

Firrhill Community Council

'Nec Aspera Terrent'

(Undaunted by Adversity)

Minute of Ordinary Meeting of the Council on 26 November 2012

Held in Oxfangs Care Offices, Firrhill Neuk.

Members:

H Levy (Chair)

A Hunter (Vice Chair)

P Wright (Secretary)

PI Podd (Treasurer)

L Linn

G Hunter

J Napier (Minutes Sec)

Apologies:

H Levy; E Aitkin (Cllr); R Lewis (Cllr);

D Crawford (LBP)

Ex-Officio Members:

E Aitken, Councillor, CEC

R Lewis, Councillor, CEC

J Rust, Councillor, CEC

D Crawford, LBP, Oxfangs Police Stn

Visitors:

S Duffy; P Wootten (Residents)

A Rushworth, (CAA, EnvirConvenor)

B Elliot, (Scottish Water)

B Torrance, (CEC Flood Prev Team)

A Barber, (CEC Flood Prev Team)

G Howie, LBP, Oxfangs Police Stn

The meeting started at 2.30 pm. A Hunter in the Chair.

Agenda Item	Narrative	Action & Owner																														
Approval of Previous Minute	Draft minutes of meeting held on 22 October were reviewed. There being no corrections, the draft minutes were moved for approval by L Linn and seconded by G Hunter. Approved No matters arising	J N to publish																														
Matters Arising	<div>AOCB: The following information was obtained by Cllr Rust regarding statistics in terms of the number of one bedroom as opposed to two or three bedroom properties which are on EdINDEX:</div> <table><tr><th colspan="6">CEC stock at 16/05/2012 – turnover between 1/4/2011 and 31/3/2012</th></tr><tr><th>Bedrooms</th><th>Stock</th><th>Advertised as % of stock</th><th>Advertised</th><th>Bids</th><th>Average bid per property</th></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>310</td><td>6.1%</td><td>19</td><td>1001</td><td>53</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>5509</td><td>8.6%</td><td>473</td><td>48948</td><td>103</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>10464</td><td>5.9%</td><td>619</td><td>108350</td><td>175</td></tr></table>	CEC stock at 16/05/2012 – turnover between 1/4/2011 and 31/3/2012						Bedrooms	Stock	Advertised as % of stock	Advertised	Bids	Average bid per property	0	310	6.1%	19	1001	53	1	5509	8.6%	473	48948	103	2	10464	5.9%	619	108350	175	
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Flood Defences Work	<p>The Chair introduced Brian Torrance and Alvin Barber from the CEC Flood Prevention Team and Bill Elliot from Scottish Water. Their attendance at the meeting was arranged by Cllr Rust in response to the Secretary’s recent communication about a desperate phone call from a resident in Oxgangs Rd North, who has suffered repeated flooding problems in her property since the flood defence work was carried out.</p> <p>She stated that apart from the 'big flood' of a few years ago, flooding had never extended to her back garden but since their front garden was dug up to install the solid foundations for the flood wall the whole of her garden area and under her house suffer from ground saturation. Apparently, there was meant to be drainage installed but there's no evidence of this having been done and there is no place for the water to go.</p> <p>She has been on to the Council many times, but got no response, as no one is willing to take responsibility for the aftermath of these works.</p> <p>The Chair also referred to communications from the Community Council concerning the above and a number of other issues arising since the completion of flood defence works all of which had been ignored by the local authority. He acknowledged recent management changes within the City Council’s department may have provided some excuse but the matter had gone on too long and answers were urgently needed now.</p> <p>Unfortunately the resident who had contacted the Secretary had been unable to attend this meeting but her neighbour, P Wootten, was also invited and the Chair asked her to address the meeting.</p> <p>P Wooten spoke on the changes that have occurred to her environment since the flood defence work was carried out. She recognised the need for this work to remedy the localised flooding that occurred regularly to her neighbours but which she had never suffered to the same extent over the years. However raising the height of the bridge and the roads approaching the bridge has resulted in surface water draining into and flooding her property. She spoke on her long history of communications to the City Council for action to remedy the drainage problem at this location to alleviate the flooding and her frustration at the lack of response from City officials.</p> <p>In response to the complaints raised at the meeting, the Council officers referred to the wet climatic conditions over the last year, stressing that in many areas of the country the ground was so waterlogged surface water had nowhere to go causing localised flooding in low lying areas. Before action could be taken it was necessary to determine if the flood defence works was the cause of the flooding at this location. They advised that</p>																																					

