



MEETING: 19:00, Thursday 17 September 2015 Northfield Community Centre

AGENDA

1.	Chairman's Welcome	
2.	Apologies for absence	
3.	Minutes of Meeting of 16 July 2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matters arising 	End time: 19:15
4.	Finance Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEC grant received 	Treasurer End time: 19:20
5.	Donation to Edinburgh Tenants Federation: 25 th Anniversary	End time: 19:25
6.	Consultations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SESPlan • Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland, Changes to Ward boundaries 	End time: 19:40
7.	Environment Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project proposals 	End time: 19:45
8.	Progress Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abercorn Cottages • The New Park on the site of the current St John's Primary School • Craigentiny and Telferton Allotments • Baronscourt Park • N&W Notice Boards • Brighton Place/Southfield Place Bridge 	Secretary End time: 20.15
9.	Meeting Places <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet in St John's Primary School on 22 October? 	End time: 20.20
10.	Any Other Competent Business	
11.	Next meeting 22 October	End time: 20:30

Website: www.northfieldandwillowbrae.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/northfieldandwillowbraecc>

Contact: secretary@northfieldandwillowbrae.org.uk



BACKGROUND NOTES FOR AGENDA OF 17 SEPTEMBER 2015

CITY OF EDINBURGH GRANT

1. The grant to the community council was paid in August: £697.38. It is made up of three elements, basic grant, population element and accommodation subsidy. The Council has not yet explained how the total was reached. An FOI request has listed all the grants paid in Edinburgh – some well over £1000.

CONSULTATIONS

SESPlan

2. This is the major document in planning is where the Council is consulting on a group of 42 issues – the headline one being whether the Edinburgh conurbation should extend. There are few issues affecting N&W directly and other community councils have had difficulty in tackling this consultation.

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland

3. The Commission is consulting basically on load balancing between wards – adjusting boundaries and councillor numbers and taking account of “natural neighbourhoods”. N&W is directly affected. Portobello is proposed to have 4 councillors (now 3) and to have its area extend to take in the Durhams, the Duddingstons, the Hamiltons and the Figgate Park. See map attached.

The Commission said:

“On 30 July 2015 we announced a 12 week period of consultation with the public on our ward boundary proposals.

It is important to us that we hear views from local communities on our proposals. You can respond to this consultation by using our Consultation portal, or by email or post to the details given on this webpage. The consultation period ends on 22 October 2015.

Our proposals for wards

Our proposals for wards in City of Edinburgh council area present an electoral arrangement for 63 councillors representing 5 3-member wards and 12 4-member wards, increasing councillor numbers in the area by 5. Our proposals for the council area:

- improve overall forecast parity;
- increase the number of councillors by 1 in ward 1 (Almond), ward 2 (Pentland Hills), ward 11 (City Centre), ward 14 (Craigentinny / Duddingston) and ward 17 (Portobello / Craigmillar);



- address forecast disparities in ward 1 (Almond) and 11 (City Centre);
- re-name ward 10 to Morningside and ward 16 to Gilmerton but make no changes to other ward names; and
- make changes to ward boundaries throughout the council area to reflect the change in councillor numbers and to align with “natural communities” (a local geography used by City of Edinburgh Council)

PROGRESS REPORTS

4. Abercorn Cottage: Planning permission has been granted as applied for except for the proposed two windows on the rear first floor. N&W CC made no comment on the application.
5. The New Park: The consultation, as described to us by Ross Woodside in July, has begun. ELGT staff are meeting various groups but offering no more information than we heard in July. Residents abutting the Park site are meeting in early October to discuss ideas and issues. The Neighbourhood Partnership will consider the results of the consultation at its meeting on 17 November and, probably, make its formal recommendation to the Council.
6. Craigtinny and Telferton Allotments: Jointly with Craigtinny and Meadowbank CC, we wrote to the developers making strong objection to the loss of allotments – this has been acknowledged. The Allotment holders were granted a Certificate of Lawfulness by the Council which recognises the allotments as a proper use of the site over the last more than 90 years. The Inchview Terrace Residents Association has been formed. A planning application is expected.
7. Baronscourt Park: Morrisons has shown the roads manager a drawing of its part of the path through the Park with a view to a joint approach to Planning. Once agreement has been reached it will be considered by Morrisons’ investment panel.
8. Notice Boards: NP staff are helping with resolving planning issues.
9. Brighton Place/Southfield Place: the disgusting state of this important pedestrian entrance to Duddingston has been cleaned and re-netted. This has taken a year of constant pressure on the Council and through them on Network Rail

MEETING PLACES

10. It appears to be easier than expected to book rooms in schools and it may be that holding our next meeting in St John’s Primary School and another later in Parson’s Green might improve awareness and involvement. St John’s can be booked for an evening through the Council for £32.50.

