



MINUTES OF MEETING 14 March 2019: NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

| | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sam | Rutherford | Vice-chair |
| Sarah | Cleary | |
| Davy | Ferguson | |
| Gordon | Macdonald | |
| John | Nisbet | |
| Geoff | Pearson | Secretary |
| Nick | Weech | Treasurer |
| | | |
| Ex Officio | | |
| Alex | Staniforth | Councillor, City of Edinburgh Council |
| In Attendance | | |
| PC Gemma | Knox | Police Scotland |

Four members of the public were present.

Welcome

1. Sam Rutherford welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

2. Apologies for absence were received from Paul Dunleavey, Nick Marshall, Ian Murray, Bill Whyte and Councillor John McLellan.

Election of Chair

3. John Nisbet having stood down as Chair, an election was held. Sam Rutherford was proposed by John Nisbet, seconded by Nick Weech and was, unanimously, elected.
4. Consequently, an election for Vice-Chair was held. Gordon Macdonald was proposed by Geoff Pearson, seconded by Davy Ferguson and was, unanimously, elected.
5. Sam Rutherford resumed the chair.

Minutes of Meeting

6. The minutes of the meetings of 14 and 28 February were agreed.

Matters Arising

7. None.

Treasurer's Report

8. The Treasurer reported that the current bank balance was £3,761.58.

Police Report

9. The Community Council welcomed a brief report by PC Knox highlighting recent callers at houses in the area, claiming to be ex- service personnel and selling goods at the door. No charges had been brought but it was hoped that people would look out for vulnerable neighbours.

City Plan 2030

10. The Secretary reported that a round of information sessions had been held by the Council about CityPlan 2030 (the new local development plan). The development of the plan was, in effect,

on hold pending Scottish Ministers' approval of the Strategic Development Plan. The likelihood was that the CityPlan would not be completed before early 2021.

Events

11. Sam Rutherford reported that work on the EID event on 16 June was proceeding well, with local schools and other groups becoming involved.
12. The Secretary invited suggestions on how the AGM in May should be conducted.
13. The Secretary also reported that informal discussions were beginning for a free-standing charitable body, able to take on the delivery of projects in the Craigentenny & Duddingston NP area, with enhanced ability to raise funds and to protect trustees.

Business Forum

14. The Secretary reported that discussion of the Council-led event on Jobs and Training on 20 March and new developments nearby had revived recognition that there was a need for a local business forum.

Community Council Elections

15. The Community Council discussed how a wider group of people, including young people, might be encouraged to stand for election to the Community Council.
16. The process for co-opting members of the public to the Community Council was raised – with a member of the public present being interested in helping in this way. A formal vote was not taken at the time. Since the meeting, procedure has been checked and will be used if the opportunity arises again.

Any Other Competent Business

London Road Student Accommodation

17. A local member of the public tabled a common written request (petition), under Paragraph 11(g) of the Constitution, signed by at least 20 persons resident within the community council area to convene a special meeting within 21 days of a request to discuss:

“we believe that the proposal to build student accommodation and other structures on London Road requires wider discussion, given its proximity to many in this CC area. We ask Northfield Willowbrae Community Council to convene a special meeting; to invite the developer and all local councillors to attend and to hold the meeting at Northfield Community Centre”.

18. The Community Council noted that the planning application (19/01149/FUL) had been submitted to and validated by the City Council on 6 March, with 3 April as the closing date for individual comments. The statutory consultee for this site was Craigentenny & Meadowbank Community Council; community councils are often granted an extension of time for comment if a local process of consultation is proposed. As required by the Constitution, arrangements for a meeting would be made.

Date of Next Meeting

19. Thursday 16 May.
20. The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Geoff Pearson
Secretary