	<p>consultants had been employed to assess this factor but could provide no information in regard to their findings.</p> <p>Bill Elliot from Scottish Water acknowledged there had been a problem with localised flooding due to the inability of the drains to cope with the volume of water caused by severe rainfall. They installed an underground tank in Colinton Mains Park to enable the excess water to be held in temporary storage until the drainage system was able to cope and thus alleviating the localised flooding problems. As far as he was aware that solution seems to have worked but cautioned that prolonged severe weather conditions can overcome most defence systems.</p> <p>A Hunter complained the contractors, instead of removing their excess building materials, covered them with a thin layer of topsoil to reinstate his garden. He thinks a large quantity of lime may also have been left as the garden's surface is now like a "pie crust" crackling when walked on.</p> <p>L Linn complained she still found workmen trespassing on her property despite assurances that she would be notified in advance of any requirement to inspect/maintain the pump installation in her garden.</p> <p>P Wright said that, following serious flooding in times of rain where the Braid Burn path had been reinstated beside the new bridge, Stewart Farquhar, SW Roads Manager, had identified a design fault which stopped surface water draining into the burn. Temporary 'solutions' had not worked, but he had said that his roads team could rectify this if given the funding. However, there had since been no follow-up on this from the Flood Prevention officials – and neither B Torrance nor A Barber gave any response/explanation at this meeting.</p> <p>The complaints about the flood defence work and the aftermath were debated for most of the meeting with everyone having the opportunity to express their opinion. The general view was that the flood defence work, in resolving one problem had created another for those residents in Oxgangs Road North who resided close to the burn. It was also clear that the relevant authorities' failure to respond to complaints was becoming a major issue. Agreed that the Secretary should follow this up with a letter confirming the complaints raised and seeking further information on the actions of the authorities in relation to this subject.</p>	Sec to follow up
<p>Community Police Report</p> <p>PC G Howie</p> <p>Sitting in for PC D Crawford</p>	<p>Crimes of note throughout this period</p> <p>27th October – a car was broken into in Oxgangs Road North</p> <p>29th – there was a break-in to domestic property in Firrhill Drive</p> <p>30th – another car was broken into in Oxgangs Road North (both possibly linked to break-ins to garden sheds in the area).</p> <p>1st November – a housebreaking occurred overnight at an address in Colinton Mains Gardens.</p> <p>5th – a male was arrested in possession of stolen property after a housebreaking at an address in Oxgangs Drive.</p> <p>Between the 19th and 21st – three garden sheds have been broken into in Oxgangs Farm Drive and Colinton Mains Drive area and a bike was stolen from one of them. Enquiries ongoing to trace culprit.</p>	

	<p>Statistics</p> <p>Beat PF56 – Fairmilehead / Swanston – 84</p> <p>Beat PF57 – Firrhill / Oxfangs – 189</p> <p>Beat PF58 – Colinton / Bonaly – 116</p> <p>Safer Edinburgh Team</p> <p>The issue regarding parking in Oxfangs Road North near to the park has received a lot of attention from PC Crawford.</p> <p>The majority of the heavy building works at Oxfangs Crescent / Firrhill Drive has now been completed and the temporary road closure restrictions lifted.</p> <p>With Christmas only a month away, can we reinforce the message for increased domestic security and vigilance. Do not leave expensive presents 'on show' within cars or domestic property. Any new bicycles or electrical equipment should have serial numbers on them, which should be noted down and stored securely, along with receipts.</p> <p>An ATM machine at Fairmilehead was very recently subject to a "skimming device" being attached, resulting in a user's card details being compromised. When using <i>any</i> ATM, examine the machine for any anomalies in appearance, including the fascia, card slot, etc. If it does not look right, then avoid using the machine and report your concerns to the bank. Always cover any PIN reading device when inputting your number and <i>never</i> divulge the number to anyone (especially if asked remotely). Bona fide bank employees and even police officers are not entitled to know your PIN.</p> <p><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></p>	
<p>Ward Councillor's Reports</p> <p>Cllr J Rust</p>	<p><i>Unfortunately due to a break-down in communications, Councillor Rust's report was not recorded by the Minutes Secretary and apologies are offered to him for this oversight.</i></p>	
<p>Ward Councillor's Reports</p> <p>Cllr R Lewis</p>	<p>Cllr Lewis was unable to attend this meeting but sent a list of events he attended in his capacity as Convener and a note of constituent enquiries he has received over the period. List of events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Fanfare concert - with pupils from all over the city. 2. Robert Louis Stevenson Week launch (with members from the constituency in attendance pointing out links with Cockmylane and Colinton where he once lived) 3. Edinburgh Sports awards: giving certificates to those young people and volunteers throughout the city. 4. Green Pencil awards, Central library (with pupils from Buxton and Oxfangs) 	

