

NORTHFIELD AND WILLOWBRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 22 January 2015: 18:30 Northfield Community Centre

Present:

John	Fayrer	Chairman
Margaret	Alexander	
Dave	King	
Alex	Lunn	Councillor, CEC
Gordon	Macdonald	
Nick	Marshall	
Ian	Murray	Vice-Chairman
Geoff	Pearson	Secretary

One member of the public was present.

Apologies

1. Apologies were received from George Callaghan, Caroline Kaye, Christine Kerr, Stewart Kerr, Councillors Joan Griffiths and Stefan Tymkewycz and Sheila Gilmore MP.

Minutes of Meeting

2. The minutes of the meeting of 25 September were approved.

Matters arising

3. Matters arising were dealt with under relevant agenda items.

Member

4. The Community Council noted that the membership of Shami Khan had automatically terminated under Section 8 of the of Edinburgh Scheme for Community Councils.

Treasurer's Report

5. The Secretary conveyed the Treasurer's report that £3268.44 was held in the Community Council's bank account.

Environment

Cycling

6. Gordon Macdonald and Nick Marshall reported that proposals for two new cycle routes from Holyrood Park were being advanced in discussion with City Cycling Officer. These ideas converged with some coming from the Health and Well-being and the Environment Sub-groups of the Neighbourhood Partnership.

7. It was agreed to continue the work by seeking advice from Sustrans and discussing routes with neighbouring community councils.

Baronscourt

8. On the day of the meeting, it emerged that a petition directed to City Councillors was in circulation about the litter and traffic in the private lane between Morrison's and Domino's/Tanz.

9. The Community Council noted that it had asked for meetings with the Council Environment Manager and the Area Roads Manager and the lane would be on the agenda for those meetings. It was further agreed that a letter should be sent to Morrison's HQ seeking help with various issues arising from their site.

10. An improvement plan for Baronscourt Park had been prepared by the Parks Department and, although not formally consulted, it was agreed that the Community Council would submit comments, drawing on comments being received via Facebook.

Environment Forum

11. The meeting of the Forum, held on 20 January, is to be continued on 3 February.

Planning and Licensing

12. The Community Council's objection to the second Domino's Late Hours Catering Licence had been acknowledged by the Council and an invitation to speak to the objection at the Licensing Sub-committee is awaited.

13. The Community Council formally adopted the letter of support sent on 14 January in relation to the proposal in principle planning application submitted for the St Margaret's and Meadowbank House site.

Schools

14. The Council had opened consultation on two "School Streets" pilot schemes for Duddingston Primary and St John's RC Primary Schools as described in Paper 1/2015. Consultation closes on 27 February. The consultation is on the overall principle of the schemes as the practical details had not been settled.

15. In discussion, points made included:

- The vast majority of families behaved responsibly in taking their children to school and the schemes were needed only to deal with a small group of inconsiderate parents.
- The impact of street closures would fall on streets outside the designated areas and the Community Council had a duty to ensure the views of these areas were fully taken into account.

- The Duddingston Primary scheme would not be needed if the emergency exit to the school were properly managed for that purpose alone rather than being used as a pedestrian access.
- Closing the through route in both schemes by simple bollards would have a better effect than the difficult-to-enforce schemes.

16. In principle, the Community Council supported the proposals but agreed that a small ad-hoc group should arrange for consultation of streets in and around the proposed zones, alerting those outside the Council's consultation to the diversion of traffic and seeking thoughts on the detailed operation of the schemes.

Edinburgh Association of Community Councils

17. The Community Council agreed the considerations in Paper 2/2015 and that the Chairman and Secretary should engage in the imminent meetings to be held by EACC to examine its future.

Date of Next Meeting

18. The next meeting would be on 19 March.
19. The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.00.

Geoff Pearson
Secretary