

Firrhill Community Council

'Nec Aspera Terrent'
(Undaunted by Adversity)

Note of Meeting of the Council on 22 Jan 2018 held in Lochan View Community Business Centre, Firrhill Neuk.

Attendance: H Levy, L McGurk, S Duffy, L Linn, F Gosney, J Turnbull, J Napier.

Visitors: S Weir.

The meeting started at 6 pm, with H Levy in the Chair. Members previously advised this was a closed meeting in order to progress arrangements for the hand-over of business to the new Secretary and Treasurer and those matters relating to the recycling plan discussed at our last meeting.

1. Minute of Previous Meeting held on 27 Nov 2017:

The draft minutes for our Annual General Meeting held on 27 Nov 2017 were reviewed. There being no corrections, the minutes were moved for approval by L McG, seconded by LL. Approved.

2. Ongoing Issues from Previous Meetings

Allermuir Health Centre: Tapestry Art Project

The Chair reported that the art project for the medical centre has started in the Library. The project is to produce 6 tapestry panels defining and depicting the wider area covered by the two medical practices based in the Centre. Leading the project is Andrew Crummy, an Edinburgh artist who has designed several major works such as the Great Tapestry of Scotland, the Scottish Diaspora tapestry and the Prestonpans Tapestry.

The Chair indicated she was very disappointed at the lack of engagement despite putting out invitations to all the organisations, groups and centres within the area. The project still needed people to get involved not just in the physical work but also in identifying historical events that have shaped and/or defined the area.

In discussion members came up with some suggestions of the possible scenes that could be added to the Firrhill panel – Firr Tree, Milestone House, Gala/park, Colinton Mains shops – R.S McColl, butcher, grocer, pharmacy, Army Stables, but more were needed.

The Tapestry Art Project Group meet on Monday mornings in Oxfangs Library.

Recycling Plan

This discussion is to develop more fully, proposals that can be put to a public meeting. The basic proposal is to extend the current recycling facilities within the area and the next step is to identify suitable sites where such facilities could be located.

There are currently 5 recycling points, 1 at the rear of Oxfangs Avenue next to Oxfangs House, 1 at Firrhill Drive and 1 at each of the three stores – Morrisons, Tesco & Aldi. As most of the complaints originate in the Oxfangs area, the plan is to provide additional street recycling points located nearer to people's homes. Funding for this could come from City Council's capital investment grants for improvement projects in housing areas (NEP grants).

In discussion it was agreed two walkabouts should take place before the 26th March for the purpose of providing data for our March meeting, which will focus on developing the recycle plan and actions.

Invites to the meeting will be extended to Carol Duncan, CEC Environment; Carol Robertson, CEC Housing; Harry Woodward, Dunedin Canmore; Rob Fords, Greenspace Trust; Change Works; our three City Councillors; Community Police Officer, Colinton Enterprise Rep, Craig Dunlop, CEC Parks; Donna Mills, CEC Environmental Warden.

The Walkabout Group will be made up of Laura, Susan, Lesley and Frances and will be conducted on Wednesdays about lunch time, SW will liaise with the group re dates, etc.

Walk About Routes – 1 - Firrhill Loan, Cres., etc., except Firrhill Drive - done
2 - Oxgangs Farm circuit- done
3 - 21st Feb at 10 am - Colinton Mains Park, Firrhill Drive
4 - 7th March at 12 noon - start @ Oxgangs Ave, Firrhill Neuk, Oxgangs Cres. circuit, concluding in Oxgangs Cres. square.

Action: look out maps for the walk about & maps, list of hot spots & possible solutions for the March meeting.

JN made the point that recycling points do not cater for items generally classed as fly tipping, which is the problem we have in Oxgangs. This facility would need to be added into recycling points within the area otherwise the project has limited value.

City Council policy is to do away with communal bin stores and move the bins out into the streets, where they can be emptied quicker. The resultant eyesore will be open to the same abuses we spoke about re Oxgangs Farm Drive. It will make Oxgangs Street a dump-site. With constant cuts to its budget, one can understand the CEC's desire to reduce the time taken in the collection of waste, but this is not the answer.

Secretary/Treasurer Handover

Treasurer Handover

Jennifer & Heather will meet week commencing 26th Feb. All Treasurer updates have to be done on line. Lesley will stay a signatory but Peggy needs to be removed and Jennifer added.

Secretary Handover

Laura has created a Firrhill CC mail box: firrhilcommunitycouncil@hotmail.com

Laura & Chair will create a Facebook & Twitter account linking them to the website

Jim handed over to Laura, his own and Peggy's memory sticks containing FCC Secretarial documents over the past years.

Meeting Venue

Oxgangs Care have taken over the lease of the whole of the Lochan View Community Business Centre building from Dunedin Canmore. The Chair reported she has been in discussion with Oxgangs Care re our continued use of the Board Room for our monthly meetings. They are agreeable subject to a donation of £200 per annum for the use of a room. After discussion this was agreed on a condition that we can access their Wi-Fi during the meetings. Chair to report back.