	<p>5. Official opening of the Tryst Patchwork and Quilting group, Oxgangs library</p> <p>Note of Constituent Enquiries is attached as appendix 1</p> <p><i>Cllr Lewis's report was not received in time for the meeting, the information was circulated to members afterwards. A copy is attached as appendix 1.</i></p>	
<p>PNP Report</p> <p>P Wright</p>	Report on the Environment, Infrastructure and Transport Sub Group meeting held on the 29 th October is attached as appendix 2	
<p>PNP Report</p> <p>PI Podd</p>	Report on the Health and Employment Sub Group meeting held on the 15 th November 2012 is attached as appendix 3	
<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>PI Podd</p>	<p>The only financial transactions this month was receipt of £200 from ASDA Supermarket, which represented a donation for the Hope triangle Project</p> <p>Our bank balance as at 20th November stands at £3861.10</p>	
<p>Planning Applications Report</p>	See attached appendix 4 for details of applications/decisions for the Firrhill Ward and proposals for major works for the City of Edinburgh as recorded in the weekly planning bulletins from 22 October to 20 November 2012.	
Correspond/	See appendix 5 for list of correspondence received since last meeting	
AOCB	<p>CEC Planning: Website Training: attended by JN on the 23rd Oct in the CEC's Waverley Gate offices. The event had been set up by Jo-Anne Laidlaw, a Planning Technician within the Council's Planning and Building Standards Dept (SfC), in support of an advice notes on how to register with the Council website and sign up for email alerts. Report attached as appendix 6.</p>	
<p>Date, Time & Venue of Next Meeting</p>	<p>28 January 2013 at 2.30pm.</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 4.30 pm

Cllr Lewis: Constituent Enquiries

- Enquiry:** Constituent called regarding the bus shelter outside tesco at Colinton. The bus shelter is in need of repair but not sure who the shelter belongs to as it is not the same design at LRT Shelters. The store says it belongs to LRT and LRT say it belongs to Tesco.
- Action:** LRT advised that the shelter belongs to Tesco store. RL has written the following letter to Tesco HQ. *"I have received an enquiry from one of my constituents with regards the bus shelter which is set back from the road, near the trolley park. Sadly this bus shelter has been vandalised, and now has no end glass panels, the canopy end panel is broken, and the bench is a different style from City of Edinburgh's standard shelters. I have spoken to the Council Transport Team and they have said that the Council would be happy to maintain the shelter in future if you were to purchase a CEC standard shelter. However, if it is your policy to provide Tesco bus shelters, could I ask you to repair this one to make it fit for purpose."*
- Enquiry:** Constituent e-mailed with regards a neighbour having a wood burning stove. Problems are being experienced with the fumes entering their house
- Action:** E-mail sent to Archie Forrest, Env Health, Enforcement and a visit was made to constituent advising them of the Clean Air Act 1993. Constituent is not in breach of anything but if fumes continue to be causing problems, Environment can investigate further under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Still pending.
- Enquiry:** Constituent called asking if the overgrown hedging/bushes can be cut on the corner of Hailes Terrace/Hailes Avenue. This has been reported on a number of occasions
- Action:** This area has finally been cut, the delay was due to being behind schedule and backlog accumulating.
- Enquiry:** Numerous complaints regarding the non collection of waste.
- Action:** Calls made to waste and bins have been collected. Unfortunately, 1 constituent has asked that her food waste bin be uplifted due to the non collection of the food waste, she will no longer recycle food waste.
- Enquiry:** Constituent – Cyclist complained about the road works on Gorgie Road the huge problem with the junctions of Slateford Road/Robertson Avenue and Gorgie Road, Robertson Avenue has been exacerbated. On both junctions there is no right hand turn apart for cycles, buses and taxis. As a cyclist I have nearly been hit by ignorant self important vehicle drivers that feel this rule does not apply to them.
- Action:** Apology letter was sent and roads works have now been completed.
- Enquiry:** Constituent e-mailed with concerns of bullying at Colinton Primary School. Concerns over how school is managed and the policies.
- Action:** Elish Garland, Education Children and Families dealt with this enquiry. Talks took place with the head teacher, parents and children. Matter resolved.
- Enquiry:** Constituent enquired about the vacated Social Work Department at Oxfangs Paths. Asking what was going to be done with this building.
- Action:** After enquiries, building and land is being put up for sale.

