drysdale asking for written confirmation of proposed chicane for safety on Braid Burn Path [response: that Kevin Cook has this on order].
25. E Hewitt: papers for Civic Forum meeting, 27 Sep, 4.30 pm in City Chambers.
26. " " : EACC Q&A session: City Chambers, 24 Sep, 10 am-12 noon.

CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE, 17-26 SEPT.

By e-mail

1. Kevin Cook, Roads Technician: confirmation that works order for guard rails (chicane) on Braid Burn path was raised on 5 Sept.
2. Gordon MacDonald MSP: apologies re FCC meeting.
3. f. by H Levy: Notice & Papers for PNP Meeting in Public, Tuesday 27 Sept, 7 pm, in Fairmilehead Parish Church.
4. Kevin Cook: TTRO for outside 71 Firrhill Dr (ONC) to enable gully repairs, 26-30 Sept.
5. Eileen Hewitt: Planning Aid Training, Sat 15 Oct in Riddle's Court – for C. Councillors and young people to support engagement in consultation on Edinburgh Development Plan.
6. Cllr Elaine Aitken: apologies and written report for FCC meeting.
7. Eileen Hewitt: link to find out about Play Area Action Plan and consultation:
http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/495/parks_gardens_and_open_spaces/764/play_areas
8. ASCC Online Bulletin, Sept. '11.
9. Cllr Rust: apologies and written report for FCC meeting.

By post

1. Tenants Voice (Edinburgh Tenants Assoc.)
2. Health Link (News from NHS Lothian) – distributed.
3. Artists Open Studios Weekend, 1 Oct 11 am-5 pm; 2 Oct 12 noon-5 pm.
(waspsstudios.org.uk for locations)