2. Correspondence

As this was a restricted meeting, only urgent correspondence was discussed, however, for recording purposes, the full list of correspondence is appended here.

Where appropriate, information obtained through correspondence on items identified on the agenda are contained within the relevant report and not included in this list.

1 Dec: Community Councils GDPR Guidance

Email from Please see a guidance note for Edinburgh Community Councils on Information Governance in light of the new General Data Protection Regulations.

You will note that there is a requirement for each Community Council to register as a Data Controller with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). This is the individual responsibility of each community council and failure to register may lead to a fine. The attached note provides guidance on how to do this. The £35 registration fee is classed as an administrative requirement and therefore the annual administrative grant provided by CEC can be used to cover this cost.

Please let myself or the Council's Information Governance Team (details on attached note) know if you have any queries.

Comment: Action required

7 Dec: LDP Action Programme presentation slides

Local Development Plan (LocalDevelopmentPlan@edinburgh.gov.uk)

Email from Judith Fordham, Development Plan Support Officer, Development Plan Team, Place Directorate, forwarding slides used at recent briefings in the City Chambers. Following positive feedback from the Community Councils, they will be in touch early in 2018 with dates for the next briefing sessions taking place in 2018.

If we have any queries in the meantime, we can contact the Development Plan Team.

Comment: A pdf of the slides is available on the FCC website – documents page

13 Dec: Edinburgh Playing Out Evaluation Survey

Message received from "The Edinburgh 'Playing Out' Team" via the Website. Query re involvement in the 'Edinburgh Playing Out' evaluation and asking if we would like to participate. Responded that I was unaware of any streets in our area who participated.

14 Dec: Make your community safer National Campaign.

Have received several emails over the year re this campaign Primary Care Supplies. Do not generally promote sales campaigns but thought I should at least make the Committee aware of this one, in case others disagree.

Make your community a safer place to live in with a life-saving defibrillator. In the last year we have helped over 2000 communities to do so. Call our helpline on 0845 862 9500 where we can advise on each step of this process. See the Community Defibrillators Online. Call us today on 0845 862 9500

At best, an ambulance is targeted to reach an emergency within 8 minutes. This can be longer in rural areas. When a person suffers from Cardiac Arrest, for every second that goes by waiting for an ambulance, their chances of survival decreases. So it's important to act quick.

A community defibrillator can make all the difference, but the biggest barrier is the price. We have secured a number of high specification Automatic Defibrillators at a better price and we are passing these savings on to your community.

Call us to discuss how we can potentially help your community. 30,000 people a year suffer from Cardiac Arrest outside of hospital. Only 1 in 10 survive.

20 Dec: Participatory Budgeting Champions Programme

Email from Saty Kaur, Lead Officer, Strategy and Insight offering training to community councillors interested in learning more about PB and then sharing that knowledge with others.

To qualify for this free training, you will need:

- time to attend two full day and one-half day training sessions between 20 Feb and 14 Mar 2018;
- a willingness to respond to requests for support from others in Edinburgh;
- a passion for sharing good practice, and
- your employer's consent to take on this role.

Applications had to be in by 19 January 2018.

22 Dec: Making Representations on Planning Applications

Email from Nancy Jamieson, Planning Team Manager, Appeals and Review, advising that as part of the Council's requirement to secure Best Value and ensure services are run efficiently, they are looking at how representations are made on planning applications. Currently they accept online representations made through public access on the planning portal, paper representations and emailed representations. Currently about 75% of representations are made via public access on the planning portal.

We would like your views on our proposal to stop accepting representations by email. This would not apply where the community council is a statutory consultee and wants to make comments.

It would seem reasonable that anyone with access to email (which requires an internet connection) would also have access to public access to make their representations. Public access is set up to automatically redact personal information such as email addresses and phone numbers whereas emailed representations either have to be printed and scanned to manually redact this information or converted to a pdf and manually redacted. As the Council receives around 15,000 representations per year on planning applications, those that have to be manually redacted cost the council time and money that would be better spent.

We would like to ask those that try to make representations by email to go to public access to do so. Clearly if the system is down we will accept comments by email.

Please give us your views on this proposal by Friday 19 January 2018 or let us know if you need longer.

Action: Have asked for an extension in time in order to seek CC agreement to oppose this proposal. Whilst it does not affect CCs, I am not enamoured with the Council's public access reporting system nor with the Council's website in general. Emails have certain advantages in regards to the retention of evidence and some people may just prefer using them rather than Council's public access system.

29 Dec: Local Development Plan: Additional Copies

Email from Judith Fordham, Development Plan Support Officer, Development Plan Team, Place Directorate, advising that an additional copy of the LDP is being sent out to each Community Council Chair. Thus, each Community Council should have 2 copies of the LDP available to them.

Comment: Chair has received a copy.