Enquiry: School Catchments complaint was received.

Action: Elish Garland dealt with, unable to assist as policies etc in place.

Enquiry: received from constituent asking if she was eligible for a replacement boiler as the boiler they have is old. They asked if your boiler should be 15 years or older to qualify for this.

Action: Spoke to department and was advised that there is a boiler replacement scheme but this is not dependent on age, upgrade differs due to different compliance, priorities etc. Advised the constituent of this and they were happy with response.

Enquiry: received from constituent regarding the loss of right to buy.

Action: Dept responded to advise an appt would be best between officer and constituent to go over any issues.

Enquiry: received from Gordon Macdonald regarding a large silver birch tree growing in a garden and the roots are now growing under the neighbours house and undermining the under floor heating

Action: Unfortunately as both people are owner occupiers this is a civil matter and there is nothing the Council can do to assist. Gordon Macdonald was informed.

Enquiry: received regarding the accumulation of leaves on the pavements at Braid Road, Pentland Terrace and surrounding areas. Concerns raised as leaves are wet and dangerous to walk on

Action: Spoke to South West team and they advised that they would clear the leaves that day or the day after. I have asked how often this will be done over the coming months.

Enquiry: was received regarding the noise level at hillend ski centre the weekend of 9 – 10 November.

Action: Spoke to the Public Health Team at Midlothian Council Tel. 0131 271 3370. The British University Drive Ski Slope Championship Event was being held that weekend which is a yearly event. Concerns had been raised and an officer went and spoke to the manager at the ski centre on the Friday evening to help advise on how best to reduce the noise level for the following day eg. position the speakers and lower the music volume. Mr Andrew Goldburn the manager did drive round the estate on the Saturday evening to ensure that the noise level had been reduced. Midlothian Council will take the complaints on board and review this for next year to ensure that there is no disturbance to constituents.

ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORT (EIT) GROUP MEETING
Held in South West Neighbourhood Office, 29 October 2012

This Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership sub-group meeting was attended by Council officials, Community Council reps, and chaired by D Bewsey, Colinton Amenity Assoc.

1) Scott Neill, SW Development Officer, took nominations for Chair. David Bewsey was nominated, voted in uncontested, and agreed to Chair the group for another term.

2) Alex Robertson was introduced to give a presentation on SCENE, the Sustainable Community Energy Network, which he runs in Edinburgh along with partners Jelte and Vijay. Their business is 'connecting sustainable communities with energy investors'. They bridge the gap between communities and the private sector, helping those communities get funding for a renewable energy project – hydro, biomass, wind or solar – which would earn money to pay for local projects. They attend meetings, access funding and provide expertise, and are currently working with Portobello & Greener Leith. They have a knowledge-sharing platform to inform communities on energy ownership:

<http://scenetwork.co.uk/sceneconnect>

The Chair remarked that, with all the water in this area, there must be scope for some kind of hydro project – however, apparently the City Council has already vetoed any such project on the Water of Leith, in spite of the fact that this river used to sustain many mills along its banks.

3) Other Agenda Items and Issues Raised

1. Johanna Carrie, Transition Edinburgh Pentlands, gave an overview of how this group has used its Climate Challenge Fund Award: provided Energy Workshops for P6 classes in Currie, Nether Currie and Juniper Green, and run a Fair at Currie High to celebrate these workshops and the effort put in by pupils, teachers, and the facilitator from Sustainable Communities Initiatives based at the Earthship (a completely self-sufficient building) in Fife.

2. Velda Weir gave an update on Pentland Hills Regional Park: it has combined with City Centre sites to form the Natural Heritage Service, based at Hermitage of Braids (69a Braid Road). Eleven staff at the same site gives more flexibility; no offices now at Boghall.

3. Walkabout Overview: consensus is that (a) areas covered depends on who is running the walkabouts and who is attending; (b) feedback from Council should be quicker, so that we know what issues are being actioned before our next CC meeting – and, worse, there is no feedback from some walkabouts.

