

Northfield and Willowbrae
Community Council



MINUTES OF MEETING 30 August 2018: NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

John	Nisbet	Chair
Sarah	Cleary	
Gordon	Macdonald	
Nick	Marshall	
Ian	Murray	
Geoff	Pearson	Secretary
Samantha	Rutherford	Vice-Chair
Nick	Weech	Treasurer
Charlie	Wood	
Bill	Whyte	

Ex Officio

John	McLellan	Councillor, City of Edinburgh Council
Alex	Staniforth	Councillor, City of Edinburgh Council

Several members of the public and Andrew Fournet, Chair, Craigentiny & Meadowbank Community Council were present.

Welcome

1. John Nisbet welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

2. Apologies for absence were received from Davy Ferguson, Councillors Joan Griffiths, Mary Campbell, Kate Campbell and Ian Campbell.

Minutes of Meeting

3. The minutes of the meeting of 17 May were agreed subject to adding that Councillor McLellan had offered his apologies for absence.

Matters Arising

4. Cycling: Gordon Macdonald reported continuing discussions with Historic Environment Scotland, now to include Portobello Community Council.
5. Grants: Sara Cleary reported that the proposed application for a Community Grant to support volunteering was almost complete.

Treasurer's Report

6. The Treasurer reported that the current bank balance was £4100.00 after receipt of the annual grant from City of Edinburgh Council of £876.88.

Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting

7. Geoff Pearson reported that the Neighbourhood Partnership was now seeking community involvement in the deployment of funds from the Housing Revenue Account, Neighbourhood Environment Programme and the Community Grants Fund. Few proposals had come forward as the approach had been to fit projects to the funding, whereas now the ideas of the community would be worked up and appropriate funding identified.

8. This was being taken forward by pop-up stands in the Locality priority area, with community council and Council officers in attendance- one held in Lochend Road South on 23 August and the second in Piershill Square East on 3 September. Ultimately the final decisions would be made by the Locality Committee on 6 November.

9. The Community Council noted the approach being taken.

Locality

10. Geoff Pearson spoke to a consultation opened by the Council on The Edinburgh Partnership Review and Consultation on Governance and Community Planning Arrangements.

11. In discussion points made included:

- The consultation proposed the abolition of Neighbourhood Partnerships which would leave the Craightinny Duddingston area at a disadvantage compared to the adjoining Leith and Portobello areas.
- The consultation required a high level of knowledge of bureaucratic structures which are seldom seen by people outside the centre.
- The place of community councils was left unclear.
- The document sought direct routes to the community, which would be easier in areas with a strong social media structure.

12. The Community Council agreed to collate members' views by 6 September in order to meet the consultation deadline of 9 September.

Meadowbank Village

13. Andrew Fournet and Geoff Pearson reported on progress following the Development Management Committee on 29 June which had restarted the planning process for the non-stadium part of the site. Meetings had taken place to prepare for setting up a stakeholder group. Meetings focussed on specific themes or areas were being set up by the Council and Collective Architecture – drop-ins had been held during August.

14. The Community Council noted the progress.

Brighton Place Closure

15. The Secretary reported a meeting had been held with the residents of Clifton Mews about bus services when Brighton Place closes for reconstruction in September. A stakeholder meeting had been held in Portobello on 28 August where the effect of closure on Portobello traders and bus services in Northfield and Willowbrae had been raised with Council officers and Lothian Buses. This had been chaired by Councillor Calum Laidlaw and a note of the conclusions was imminent.

16. The Community Council noted the progress.

Any Other Competent Business

17. Nick Marshall and a number of members of the public raised the rumours about possible development on Duddingston Golf Course, which would require amendment of the Local Development Plan. The general view was that such development would be unacceptable but in the absence of firm proposals little could be done. The next formal stage was likely to be the current review of the LDP where it was important to prevent downgrading of statutory designations and to ensure the continuance of current protective designations.

18. It was agreed to meet Craigmillar Community Council which covers part of the area and consider possible action, including public engagement, at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting

19. 11 October.

20. The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Geoff Pearson
Secretary

DRAFT