

Northfield and Willowbrae
Community Council



MINUTES OF MEETING 22 February 2018: NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

Lorraine	Simpson	Chair
John	Nisbet	Vice Chair
Sarah	Cleary	
Davy	Ferguson	
Gordon	Macdonald	
Ian	Murray	
Geoff	Pearson	Secretary
Samantha	Rutherford	
Nick	Weech	
In Attendance		
PC	Low	Police Scotland

One member of the public was present.

Welcome

1. The Community Council welcomed Lorraine Simpson on her return to the chair after maternity leave.

Apologies

2. Apologies for absence were received from Tommy Sheppard MP, Councillors Mary Campbell, Joan Griffiths, John McLellan and Alex Staniforth.

Minutes of Meeting

3. The minutes of the meeting of 28 September were agreed.

Matters Arising

4. None, except to note that reporting arrangements for dog fouling are to be publicised.

Treasurer's Report

5. The Treasurer reported that the current bank balance was £3817.39.

Police Report

6. The Community Council welcomed a short briefing by PC Low on crime and traffic matters for the last quarter. Significant drug arrests had been made and bike theft remained a problem, as it is across the City. Community Police would be holding drop-in sessions on crime prevention in the Community Centre on the last Friday in each month between 11-12am.

Chinese New Year Event

7. Sam Rutherford reported on the event held on 9 February. A very varied afternoon had been created by the community council team (Sam, Sarah Cleary, Nick Weech, Bill Whyte and Paul Dunleavey) with the Community Centre management. 125 people had attended, and enjoyed many activities.

8. The Community congratulated the team on an excellent event and approved the expenditure of £315.

Planning

9. Meadowbank: The Secretary reported that a successful drop-in meeting attended by about 50 people had been held in St Margaret's House on 22 February. The meeting was held jointly with Craigentenny & Meadowbank Community Council. The lack of detail on the application-in-principle was a concern for many people living close to the site.

10. A more traditional meeting is to be held on 27 February enabling community councils' responses to be made by 5 March.

Cycling

11. The Secretary reported that concerns had been raised via Facebook about dangerous interactions between cars and cyclists on the Holyrood Park low road. The Community Council agreed to write to HES asking for further thought to be given to speed management and overtaking issues on this road.

POLO

12. The Secretary reported that, following our approach to Paul Lawrence, Executive Director of Place, CEC, the Council had issued a tender for repair of the Wolseley Place steps, with work expected to be started in April.

13. He further reported that little progress had been made with the "quick wins" section of the POLO report, now 2 years old. Photographs of the poor state of street furniture in the Piershill Squares had been posted on Facebook with a positive response to the idea that this should be addressed.

14. Linked to that, the Piershill Back Greens Association was working on gardening and environmental improvements to their large area of Housing Account land.

15. The Community Council agreed to:

- Write to the North East Locality Committee asking that the POLO programme be adopted for action.
- Explore, with local people, a project with a working title "Pride in Piershill".

Localities

16. The Secretary reported that he had attended the first meeting of the new North East Locality Committee, held in the City Chambers and available for viewing [here](#).

Any Other Competent Business

17. None

Date of next meeting

18. It was agreed to consider whether meetings should be held on different days as Thursdays were often difficult for many to attend.

19. The next meeting is 22 March.

Geoff Pearson
Secretary