4. Action List Feedback: (a) No bus arrangements yet for W Hailes new Healthy Living Centre, but N Tinlin has been assured there will be a bus service for access. (b) Re more signage in areas with environmental issues (littering, dog fouling, fly-tipping): no action yet; hopefully, Craig Dunlop will attend our next meeting. (c) Ongoing: Stewart Farquar's plan to ask Council for extra cash to sort out design fault that causes huge puddle on Braid Burn path.

5. Draft Local Plan: D Bewsey reported that a meeting had been planned by the Edinburgh Civic Trust/Cockburn Society to provide CCs and other residents' groups with information which would allow them to respond effectively to the Draft Local Plan when it is published. However, as the responses to whether this should be a weekday or Saturday morning meeting have been sparse, and split between the two times, holding this meeting may not be viable.

6. D Bewsey reported that a flooding problem has been caused by developers digging a drainage ditch from the new care home in Redford Road.

7. N Tinlin said that there are noise issues with late-night bin collections in Fairmilehead. [A letter will be sent to the Council asking that residential areas have no collections at night.]

8. It was agreed that fortnightly waste collection schedules are generally running as planned now, at least in our NP area. Scott Neill said that negotiations for weekly collections over the Christmas & New Year period are ongoing.

(Draft Summary Report by Peggy Wright, Firrhill Community Council Rep)

HEALTH SUB-GROUP REPORT

I attended my first meeting of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership's Health and Employment Sub-Group on 15th November 2012. As a new representative on this sub-group I was unfamiliar with some of the people who were there but know that in addition to ourselves, Fairmilehead CC and Colinton CA were also represented. The attendance was approximately 10 including Scott Neill and Christine Docherty from the SWNO.

As the first matter on the Agenda was to vote for a new Chair, Scott Neill took the Chair for this part of the proceedings. There were two names put forward Norman Tinlin and Heather Levy. Norman Tinlin had one vote and Heather Levy had 3 votes. Heather Levy was duly voted the new Chair. As Heather was unable to attend this meeting, Scott Neill continued as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th May were reviewed. Since I am unfamiliar with the business of that meeting I have nothing to report regarding it other than 6 months seems a long time between meetings. The action list was reported on with all matters ongoing.

Christine Docherty spoke on the remit of this sub-group, suggesting it was too much for one group to deal with, proposing the sub-group continue with the *Health* agenda. The *Employment* agenda to be moved to another forum currently being examined with partners from Economic Development as part of the new neighbourhood HUB model for neighbourhoods.

It was proposed the Health Group concentrate on the key priorities of the Community Plan, which are – Physical Activity; Healthy Eating and Mental Health. These three subjects are interlinked to health and well being and could impact upon not only the employed but also the health and wellbeing of the unemployed.

My initial thoughts were that if the remit of the sub-group is to look at the causes of ill health then the two subjects of health and employment (or unemployment) are explicitly linked and that the sub-group should continue to embrace both areas. Since the meeting I have looked at the remit and found that the aim of the sub group is to plan, develop and review the delivery of Health & Employment services for the Pentlands area. Thus it is not about looking at the causes of ill-health but at the remedial services provided. However, I think this proposal needs to be examined carefully and will presumably go to the PNP for a full discussion.

Christine Docherty also highlighted the need to refresh this group in terms of attendance and this was something our previous representative often remarked on - the poor attendance of the CC and Partnership membership. Suggested the Group needed to find a project that would attract people to it.

Agreed each member of the Group to look at what was taking place in their community and feedback on whether there could be improvements on what is available and whether to introduce new projects.

Also the library services for housebound could be looked at and possibly expanded upon.

The minutes of the meeting will be emailed in due course as also the day of the next meeting.

The business papers for the meeting are available from me if anyone wishes to view them or would like a copy.

Pauline Inez Podd

Weekly Planning Bulletin Report for November Meeting

22 October 2012

No applications or decisions for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC.

Proposal of Application Notices for the City of Edinburgh:

Ward 07 – Sighthill/Gorgie: 12/03473/PAN - Non-compliance with conditions on hours of deliveries and collections at 10-12 Inglis Green Road, Edinburgh, EH14 2ER.

Ward 17 – Portobello/Craigmillar: 12/03691/PAN for a proposed residential development at 171, 173 Duddingston Park South, Edinburgh, EH15 3EG.

Decision: On application 12/02847/PNT which relates to an upgrading of the telecommunications apparatus at 2 Oxgangs Bank, Edinburgh, EH13 9JT. This is a permitted development.

29 October 2012

No applications or decisions for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC.

