

Firrhill Community Council

'Nec Aspera Terrent'

(Undaunted by Adversity)

Minute of the Meeting held on Monday 1 December 2014

At Lochan View Community Business Centre, 12 Firrhill Neuk

Attendance and Apologies:

Members: L Linn; F Gosney; P Wright; H Levy; J Napier.

Ex-officio Members: K Welsh, Oxfangs Police Stn.

Resident Visitors: S Duffy; P Valentine; C Harvey.

Apologies: J Burt; G Duncan; N Peachey; Cllr Aitken; Cllr Rust; Cllr R Lewis; R Kelk.

H Levy, in the Chair, welcomed everyone to this last meeting of the year and proposed the business agenda be completed as quickly as possible in order to allow the group to spend time looking back over the year and discussing informally how things have went. Refreshments have been provided for this part of the meeting so it can be conducted in a more social atmosphere. She noted that as a result of moving the community council meeting back a week to accommodate community council members, all our local city councillors have been unable to attend due to other duties. No written reports have been received from them; therefore this item can be removed from the agenda.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The draft minutes for meeting held on 27 October 2014 were reviewed. There being no corrections the minutes were moved for approval by FG, seconded by PW and agreed.

Matters Arising:

Planning Application 14/02760/FUL

No further information on this matter either in relation to the application or the safety concerns regarding the internal re-structuring.

New Membership

Chair announced there were two proposals to co-opt new membership to the community council.

The first was to reaffirm S Duffy's as a co-opted member. She was co-opted prior to the last election but, due to a misunderstanding of the commitments required by members, did not stand for election. She has continued to regularly attend meetings since the election and is valued for her forthright contributions in Council discussions. *Proposed: H Levy, seconded: P Wright.*

The second was to co-opt P Valentine as a member of the Firrhill Community Council to replace an elected member who has ceased to be resident within the community council's area. She has attended meetings regularly over the past year and is also involved in a local residents' association, as such her contributions will be doubly valuable. *Proposed: H Levy, seconded: L Linn*

Both proposals were unanimously welcomed and agreed.

Action: Secretary to advise CEC Community Liaison Officer

Police Report

Chair welcomed PC Kenny Welsh to the meeting and invited him to give his report. PC Welsh reported that there had been only 19 recorded crimes committed in the area of which 5 had been solved. The types of crimes committed ranged from dishonesty, breaches of the peace, assaults and drug offences.

PC Welsh later reported that during November 2014 there had been 162 incidents recorded for the area of which 41 were recorded crimes. These are broken down as follows - 7 disorderly offences, 7 crimes of dishonesty, 7 crimes of damage to property, 12 other miscellaneous offences and 8 crimes of violence. Twenty four of the crimes/offences were solved and persons reported.¹

These are the revised figures for all of November; an additional 18 crimes were recorded over the weekend. An incident occurred at the Young Person Unit in Oxfords resulting in persons being reported. All the crimes of violence committed during the month were solved (8).

- On the 4th an incidence of housebreaking and theft occurred in Caiystane Terrace
- On the 7th another incidence of theft took place when a storage cupboard within common stair in Oxfords Row was forced open and a selection of collector's toys was stolen.
- Also on the 7th a person in Colinton Mains Place was reported for being in possession of stolen property
- On the 30th a serious domestic incident occurred in Firrhill Drive, with person reported for assault.

The group had an extensive discussion on incidences of domestic abuse / problem neighbours and actions that can be taken to assist the police in resolving such distressing cases. It is recognised that unlike most crimes such incidents often caused persistent ongoing suffering to the people involved unless a way was found to resolve them. The Police do take such matter seriously but required the necessary information to enable them to do so.

Agreed the Community Council should use its website to inform people, who are suffering from domestic abuse / problem neighbours, on how they can help themselves and the police stop such incidents.

Action: JN to draft a web page and circulate for consideration.

Community Policing Team

Should you wish to contact the Community Policing Team, you can do so by email at EdinburghPentlandHillsCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk or by telephoning the new national non-emergency number **101**. You can also follow them on twitter @PentlandsPolice .

If there is anything in particular that you wish to bring to their attention, please get in touch. Partnership working requires participation.

Warning about doorstep callers: don't sign up with, or give money to, anyone who cold-calls, i.e., anyone you haven't arranged to call. Say NO and report them to Police Scotland Tel: 101 or the City Council's Trading Standards Tel: 0131-529 3030.

