

Firrhill Community Council

'Nec Aspera Terrent'
(Undaunted by Adversity)

Minute of Part Meeting held on Monday 27 July 2015

At Lochan View Community Business Centre, 12 Firrhill Neuk

Note: *This was a special meeting to discuss and evaluate the Oxfangs Gala and its future development and the Chair elected to provide a note of the discussion that took place. Due to a police presence, the normal police report was heard and is recorded. This minute is provided as a record of the meeting, who attended and the business discussed prior to the debate on the Oxfangs Gala.*

Attendance and Apologies:

Members: F Gosney; S Duffy; P Wright; L Linn; H Levy; P Valentine; J Napier; J Burt.

Resident Visitors: D Young & M Kelly (Oxfangs Gala); L Supron, (Resident).

Other Visitors: Cllr Aitken; PC Wilson, Oxfangs Police.

Apologies: Cllr Rust; Cllr R Lewis; R Kelk; N Peachey.

Non attendance: G Duncan.

Minutes of the previous meeting (AGM) held on 29th June

The minutes were approved with two corrections:

1. under the Election of Office-Bearers, omitted to record P Wright gave notice this would be her last year as secretary; and
2. under Police Report, incorrectly recorded the issue with door entry systems was repairs when in fact it was the need to progress the installation of door entry systems

With these corrections the minutes were approved by F Gosney & P Valentine.

Police Report:

The Chair welcomed PC Wilson to the meeting and invited her to give a police report for the Oxfangs area (Beat 57) over the last month. A copy of this report was received later and dated 27th July but the period covered was from 1st June to the 29th June.

Housebreaking: No report of housebreaking in this area but it has been an issue in Colinton and Fairmilehead. Operation RAC, an initiative to target housebreakings in Edinburgh, is continuing and numerous offenders have been charged with house- breaking offences and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Assaults: there were three minor assaults and in each case the victim knew their assailant.

Thefts:

- a slip-in theft at an address in Oxfangs Street on 6th June.
- reports of an attempted theft of a motorcycle, also from Oxfangs Street;
- a theft of a trailer from Oxfangs Farm Grove;
- a reclining garden chair from an address in Oxfangs Rise;
- two vans broken into in Oxfangs Road North, whereby tools were stolen; and
- a similar theft from a van in Oxfangs Bank.

Road Safety: No road safety issues in June but several complaints about inconsiderate parking.

That concluded the normal business of the meeting held 27th July 2015, other than the report on the Oxfangs Gala debate.

The planning report and correspondence list were tabled at the end of the meeting, with no discussion. Copies of both reports are attached as appendices.

Planning Report : July 2015

Planning Bulletins

30/06/15	Application 15/02888/FUL for a proposed attic conversion with dormer window at 148 Colinton Mains Drive.
07/07/15	no applications or decisions reported.
14/07/15:	no applications or decisions reported.
21/07/15	no applications or decisions reported.

SESplan: Main Issues Report

Indicated in my previous report that the consultation exercise on the Main Issues Report (MIR) was due to commence on 21 July and run to 15 September and community councils have been identified in SESplan's list of stakeholder engagement activities.

We were invited by Cllr Ian Perry, Planning Convenor to a 'community event' about the SESplan MIR and this was held on 1st July within the European Room at the City Chambers. Four members attended (FG, HL, LL & JN) and received an explanation on the options for the growth of the city region and to discuss the process of plan preparation and engagement of communities.

It was stressed that the Main Issues Report was a consultation document highlighting the key challenges facing the region over the next 20 years and presents a series of issues and options on how to address them. Key questions include the scale and direction of development and how the infrastructure and services needed to support that development can be provided.

The City Council are keen to engage as many people as they can during the consultation period as this is the main opportunity for everyone to engage in the plan preparation process. Delegates to the meeting were advised that Community Councils can apply for grants 'up to' £300 to help them disseminate information to their neighbourhoods. This would be through the Planning Concordat Community Engagement Fund (PCEF) which was established to assist Community Councils to engage more widely with their communities on major developments.

I have created a new sub page under the "Consultations" webpage on our website and will develop this to provide access to the various websites and documents relevant to this consultation. I have also put a copy of the SWCF note of the 1st July meeting referred to above on our "Reports and Minutes" page in anticipation that this will be an item on the agenda for our August meeting.

Members may wish to consider what other actions we should take to publicising the MIR consultation in addition to our response to the MIR at this meeting.

Correspondence List

- 1 Helen Johnston, Sec to Lord Provost, re Garden Party at Lauriston Castle: two invitations only from each CC; given to LL and FG [HL & PW have attended previously].
- 2 Ria Valportzis: arrangements for PW, LL & FG to attend initial testing at Heriot Watt Uni, Riccarton, + venues/days to choose from by those randomly selected to do tablet training.
- 3 Sgt Richardson forwarding May and June Police Reports.
- 4 Ruth Bradford, Asst to Planning Convener: PDFs of SESplan Presentations from pre- consultation event on 1 July: Issues Report Q & A + Cllr Perry on additional housing required and challenges re where this will be built – 3 options, but all will include green belt. Consultation is from 21 July to 30 Sept.
- 5 Breid Croal re **Public Toilets: decision by CEC, following survey, that 10 outwith city centre will be closed in July/August, including Canaan Lane, Morningside.** [This is in spite of well over 90% of respondees stating this would affect them and their communities.]
- 6 Websitebuilder (from FCC's website): message from 'Shedload of Science' re appearing at our Gala Day [but enquiry came too late].
- 7 Elvira Torres: researching for CEC potential impact of integrating public health functions at a community level in achieving better health outcomes and closing health inequalities gaps. [Research questions to HL for answering.]
- 8 Get Up & Go Awards: application form for individuals/groups/organisations making a difference to older people in their community (up to 31 Aug).
- 9 **Scott Neill re Pentland Funding Panel:** needs more local groups to apply for funding; next meeting in August may not be worthwhile: decisions may have to be made by email instead.
- 10 Firrhill CC Secretary: passing on news that traffic barrier installed in the '90s at corner of Colinton Mains Drive/Green, under discussion with Dr Andy Edwards, Manager, SW Roads for some time re possible painting (but told that this is too expensive an option), was assessed as no longer required and has now been removed.
- 11 Breid Croal - Planning Weekly Lists for 14 July: Ward 8 Applications are for Colinton Conservation Area only; Decisions are for Buckstone only.
- 12 Kathryn Dolan re **Marie Curie Fund-raising Event 'Walk to Remember':** 10k around Dalkeith Country Park for families on 1 August.
- 13 H Levy forwarding info on Edinburgh Mela free Music & Dance Workshops for young people 11-17 yrs; 10am- 4pm on 3-14 August; workshops based at Edinburgh Colleges, Milton Road Campus.
- 14 **Gorgie City Farm Fest, 1 August,** will include face painting, bouncy castle, bucking bronco, arts and crafts workshops, meeting the animals, local bands. Refreshments available. Free entry.
- 15 **Dr Andy Edwards re Ward 8 Neighbourhood Environment Programmes (NEPs)** Scores for 2015/16; all for Colinton area (Redford Rd, Bridge Rd, Redford Walk, Westgarth), but he has received assurances from Street Lighting section that the Colinton Mains Park second lighting project (down at the children's playpark end) – for which Firrhill CC has lobbied almost since we got the first lighting through the park installed from the NEPs fund – is due to be delivered this year.
- 16 Scott Neill: Pentland Digest for July.

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