Proposal of Application Notices for the City of Edinburgh:

Ward 05 – Inverleith: 12/03736/PAN: Redevelopment and refurbishment of the north-east corner of the RGBE to maintain Scotland's world class status in plant conservation and science including: Redevelopment of the existing back-of-house glass houses and building to create improved research, education and support facilities. Refurbishment of the existing listed public glasshouses and other listed buildings at The Royal Botanic Garden, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LR.

Ward 11 – City Centre: the following are all Section 42 applications to vary condition 1

12/03619/PAN: of Planning Permission 07/00101/FUL to extend time period for commencement of development (PA2) at land adjacent to New Street (Former Bus Depot), Edinburgh

12/03620/PAN : of Planning Permission 07/01287/FUL to extend time period for commencement of development (PA3) at land adjacent to New Street, 221, 223 Canongate, Edinburgh

12/03621/PAN : of Planning Permission 07/04400/FUL to extend time period for commencement of development (PA4A) at land adjacent to New Street, 221, 223 Canongate, Edinburgh

12/03622/PAN : of Planning Permission 07/01237/FUL to extend time period for commencement of development (PA5) at land adjacent to New Street, 2, 4, 5 New street, 223, 227. 229. 231 Canongate, Edinburgh

12/03623/PAN : of Planning Permission 07/01288/FUL to extend time period for commencement of development (PA6) at CEC Depot, East Market Street, Cranston Street, Edinburgh.

12/03624/PAN : Redevelopment/demolition/erection of buildings for mixed use development including potential residential; office; hotel; class 1,2,3 commercial; leisure; and/or community uses and other associated uses and works at land Adjacent To New Street, 2, 4, 5 New Street, 221, 223, 227, 231 Canongate, land at East Market Street, 5A-24A Cranston Street, 1-15 East Market Street, Edinburgh

12/03625/PAN : of Planning Permission 07/01241/FUL to extend time period for commencement of development (PA7) at land at East Market Street, 1-15 East Market Street, 5A-24 Cranston Street, Edinburgh

12/03627/PAN : Section 42 application to vary certain pre-commencement conditions attached to planning permission 07/00101/FUL to allow phased implementation of consent - Condition 3 (Archaeology) and Condition 5 (Boundary Treatment and Footway Details) at land adjacent to New Street (Former Bus Depot), Edinburgh.

12/03629/PAN Section 42 application to vary certain pre-commencement conditions attached to Planning Permission 07/01287/FUL to allow phased implementation of consent - Condition 2 (Archaeology); Condition 4 (Sustainability Management System); Condition 6 (Construction Details); Condition 7 (Sustainability Management System); and Condition 21 (Boundary Treatments) at land adjacent to New Street, 221, 223 Canongate, Edinburgh.

12/03631/PAN : Section 42 application to vary certain pre-commencement conditions attached to Planning Permission 07/04400/FUL to allow phased implementation of consent - Condition 2 (Archaeology); Condition 4 (Sustainability Management System); and Condition 17 (Boundary Treatments) at land adjacent to New Street, 221, 223 Canongate, Edinburgh.

Ward 12 – Leith Walk : 12/03738/PAN : Section 42 application to amend the wording of Condition 1 of planning application ref 06/05371/FUL, to extend the period for commencing the development beyond the five year period stated at Shrubhill House, 7 Shrub Place, Edinburgh, EH7 4PD.

Ward 17 – Portobello/Craigmillar : 12/03691/PAN : Proposed residential development at 171, 173 Duddingston Park South, Edinburgh, EH15 3EG.

5th November 2012

Application 12/03770/FUL to convert front garden to parking space at 100 Colinton Mains Road, Edinburgh, EH13 9DN.

Colinton Conservation Area – application 12/03823/AMC for a residential development (including affordable housing provision) and associated open space tree planting, access road, enhancement of existing pedestrian routes and all ancillary at land 260 metres south of 63 Dreghorn Loan, Edinburgh.

Proposal of Application Notices for the City of Edinburgh:

Ward 05 – Inverleith: 12/03736/PAN for the redevelopment and refurbishment of the north-east corner of the RGBE to maintain Scotland's world class status in plant conservation and science including: Redevelopment of the existing back-of-house glass houses and building to create improved research, education and support facilities. Refurbishment of the existing listed public glasshouses and other listed buildings at The Royal Botanic Garden, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LR.