To pass on information about crime anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or fill out their secure, encrypted online [Giving Information Form](#).

¹ This paragraph and the next extracted from the written police report received from PC Welsh after the meeting.

PNP Reports

Health and Wellbeing Action Group – 30th October

Chair reported she has retained the chairmanship of this Action Group for another year. Group members raised concerns that key partners have been absent from meeting over a lengthily period. For the action group to function in required the commitment of the service agencies and their expertise.

Currie Health Fair 2015

Will take place on a Saturday between March/ April next year and will be held in the Gibson Hall.

Many organisations and partners from the last fair in 2013 have confirmed their participation at the event. Once again it will be an event where various health groups can pass on information or offer health checks on a variety of issues. It is hoped to also get the health eating lobby at the event to offer refreshments and advice. Pentland Transition has been given permission to set up a stall to offer advice on fuel poverty and ways to save energy and lower fuel costs.

The set questionnaire for the Currie Health Fair to be revised, considered the sample used for the Oxfords Health Fair in 2013 was too long.

LOOP's (Local Opportunities for Older People)²

Alison McGee gave members an overview of the Community Connections (CC) and LOOP's initiatives. Essentially CC delivers an intensive service supporting people who have lost confidence through illness, bereavement etc, while LOOP's is an information service passing on local info to encourage elderly people to engage with their local community groups and activities.

The LOOP's Navigator Emma Pattinson will be setting up information stations in a variety of community service settings, member were encouraged to pass on venues where which have a high elderly footfall and ideally access to WiFi connections.

The service is looking for the partnership and community networks to support its efforts through social media outlet they currently have in place.* As part of the promotion and information sharing LOOP's are keen to attend local events and fairs.

** Promotional material has been put on the Firrhill Community Council website*

New Local Community Plan

The priority concerning the group was:

- Develop and encourage healthy living and promote local health services
 - By increasing the take up of physical activity, raising awareness of healthy eating, supporting older people living in the community, and by raising awareness of mental health issues and support services.

A general discussion took place around the topic but general consensus was that three potential actions would be accepted and broadened as milestones developed over a set period of time. Community reps were looking for a balanced approach between the community and key partners working together to deliver tangible local actions. Certainly the Chair felt that by focusing potential

² What is a LOOP?: A networks that exists to ensure vulnerable or at-risk older people or their carers do not 'fall through the cracks'. It is clear if such people and their carers aren't informed about the wide range of preventative and support services available in their local area they aren't going to be able to use them.

actions on key themes would encourage partners to become involved in leading these pieces of work.

Potential actions were:

- Raising awareness of the LOOP's Initiative, through;
 - Posting LOOP's Information of community and partners web sites as and when required
 - Providing potential community venues for LOOP's information stations
 - Identifying local events to invite LOOP's navigator to set up information stalls
 - Encouraging community volunteers to assist Loop's navigator on information stations.
 - Community reps to pass on relevant information to LOOP's navigator
- Delivering the Currie Health Fair 2015;
- Increase Awareness Of Domestic Abuse In Our Community;
 - Clear evidence of local need
 - Workshop to explore subject
 - To deliver a themed event/promotion in order to promote awareness to local communities in the Pentland NP area
 - Establish self-help collections of appropriate resources for victims of domestic abuse and their children in local libraries and promote to local parents groups etc.

New Partnership Performance Framework

Group members provided with a draft copy of a performance scorecard, and informed that the CEC was moving to develop a performance framework (called Covalent) to support the actions of the action groups. Specifically the framework would provide a more structured reporting method from the groups to report to the full NP Board as well as the full Council.

All CEC departments use this reporting method to update elected officials and service managers. At this time it is not available to the community reps but Partnership Development Officers will run off updates to pass out with meeting papers. This structured approach will make it easier to report what progress has been made on an annual basis, while allowing planning ahead for future topics and actions on broad Environment / Transport issues.

Community Safety Action Group – 3rd November

Report attached as [Appendix 1](#).

Members Reports

Planning Report: (JN)

Weekly Planning Bulletins

For the weekly bulletins issued on 27 Oct and 17, 24 Nov - there were no issues in the planning bulletins.

3 Nov – Application 14/02760/FUL for an amendment to 09/00897/FUL including the installation of external ducts to side elevation, a new entrance door arrangement and an amendment of condition

6 to permit opening hours till 2200hrs (as amended to 2100hrs) at **76 Colinton Mains Drive**, has been granted.

