

Northfield and Willowbrae
Community Council



MINUTES OF MEETING 31 October 2019: NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present:

John	McLellan	Councillor, CEC, Returning Officer		
Joan	Griffiths	Councillor, CEC		
Dave	Armstrong		Ross	McArthur
Fiona	Clark		Shona	McMillan
Frances	Devlin		Gordon	Macdonald
Angi	Lamb		Geoff	Pearson
Nick	Marshall			
Apologies				
Mercedes	Dominguez		Charlie	Wood

Part 1: Returning Officer

1. Councillor John McLellan welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Councillor McLellan reported that 13 persons had been nominated for election to the Community Council. As the number did not exceed the 14 places which were available under the Scheme, all those nominated were appointed to be Community Councillors:

Dave Armstrong, Fiona Clark, Frances Devlin, Mercedes Dominguez, Paul Dunleavey, Angi Lamb, Gordon Macdonald, Nick Marshall, Ross McArthur, Shona McMillan, Ian Murray, Geoff Pearson, Charlie Wood.

Election of Office Bearers

3. Councillor McLellan then oversaw the election of the office bearers required under the Scheme. He reminded members that training for new members was being provided by the Council on 9 and 13 November.

Office		Proposer	Seconder
Chair	Angi Lamb	Shona McMillan	Nick Marshall
Treasurer	Frances Devlin	Fiona Clark	Dave Armstrong
Engagement Officer	Shona McMillan	Angi Lamb	Gordon Macdonald
Secretary	Geoff Pearson	Nick Marshall	Fiona Clark

Part 2: Meeting of the Community Council

4. Angi Lamb took the chair and thanked the Returning Officer for his conduct of the elections.
5. Community Council members introduced themselves, explaining their background and interests in the area.

Vice-Chairs

6. It was agreed to appoint Shona McMillan and Nick Marshall as Vice-chairs; and to consider further the possibility of sub-groups on, for example, Northfield and Engagement.

Treasurer's Report

7. The Secretary reported that the current bank balance was £2,977.15 – the CEC grant of £926.88 was received on 15 August. Arrangements were in hand to change the bank signatories.

Planning

151 London Road

8. The Secretary reported that consultation on an application in relation to St Margaret's House would close on 1 November so there was no possibility of conducting any reasonable consultation. The application is for an AMC: "Application for the submission of details required by conditions imposed on the granting of planning permission in principle". Planning permission in principle for this site has been in place since 2014 linked to earlier permissions. The scope for detailed comment is limited by time.

9. However, the plans include a new entrance to the site from London Road, already a difficult area for traffic. It was agreed to make an immediate submission to the Planning Authority expressing considerable concern about this, drawing on, if possible, adopted policies in the Local Development Plan.

48 Duddingston Road

10. Applications for Listed Building Consent (19/05013/LBC) and planning approval (19/05014/FUL) have been made to build 8 houses in the garden ground of Cairn Lodge. Nearby residents have expressed concern.

11. The Community Council noted that the LBC would probably apply to the setting of Cairn Lodge as well as to the house itself. Without the listed building status, it is not clear that any objection could be raised to the proposed development. It was agreed to take no action.

Edinburgh Association of Community Councils

12. It was agreed to nominate Nick Marshall as the Community Council's representative at the EACC, although other members could attend if they wished.

Meeting Dates

13. The Secretary reported that the Willowbrae Church hall was available which would enable future meetings to be held on Wednesdays, as the Northfield Community Centre is fully booked on Wednesday. Moving to Wednesday was expected to assist attendance. The following meeting dates were agreed.

31 October, 4 December, 5 February, 4 March, 1 April, 6 May, 3 June, 2 September
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Any Other Competent Business

14. The Community Council had preliminary discussions on various matters, including the community council role in planning, engagement methods, ways in which the Community Council's grant could be deployed, sources of funding, and community gardens.

Date of Next Meeting

15. Wednesday 4 December at 7.30pm in the Willowbrae Church Hall.

16. The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Geoff Pearson
Secretary

If you wish to suggest items for discussion at a meeting or amendments to minutes or other documents, please contact the Secretary no later than 8 days before the next meeting – the agenda is issued, as required under the Scheme, 7 days before the meeting.