Ward 12 – Leith Walk: 12/03738/PAN for a Section 42 application to amend the wording of condition 1 of planning application ref 06/05371/ful, to extend the period for commencing the development beyond the five year period stated at Shrubhill House, 7 Shrub Place, Edinburgh, EH7 4PD

No decisions applicable to Ward 08 - Firrhill

12 November 2012

No applications for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC and No Proposal of Application Notices for the City of Edinburgh

Decisions: Application 12/00606/FUL for alterations and part change of use to extend existing flat into function suite adjacent to form HMO accommodation on entire first floor at **2-4 Oxbgangs Bank** Edinburgh, EH13 9JT has been **withdrawn**.

20 November 2012

No applications or decisions for Ward 08 – Firrhill CC.

No Proposal of Application Notices for the City of Edinburgh

J Napier, Firrhill CC

Firrhill Community Council Correspondence: 23 October – 22 November, 2012

By e-mail: all relevant messages forwarded to members with this facility; some transferred to website where appropriate.

- 1 Cllr Rust: update on cuts in Janitorial Services (see his Report in Oct Minutes) – budget being reduced by £850k, janitorial posts by 40, some by early release offers. Remaining staff will transfer from Children & Families to Services for Communities in January '13.
- 2 Cllr Rust: confirmation that proposed Health Centres for Firrhill, Muirhouse & Blackburn have all had their Initial Agreements approved by the Scottish Gov. Should be on site here October '14.
- 3 Gordon MacDonald MSP: October e-newsletter
- 4 Scott Neill: Legacy Funding avenue for community groups at <http://www.paha.org.uk/Announcement/new-legacy-2014-fund-open>
- 5 J Napier: re Scott Neill's agreement to FCC Sec's suggestion (29.10.12) that subs for PNP group meetings do not have to be named in advance – can be named when usual CC rep contacts SW office with apologies for non-attendance.
- 6 Scot Gov Climate Challenge Fund (Keep Scotland Beautiful) grants for community groups: info at <http://www.ccf.keepsotlandbeautiful.org> Tel: 01786 471 333
- 7 EACC Sec, N Tinlin, re postponement of Question Time for Community Councils.
- 8 Sarah Boyack MSP: October e-newsletter
- 9 Cllr Aitken re licence application by Money Station for Oxfangs Broadway (but not yet clear what this would be used for).
- 10 f by E Hewitt: NHS Lothian's Info Bulletin No. 40
- 11 D Bewsey re proposed meeting on Draft Local Plan [see my October EIT Meeting Report]
- 12 Joan Farwell, Private Rented Services, City Council, as a result of Cllr Rust's e-mail to the Dept stating Firrhill CC's right to be on list for Ward 8 HMO Applications notification [we now are].
- 13 Nicole Ronald, Scot Gov, confirming receipt of our Community Empowerment questionnaire.
- 14 Gordon MacDonald MSP: press release sun and melanoma awareness, and supporting MASScot: information at www.masscot.org.uk
- 15 Cllr Rust: reply to enquiry at last FCC meeting re 1-bed properties on EdINDEX.
- 16 Broadway Convenience Store: statement re mishap at fireworks display
- 17 f by J Napier re Colinton Mains House: changing from Care Home to Housing Support Service with Care at Home, hence recent HMO application to Council.
- 18 f by J Napier re withdrawal of planning application for 'Good Companions'.
- 19 f by Cllr Rust from Council officer, re FCC members' concerns: a) skips in pavilion car park will be removed; b) gates to children's play area in park have now been repaired.
- 20 Cllr Rust re attendance of A Barber & B Torrance (Flood Prevention) at 26 Nov FCC meeting.
- 21 f by E Hewitt re Council's TIE Committee establishing a Transport Forum to include up to six members of the public. Information & application from http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/1523/transport_and_streets/1868/transport_forum

22 Changeworks Community & Co-operative Energy in Edinburgh event, City Chambers, 7 Dec, 9am – 2 pm; to be booked by 26 Nov. Info at www.changeworks.org.uk

23 An anonymous resident via FCC's websitebuilder re 'threatening yobbo in Oxfangs Farm Ave': passed on to PC Crawford, who checked this person's claims on computer [no record of any such report being made]

24 EACC Sec: summary of responses from city CCs re Craighleith/Blackhall CC's query about whether meetings should be for community residents only, or open to anyone (maj. Said the latter).