10 Nov – Application 14/04587/FUL for the erection of a single storey, 3-classroom building within the grounds of **Pentland Primary School**, 10 Oxfangs Green, Edinburgh, EH13 9JF.

Planning Applications

Application 14/04587/FUL – Pentland Primary School

Primary school rolls in the City of Edinburgh Council area are projected to increase significantly in the period to 2019 and this school is one of a number of primary schools to have been identified as likely to face accommodation pressures.

The applicant's proposal for this school is to build new class space in the form of a stand-alone extension. Timescale – once school rolls requirements confirm which buildings are to be prioritised in the coming year the buildings will need to complete on site by August 2015.

The proposal is for a single storey standalone building containing 3 class spaces of 60m² plus additional hub/learning space and ancillary accommodation. The proposed building is to be constructed in a single phase. The proposed location for the new building is on the eastern edge of the playing field, set in between the trees in this area. This location creates a good relationship between the entrance to the existing building and the proposed, which was a key driver for the school when choosing the location of the new building. The building features a central entrance point and provides direct access out of each of the classroom spaces into the surrounding playground.³

Treasurer's Report

No change from previous report.

Correspondence

A list of correspondence received during this reporting period is attached as [appendix 2](#). For more detail on any of the correspondence listed contact the Secretary, Peggy Wright; Tel: 531 9796; email: peggy.wright@live.co.uk.

AOCB:

Youth and Criminal Justice Survey

We have been asked to participate in a Community Council survey from the Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice. The Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice is an independent national centre, funded by the Scottish Government and hosted by the University of Strathclyde. Their vision is a Scotland where all individuals and communities are safe and flourish; and where Scottish youth justice practice, policy and research are internationally renowned and respected. The CYCJ contribute to this by developing, supporting and understanding youth justice practice, policy and research in Scotland.

A copy of the survey form was circulated prior to the meeting to enable members to give the matter some consideration to it before this meeting. A discussion took place to determine viewpoints and a copy of the response is attached as [appendix 3](#)

Action: Secretary to return completed survey form

³ Information extracted from the Design and access statement prepared for the City of Edinburgh Council

New Recycling Service

Phase 2 of the new recycling service will affect the following streets in the Firrhill Community Council area:

- Firrhill Drive
- Firrhill Park
- Oxgangs Avenue
- Oxgangs Crescent
- Spruce Way

Received an email from Scott Neill, Partnership Development Officer, South West Neighbourhood Office in regard to the potential actions and milestones for promoting recycling service in the PNP area. Secretary has arranged for a recycling representative to attend the next meeting in January.

A briefing paper has been provided and is attached as [appendix 4](#) for information and is also on the FCC website. Information is also available on the CEC website at:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20001/bins_and_recycling/1023/new_recycling_service

Scottish Community Council Website

A new Scottish community council website has been developed by the Scottish Government's Community Empowerment Team⁴ as part of the SG's work in collaboration with COSLA to enhance the role of Community Councils. The purpose of the website is to:

- Raise awareness of Community Councils amongst the general public.
- Provide information on the role of a Community Councillor to potential candidates.
- Support new Community Councils/Councillors to access information to help in their work.
- Support Community Councils with good practice case studies.

The link is: www.communitycouncils.org.uk. The Team are seeking feedback and any comments should be sent to: community_council_mailbox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Action: JN to provide a link from the FCC website.

End of Year Evaluation and Discussion

The Chair spoke on events that had taken place over the year and sought opinions on whether or not the best course of action had been taken and if, in hindsight, it could have been done better.

The discussion centred mainly on the two planning developments (Aldi and the Indian Takeaway).

(A) In regard to the Aldi development, the Community Council (CC) wanted to avoid a situation that might result in the area lying derelict rather than being redeveloped (as with the Hunters Tryst PS site). The CC generally supported the site being used for housing development but sought the community view. Information was made available on the community council's website and Facebook page. As other parties were conducting their own direct consultations, no direct action was taken by us. Over the period, we received no evidential feedback from the community other than the business proprietor most likely to be affected by the development. The evidence gathered by the business was in the form of a signed petition but the process was carried out within the business itself in the course of transactions with customers. Its validity as a true expression of

⁴ Local Government and Communities Directorate, Public Bodies and Public Service Reform Division

community view was open to question and therefore we decided not to formally support it. This decision was upheld by the anecdotal evidence received by CC members from members of the community and has, more recently, been further supported by unilateral action taken by the Secretary in carrying out a review of people's opinions after the consultation was closed.

