

Northfield and Willowbrae
Community Council



MINUTES OF MEETING 14 February 2019: NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

John	Nisbet	Chair
Sam	Rutherford	Vice-chair
Geoff	Pearson	Secretary
Nick	Weech	Treasurer
Charlie	Wood	
Ex Officio		
John	McLellan	Councillor, City of Edinburgh Council
Alex	Staniforth	Councillor, City of Edinburgh Council
In Attendance		
PC Campbell	Blackmore	Police Scotland

About sixteen members of the public were present.

Welcome

1. John Nisbet welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

2. Apologies for absence were received from Sarah Cleary, Paul Dunleavey, Davy Ferguson, Nick Marshall, Gordon Macdonald, Ian Murray, and Bill Whyte.

Minutes of Meeting

3. The minutes of the meeting of 13 December were agreed.

Matters Arising

4. None.

Treasurer's Report

5. The Treasurer reported that the current bank balance was £3,801.58.

Police Report

6. The Community Council welcomed a brief report by PC Blackmore covering:
 - youth problems in Piershill, including vandalism
 - reports of licensed premises selling alcohol to minors
 - success in catching two house-breakers.

Local Development Plan

7. This was not discussed in the absence of the community council members who were carrying forward the work. It was noted that the LDP is now called the City Plan 2030.

Review of Community Council Scheme

8. It was reported that useful informal discussions had taken place with 3 other community councils in the Locality, in advance of the formal City consultation now underway.

Events

9. Sam Rutherford reported that funding for the EID project had been awarded under the Local Events programme in addition to that agreed to be contributed by the Community Council. This is a partnership with the Northfield Community Centre and details can now be worked out.

Procedures

10. The Secretary reported that the City Council's review of the Community Council Scheme included proposals for a complaints procedure but this would not be in place, if agreed, until late in the year. In the meantime, the Community Council approved a complaints procedure based on that used in Argyll and Bute.

Any Other Competent Business

London Road Student Accommodation

11. Members of the public suggested that the developers of student accommodation in London Road might be asked to attend a future meeting to discuss their proposals. There is no current planning application for the site about which the community council could take forward its statutory responsibilities and the lead on the site was being taken by Craigentenny & Meadowbank Community Council in whose area the site lies¹.

Treverlen Park

12. A number of people raised questions about the scale and design of the skate zone being built in the new Treverlen Park. Assertions were made that the works in hand did not meet undertakings given in the planning approval and that the budget had been reduced. A document was said to have been circulated by a City Councillor but this had not been made public nor seen by the Community Council. A group of skaters, who said they had received a copy of this document from the Councillor, asked for community council support in pressing the City Council to deliver what had been promised and the Community Council agreed to write conveying their views².

Date of Next Meeting

13. 14 March³.

14. The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Geoff Pearson

Secretary

¹ After the meeting contact was made with the developer who is, in principle, happy to attend a meeting of the community council.

² Immediately after the meeting closed, a petition was handed to the Secretary requesting that the Community Council convene within 21 days, under paragraph 11(g) of the Constitution, a Special Meeting to discuss the issue. No mention was made of this during the meeting. The Community Council is making arrangements for this. Notice has to be given to the whole community and therefore a large number of people is likely to attend. Accordingly, the Community Council will suspend further action on the Park issues until that meeting has been held.

³ This date is subject to review depending on the Special Meeting to be held before 7 March.