25 Gordon MacDonald MSP: Nov newsletter

26 Gordon MacDonald MSP: media release in support of Clean Up Scotland: campaign by Keep Scotland Beautiful to get people to come together to help clean up their area of litter, graffiti, etc. Info at www.cleanupscotland.com/pledge

27 Sarah MacDonald, SW Office: Pentlands NP Meeting in Public scheduled for December is now postponed to January '13 (new date t.b.a.)

28 BBC Radio Scotland: Brian Taylor's (Scottish Political Editor) Big Debate on Frid 7 Nov, in Oxfangs Library: doors open 11 am, show on air 12-1 pm, with CC members invited. 'Phone 0141 422 7776 to book seat and/or record a question; also, brian@bbc.co.uk

29 f by E Hewitt: Dr Bruce Ryan's report on how CCs present themselves online.

If anyone would like more detail of any of the above, please contact me.

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CEC Planning Website Training

I attended the above training session on the 23rd October in the Planning Department's Urban Room at the City of Edinburgh Council's Waverley Gate offices. The event had been set up by Jo-Anne Laidlaw, a Planning Technician within the Council's Planning and Building Standards Dept (SfC), in support of an advice notes on how to register with the Council website and sign up for email alerts.

It was highlighted that registering for one did not register you for the other, both had to be done separately.

Website Registration and email alerts

Registering with the City of Edinburgh Council website allows you to view forms you have submitted, resume forms you haven't fully completed and take part in consultations. You can also opt in to receive email alerts on Council committee papers which will ensure you receive notification of committee dates as soon as they are available.

To register: go to the www.edinburgh.gov.uk homepage and click on **register** (located across the page from the *Edinbvrgh* logo). On the next page follow the instructions and fill in the form. Once the registration is complete an email will be sent to you from web@edinburgh.gov.uk. Click on the link within the email which takes you to a *thank you for registering* page. Click on **Account**. This takes you to your account whereby you can sign up for various email alerts.

To sign up for email alerts on Committee papers: once registered, sign into your Account page and search for *committee alerts* using the SEARCH tool. In the *Search results* page, click on **agendas, minutes and reports**. On the new page click on the **sign up for email alerts** button on the right hand side of the page. Choose the committee you are interested in from the committee library, for example the *Development Management Sub Committee*. Click on **start receiving email alerts for this committee**. You can stop receiving alerts at any time by clicking on **stop receiving email alerts**.

Planning and Building Standards online services registration

Registering with the Planning and Building Standards online services allows you to track applications, save searches and receive email notifications about tracked applications and new search results

To register: go to the www.edinburgh.gov.uk/planninganddevelopmentonline homepage, click on the option you require, e.g., *View planning applications, appeals and enforcements*. On the new page, click on the **Register** tab. Complete the registration form and click **next**. Enter your postcode and click **next**. Check your address appears in the box and click **next**. Check your details, agree with the terms and conditions and click **next** and that should take you to the **Registration complete** page.

You will receive an email from publicaccess.alerts@edinburgh.gov.uk. Click on the link within the email. This takes you to a web page on the CEC website where you can select **log in**. Enter your email address and password. From here you can choose to search for applications or building warrants, view your personal details, saved searches, notified applications and tracked applications.

Planning and Building Standards – Online Services

The online service, which was previously referred to as the “Planning Portal” has recently been revamped to improve public accessibility and provides the means by which those who have an interest can view and comment on planning applications and data relating to building warrants.

- Enforcement and appeals
- Links to submitting applications
- Search statutory notices

Webpage: <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/planninganddevelopmentonline> .

Recent Changes

- Portal renamed *Online Services*
- Revised homepage separating Planning services and Building Standards services
- Online planning applications are now submitted through ePlanning on the Scottish Government website
- Removal of facility from Council website, including application forms

ePlanning Website

- Provided by Scottish Government
- All Scottish authorities are now signed up to this
- Online planning applications are submitted through ePlanning. Applicants must register first.

How to get Information (1)

Planning and building services registration. Once registered the following additional functionality will be available:

- Tracking applications
- Saving searches
- Email notifications about tracked applications and new search results

How to get Information (2)

- Council website registration and email alerts
- View forms you have submitted and resume forms you haven't fully completed
- Take part in consultations
- Opt in to receive email alerts on Council committee papers, which will ensure you receive notification of committee dates as soon as they are available

Twitter – Benefits and Uses

- Quick, short and instant messages that are public – so shared with all
- Can be used to highlight public events/consultations; Committee agendas/reports/weekly lists; Changes to planning legislation

Twitter address – <http://twitter.com/planningedin>

J Napier, Firrhill CC