The planning application has still to go to the Development Management Sub Committee for approval and we understand this will happen on the 14th January. The CC stance has remained as a preference that the land be used for housing development as this is where there is an acknowledged shortage within the area and the city as a whole, but do not oppose the proposed development as it ensures the site would be developed and provide a source of local employment.

(B) In regard to the two applications to open an Indian Takeaway at 76 Colinton Mains Drive, we were approached by the applicant and those neighbours who were clearly objecting to the proposal. The premises had already been given planning permission for the sale of hot food but the operating hours were restricted to 6pm. The applications were for an extension of the hours, initially to 11pm and later to 10pm.

The applicant and neighbours were invited to a CC meeting so that opinions could be expressed. The CC acknowledged that this proposal would provide a new service within the community but also reflected that they would not like to live above or next to a hot food outlet which is liable to cause some disturbance to the amenity of the immediate area.

The initial application was refused by the Planning Committee and a revised application submitted. This application was supported by a petition. In similarity with the Aldi petition, the petition was presented to customers of the applicant at his other business at this locality. The revised application was granted by the Planning Committee subject to the closing time being amended to 9pm. A strange decision indeed, since there was no real change and the amendment could have applied to the original application.

The community council did submit comments expressing its concerns in regard to the application and the petition, but did not fully object to the proposal.

In reviewing the foregoing the CC upheld its actions and consider that it was a matter for the Planning Authority to decide the value of the evidence presented by the various parties involved in the applications. However it is acknowledged that where there is a local issue, in which another pressure group is involved and the CC is not supporting their stance, it would be better to take more direct action to gain evidence of the community view.

It is clear the two methods adopted by the CC (Website and Facebook) are not being supported by the community when expressing their opinions. There can be many reasons for this - from lack of interest, to an unwillingness to go on record. This is a problem that the CC needs to work on.

It is the statutory duty of a community council to speak up for communities to find out what people in the community feel and to express these feelings to the local authority. We can do this by talking to local people and see if they share the views of the community council. This was done but the problem with this is that the community council's evidence becomes a matter of personal reporting not open to public audit.

A community council can make representations where they have a clear understanding of local opinion in regard to the proposal. The opinion of neighbours directly affected by changes to their local amenity will in many cases be different from those who are not directly affected. Whilst a community council cannot and should not be bound to support those directly affected, there should be duty to understand the level and depth of feeling new changes are creating and accurately reflect those to the local authority. Firrhill Community Council considers that their actions taken in regard to the two development sites was reasonable in view of the circumstances, however, as a consequence

of misrepresentations by others intend to re-affirm our stance on the Aldi development to the Planning Committee prior to its meeting on the 14th January.

Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting:

Monday **26th January 2015** in the Lochan View Community Business Centre at **2.30pm**.

Note change of time: This meeting commences at 2.30pm, in line with the Community Council's policy to avoid members and visitors having to walk home in the dark.

Community Safety Action Group:

The meeting was held in the Oxfangs Neighbourhood Centre on 3rd Nov 2014. Whilst the report focuses on matters appertaining to Ward 8 (Pentland Neighbourhood Partnership) and where relevant, the Firrhill area, it should be noted that similar actions apply in Ward 2 (SW Neighbourhood Partnership area).

Pentlands Local Community Plan 2014-17

Copies of the new plan were presented and circulated by Michael Edwards, SW Partnership Officer. Whilst it is similar to the previous plan, remaining as a 4 page leaflet, its content is substantially less. As a plan it leaves much to be desired, as a general policy statement it is adequate. It lacks any form of development from the previous plan, no targets arising from the actions taken during the period 2011 to 2014 on which measurements could be based during the forthcoming period.

Ward 8 Community Priorities: Outcome reports and actions

Dog Fouling

During the reporting period (June to October) 26 complaints were received about dog foulings in Oxfangs Street/Avenue/Park/Crescent/Drive; Firrhill Crescent/Drive and Colinton Mains Park. All areas were patrolled at various times of the day and signs were put up in those areas on every complaint of dog fouling. No fixed penalty notices were issued.

In the Oxfangs area, Environmental Wardens dealt with 3 complaints of dangerous dogs resulting in advice being given to the owners about the *Control of Dogs Act 2010*.

Wardens patrol Ward 8 on a daily basis regarding dog fouling and other issues including fly tipping.