11 Jan: Transition Edinburgh Newsletter January 2018

From: Joy Stockley Email: transitionedinburgheditors@gmail.com

Newsletter Transition Edinburgh - Workshops, Events, Meetings, Screenings

If you would like to volunteer on the Newsletter and/or have any information for the next issue, please contact us by email on transitionedinburgheditors@gmail.com (the deadline is normally 7 days before the 1st of each month).

In this month's newsletter: Transition News & Events; Events From Other Groups – Food; Other Exciting Events; Transition Edinburgh newsletter group:

12 Jan: Community involvement - Lothian Joint Health Protection Plan

From: Bruce, Chris [Chris.Bruce@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk] via Michele Mulvaney, Community Engagement and Partnership Development Manager, Strategy and Insight, CEC.

The Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008 requires NHS Boards, in consultation with Local Authorities, to produce a Joint Health Protection Plan which provides an overview of health protection (communicable disease and environmental health) priorities, provision and preparedness for the NHS Board area.

NHS Lothian is responsible for developing and supporting the Joint Health Protection Plan for Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian and West Lothian.

We are hosting an event to discuss the Plan for 2018 - 2020 on Wednesday 17th January, where community council voices could influence thinking and prioritisation.

The event is starting at 9am and ending at 2pm, lunch will be provided.

You would be welcome to join us at The Edinburgh Faith Mission, 548 Gilmerton Road, Gilmerton, Edinburgh EH17 7JD

Please advise Fiona Smith on fiona.s.smith@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk if you are able to attend.

Chris Bruce, Lead on Equalities & Human Rights, Public Health & Health Policy, NHS Lothian. Phone: 07824625063; e-mail: chris.bruce@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

11 Jan: Kickstart 2018: Meal on Fri 26 Jan, Carbon Neutral Edinburgh 31 Jan, Just Transition Scotland 7 Feb

From: Transition Edinburgh, notice of 3 events to kickstart 2018.

1. Festive Community Meal, 6.30-9pm Friday 26 January at Charteris Centre, 138 Pleasance, Edinburgh EH8 9RR.
2. Fire Starter Festival conversation on How can our capital city achieve carbon neutrality? 1.30 - 4.45pm Wednesday 31 January 2018 at Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI).
3. Fire Starter Festival conversation on Achieving the Just Transition to a Low Carbon Scotland, 1.30 - 4.45pm Wednesday 7 February 2018 at Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI).

19 Jan: Developer Contributions and Infrastructure Delivery 2018

Email from Kate Hopper, Senior Planning Officer, Development Plan, advising that the Council is consulting on draft guidance on Developer Contributions and Infrastructure Delivery. The guidance sets out the Council's approach to infrastructure provision and improvements associated with development. You can view the draft Supplementary Guidance online at <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/developer-contributions-infrastructure-sg2018>.

Responses should be submitted by Friday 23 February 2018 via the Council's Consultation Hub. If you have any other queries about the draft guidance, then please contact localdevelopmentplan@edinburgh.gov.uk.

19 Jan: 20mph rollout continues as new signs go up for final phase (South)

From Eileen Hewitt, Professional Officer, 20mph Programme, Active Travel and Road Safety. The Capital's rollout of 20mph speed limits for residential and shopping streets continues with new signs starting to be installed in South Edinburgh from 22 Jan 2018.

Phase 4 of the network covers South Edinburgh, much of which is already within 20mph zones. Areas where new 20mph signage will be installed include Woodhall, Colinton, Oxcgangs, Swanston,

Fairmilehead and Greenbank. Phase 4 is the final phase of the 20mph rollout. The new speed limit for this phase comes into effect from 5 March.

As well as improving road safety, the 20mph scheme aims to make streets calmer, quieter and more pleasant places to spend time in, boosting a sense of community and helping the environment by encouraging active travel like walking and cycling.

Police Scotland is supportive of improved road safety and will continue to enforce and monitor 20mph limits. The new speed limit will also rely on a change in driver behaviour and we will be working to achieve this with the Police through road safety education, awareness raising and prevention activities.

3. AOCB

Co-opting a New Member

Susan has agreed to be a co-opted member to the Firrhill CC. This item to be added to the agenda for our next meeting (Feb). Co-opted representatives may be appointed by the passing of a motion to that effect at a community council meeting, proposed and seconded by other elected and nominated members of the community council.

Section 7 of the Scheme & Constitution covers "Casual Vacancies on the Community Council" and allows where a vacancy arises at least 6 months from the last election, the Community Council may agree to the filling of a vacancy by co-option with voting rights.

The Community Council currently has 8 members, which is 4 short of the allowed membership of 12.

Future Calendar Events

Discussion about holding a debate in Aug 2018, our next A.G.M will be Nov 2018.

Date, Time and Venue of Next Public Meeting

Date, venue and time of our next meeting is Monday **26 Feb 2018** in the Lochan View Community Business Centre at **6.00pm**.

The meeting ended at 8.00 pm approx.