

NORTHFIELD AND WILLOWBRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 25 September 2014: 18:30 Northfield Community Centre

Present:

John	Fayrer	Chairman
Margaret	Alexander	
Gavin	Bayne	Appointed at this meeting
George	Callaghan	Treasurer
Caroline	Kaye	
Dave	King	
Gordon	Macdonald	
Nick	Marshall	
Ian	Murray	Vice-Chairman
Geoff	Pearson	Secretary
Stefan	Tymkewycz	Councillor

One member of the public was present.

Apologies

1. Apologies for absence were received from:

Christine Kerr; Stewart Kerr; Shami Khan; Councillor Joan Griffiths, Councillor Alex Lunn.

Minutes of Meeting

2. The minutes of the meeting of 12 June were approved.

Matters arising

3. None.

Constitution

4. The model constitution recommended by the City of Edinburgh Council was formally adopted by the Community Council and signed by John Fayrer, George Callaghan and Geoff Pearson.

Co-option of Member

5. Gavin Bayne was proposed for membership in his own right by Geoff Pearson and seconded by Margaret Alexander. The Council unanimously approved his appointment under section 7(b) of the Constitution.

Treasurer's Report

6. The Treasurer reported that full access to the bank account had been secured. There was a balance of £3439.19. Bank signatories are George Callaghan and Geoff Pearson with John Fayrer to be added as soon as practicable.
7. George Callaghan reported that there were two requests for funding:
 - The Cockburn Association membership fee of £40
 - The Royal High Primary Nursery: £150 for and outdoor project.
8. In discussion, a number of points were raised:
 - The Community Council had a bank balance substantially in excess of its own likely needs.
 - There was past practice of giving small grants to local organisations.
 - There was no established or fair process for making local people across the area aware that such funding might be available and no criteria set for making decisions if there were competing requests.
 - Funding for local projects was available from the City Council through, for example, the Community Grants programme.
 - The Community Council's funding, which was public money, was provided for the ordinary running costs of an active community council, including meeting and communication costs, together with possible costs of ad hoc engagement processes, such as major planning consultations.
9. The Community Council agreed to:
 - discontinue membership of the Cockburn Association
 - make a grant of £150 to The Royal High Primary Nursery as the last grant of its type.
 - take a strategic view of how the available funds might be used before considering any further funding requests.

Activity Report

10. Geoff Pearson spoke to Paper 4/2014 which outlined the range of activities in which the community council had been involved.

11. The Community Council:

- strongly endorsed the proposed 20mph limit, with some misgivings about the feasibility of enforcement. Detailed comments were to be given to the Secretary in time to enable a formal submission to be made to the consultation by 17 October.
- welcomed the work in hand by the local Roads Engineer to examine possible traffic management improvements in Portobello Road,
- noted the likely planning process for St John's School and the old Portobello High School site in which the Community Council could have a central role.

Planning

12. Referring to Paper 5/2014 the Community Council:

- Noted with disappointment that no response had been received from Tanz about management of parking in its rear yard,
- noted the objection which it had made to the Late Hours Catering Licence for Domino's Pizza and agreed to be represented at the public hearing which would take place.

Communications

13. Geoff Pearson reported that the Manager of Morrisons, Scott Culliven, had agreed that the Council could run two "Meet the CC" sessions in the store on Wednesday 15 October and Saturday 30 November. The Community Council agreed to pay for a pop-up display and publicity material for this exercise, to a limit of £200.

Date of Next meeting

14. The next meeting would be on Thursday 20 November and an informal planning session would be held on Thursday 23 October.

15. The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.00.

Geoff Pearson
Secretary