Parking around Schools

Officer presence and patrols were conducted at material times in order to monitor the situations at all schools in the ward. Drivers were spoken to and given appropriate advice. Where necessary and appropriate, parking attendants were requested to attend and carry out enforcement action.

Noted that 'driver behaviour' improved with a visible police /parking attendant presence however upon withdrawal of that presence, the decline is immediate.

Also noted that the schools in the area were on summer holidays and half term breaks most of the time this priority was running, so it is unknown if or what affect it had on the community.

It was stated this priority will require a long term education and engineering solution rather than a short term police presence/enforcement action in order to alleviate issues and improve safety for all parties within the vicinity of local schools.

Doorstep Crime

Trading Standards and Police Scotland jointly work on Operation Aristotle, continuing to target and combat doorstep crime throughout the city. This is a holistic approach incorporating advice and enforcement in relation to doorstep crime and adults at risk of financial harm.

As victims of financial harm are likely to be victim of other types of harm (or similar harms in multiple forms), it incorporates other matters such as scam mail and telephone calls.

The report gives a city wide perspective is provided as offenders involved in Doorstep Crime will operate throughout the city over a short timescale. In the two years Operation Aristotle has been running, intervention savings is £96,833, there are 11 investigations ongoing with 3 reports submitted to the Procurator Fiscal and 2 reports under consideration for such action.

Proactive actions:

- Ongoing joint response to Doorstep Crime incidents in conjunction with Police Scotland.
- Delivering call blockers to those identified as potentially at risk of financial Harm (Pilot). Currently ascertaining whether this would be suitable for extension with grant funding & liaising with Body with charitable status to facilitate this.
- Continued visits to victims of scam mail to reinforce that this is not genuine. In some cases have been able to return cash & cheques where these have been intercepted by Trading Standards.
- Partnership working with various other council services and other partners.
- Continued use of *Neighbourhood Watch Alerts* and liaison with other agencies & bodies.
- Presentations & training provided to Bank staff and other departments re: Financial Harm (with Social Work).
- 2 new *No Cold Calling Zones* have been established in Corstorphine Bank Terrace & Craighleith View. All zones can be viewed on a map via www.edinburgh.gov.uk/nccz

Future Actions:

- To continue enforcement and education/intervention work. Further engagement at national level with a variety of partners.
- To continue to encourage residents to sign up for Neighbourhood Watch Scotland alerts system – www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk

Other Relevant Information:

- Juniper Green – £1500 saving by bank staff intervention after alerting neighbourhood watch areas & cascading information to bank staff. Ongoing enquiries to track down those involved.
- Some information Re: suspected false claims of offender rehabilitation calling door to door. The business is now being pursued, along with individuals for Trading Standards/Police offences.

Littering from school children at Firrhill High School and surrounding Primary Schools.

There was no continuation report on this item which was reported at the last meeting (2nd June 2014). An update was given on Cllr Aitken's request for litter bins to be provided and the bins are now on site at the following locations:

- Oxfords Road North on the footpath near the rear entrance to the school on the opposite side from the houses;
- Braidburn – near the pedestrian entrance to the Gym Hall;
- Firrhill astro turf entrance on the left as you walk up to the school
- Two on the footpath from Tesco to Oxfords Primary, one nearer to main road the other nearer the astro turf / school car park
- Colinton Mains Gardens on the green as shown.

Ward 8: House breaking and acquisitive crime

This is still a matter of concern and has been adopted as one of the priorities from this meeting

The action plan was for hotspots to be patrolled by officers on foot, bicycle and within vehicles both in uniform and plain clothes in order to both deter and detect offenders. This was part of a nationwide housebreaking and acquisitive crime operation (Operation RAC) and was undertaken with two officers per shift allocated 'dedicated' patrol time within the 'hot spot' areas.

Areas affected by acquisitive crime have been lettered & leafleted to warn other residents and social media has also been used to inform the community of issues.

Outcome: Persons have been arrested and reported to the PF. There has been a reduction in break-ins to houses. Persons have been arrested and reported to the PF. There has been a reduction in break-ins to houses, sheds, garages and businesses in West and Pentlands in April 2014 when compared to the previous year.

Community Feedback: Housebreaking and acquisitive crime will affect the community due to the ward area being a hot spot area for this crime type and also the geography of the area which allows easy access and getaway for travelling criminals. This type of crime remains a priority of Police Scotland.

Proposed Community Priorities

Basically no change from previous priorities

Date of Next Meeting: 2nd March 2015

Correspondence List: November 2014

By e-mail: forwarded to members where possible. Items in bold may be of particular interest.

- 1 Scott Neill: potential actions/milestones for E&T Action Group – promoting new recycling services in PNP area (+ see 4, below)
- 2 Cllr Lewis: forwarded response re FCC Sec's query why no City Art Centre leaflets are in Oxgangs library, but there are leaflets for Art Centres/Galleries across Scotland. CAC info is contained in a general 'What's On' booklet, not in a separate leaflet.
- 3 FCC Website Builder: message inviting our Chair to a meeting of Edinburgh Labour Women's Forum [f. to H Levy]
- 4 Makanjuola Adebulehin, CEC Waste Management, in reply to FCC Sec's invitation to speak about new recycling initiative: confirmed that talk will take place at our meeting on 26 January '15 at 2.30 pm. [New service should now be started in Oxgangs Ave and Firrhill Drive; other streets may be in next phase.]
- 5 Pauline Valentine: sandbags she reported left on Oxgangs Rd N have been removed.
- 6 Nina Vaswani: word and paper survey re Youth & Criminal Justice - request for our CC to complete this at our next meeting.
- 7 City Council re Edinburgh's Budget Challenge; need to save £67m over next 3 yrs. Residents views requested on spending and savings: information at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget
- 8 Scott Neill: Draft Minutes of Pentland E&T Action Group meeting on 27 Oct. [FCC Sec was not able to attend/report on this – held at same time as our FCC meeting.]
- 9 Cllr Rust, f. from A Smith, SW Roads: re discrepancies pointed out my J Napier in 2014-18 spreadsheet - duplicate works and works already completed: these should be eradicated when new Confirm software comes in.
- 10 NHS Lothian re Annual Review Meeting, 24 Nov [to H Levy]
- 11 Edin. Alcohol & Drugs Partnership Report: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/licensingforum (also includes document on Edinburgh's Evening Economy); Licensing Board Papers www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cpol
- 12 Sgt Mackenzie re FCC queries on items not mentioned in Sept Police Report: Colinton Mains Convenience Store (no update); house in C Mains Terr (not enough info)
- 13 James Harbison in answer to FCC Sec's query re Aldi plans: 'Aldi layout will not create any restrictions or barriers to access for Emergency Service vehicles to the library.' (from Aldi's Transport Consultant)
- 14 Gordon Macdonald MSP: November e-newsletter
- 15 Julie Dickson re new Community Councils website developed by the Improvement Service, Scot Gov, in collaboration with COSLA, to raise awareness of, and support, CCs: www.communitycouncils.org.uk
- 16 Cllr Rust, f. from Council Transport Officer in answer to FCC Sec's query as to why no seat in Colinton Mains Drive bus shelter: belongs to Clear Chanel UK, not Council; been on site for 24 yrs; will be replaced as part of new Bus Shelter Contract (but not known when); seat was removed many years ago due to concerns from householders (where Shell garage used to be) about anti-social behaviour.

- 17 Michael Edwards, SW Office: request to have PNP CC reps list updated.
- 18 NHS Lothian: Edinburgh Community Health Partnership Issue 52 of Info Bulletin.
- 19 Archie Clark, SWCF: Agenda for 24 Nov meeting + correspondence with CEC and SESplan Officers, Vice-Con Planning Committee, and with Gordon Macdonald MSP.
- 20 Cllr Andrew Burns: Council Leader's Report for Nov '14.
- 21 CEC Natural Neighbourhoods 'That's my Patch' consultation: interactive map; for more info business.intelligence@edinburgh.gov.uk or Tel 0131 469 3852
- 22 Julie Dickson: request for CCs to update membership details [will be done after our next meeting]
- 23 Cllr Rust, f. from Robert Scott re free computer course running on Thursdays at Oxfangs Neighbourhood Centre: Tel The Digital Skills Academy, 0131 661 8888
- 24 Cllrs Aitken, Rust & Lewis + N Peachey & R Kelk: apologies for meeting on 1 Dec.
- 25 Sec, EACC: Agenda for AGM 29 Nov; Minutes of AGM '13; Accounts for '13-'14.
- 26 Edinburgh's Budget Challenge Question Time: 1 Dec, 7-8 pm, City Chambers.
- 27 Scott Neill: update on progress of underpass/walkway linking Westside Plaza to new Healthy Living Centre at Wester Hailes.
- 28 Lesley Birrell re Referral Reports to CCs from Council's Police and Fire Scrutiny Committee: agreed at 7 Nov meeting that Quarterly Performances be referred to all Community Councils and Neighbourhood Partnerships.
- 29 H Levy re Radio Scotland's Big Debate: 5 Dec, 11.15 am for 12 noon, Whale Arts Centre, Wester Hailes; to book email bigdebate@bbc.co.uk
- 30 PC Kenny Welsh: trying to get figures for Police Report for our 1 Dec meeting

For more information on any of the above, please contact Firrhill Community Council Secretary: peggy.wright@live.co.uk

CYCY Stakeholder Survey 2014- Communities

Q1 What is the name of your community council?

Firrhill Community Council

Q2 What is the biggest issue that your community is currently facing?

Substance mis-use

Q3 What is the biggest issue that young people in your community are currently facing?

Lack of affordable local facilities

Q5 Is youth crime a problem in your community?

- a big problem
- somewhat of a problem
- not really a problem (as far as we know)☐
- not a problem at all
- don't know

Q6 What makes your community council think that?

☐ People reporting to our CC but not necessarily to the police as our local police station has now closed.

Q7 What do you think would help to reduce youth crime in your community?

A police officer who only works locally, dealing with local issues.

Local facilities for youths

Reinstatement of the Youth Action Group

Q8 What information would your community council like to know about youth crime?

We can discuss issues as we are fortunate to still have a local police officer regularly attending meetings but we would like an annual report for our area of youth crime statistics according to age groups of offenders

Q9 Is there anything else that you would like to say about youth crime?

We have a group of youths who need to be watched as there is trouble brewing, but we do not have the resources to deal with or even monitor this; there is no infrastructure in place in this area (Firrhill, Colinton Mains and Oxfangs).

Q10 How did your community council complete this survey?

- collectively by the community council at a community council meeting

New Recycling Service

New kerbside service

- From September 2014, in phases until September 2015
- Changing to wheelie bin and box for recycling
- New slimmer wheelie bin for landfill waste
- Existing bin will become recycling bin

WHY?

- More capacity for recycling
- Fewer items to sort
- Accept more items
- To reach 50% recycling rate by 2015

What will go where?

Green bin

- Paper, cardboard, empty aerosols, food and drink cans, clean foil, plastic bottles, **envelopes and pots, tubs and trays.**
 - Pots e.g. yoghurt pots
 - Tub e.g. ice cream or margarine tubs
 - Trays e.g. ready meal trays

Blue box

- Glass bottles and jars, batteries,
- small electrical items, textiles

Service easier to Use

- Collections will be on the same day of the week
- One week it will be general waste and food
- The next week it will be recycling bin and box, garden and food

Monday week 1	Monday week 2
Landfill	Garden
Food	Food
	Recycling bin
	Recycling box

Although we have to be cautious so early into the new system, we are finding that recycling tonnages over the first few weeks have risen by around 40-50% on average. We think more people are now recycling their waste.

It is far too soon to say this will be the same in every area, but it does suggest perhaps both that more people are recycling, and that people who do recycle are also recycling more of their waste?

Actions to Support or Promote Recycling in the Pentland Area

- Encourage residents to continue use the current recycling system where they have not yet moved to the new service. The current system comprises of the red and blue boxes. There is more information on the link below:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20001/bins_and_recycling/412/find_out_what_goes_in_what_bin

- Encourage residents to try the New Recycling Service in areas that are changing over in phase two. Please see map with street names at the link below:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20001/bins_and_recycling/1023/new_recycling_service

- Encourage groups within the Pentland area such as schools, community groups, youth groups, church groups and families to visit our Waste Education Cabin to learn why it's important to reduce, reuse and recycle. We can accommodate groups of up to 15. Visits can be booked on the link below:

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20001/bins_and_recycling/257/waste_education_cabin

- Invite us to community events so that we can give talks on recycling in Edinburgh. We have interactive games that internalise recycling messages that is suitable for all ages.
- Let us know about any avenue to get information to the wider public, places where we can put up posters and give contacts in local papers/newsletters where we can place articles about recycling.
- Report issues to the council at any time by calling 0131 529 3030 or emailing waste@edinburgh.gov.uk so it can be recorded and dealt with appropriately.
- Last but not the least; let us know of any areas of concerns where you need our support to increase access to recycling facilities.