

Northfield and Willowbrae Community Council

Minutes of Annual General Meeting and ordinary meeting held on 14th May at 7pm At Northfield and Willowbrae Community Centre

Present: Chair- Gordon MacDonald
Secretary - Nick Marshall
Vice-Chair - Dave Armstrong
Treasurer - Chris Alcorn
Engagement Officer - Margaret Bennett
Ellie Burroughs
Frances Devlin
Charlie Wood

Also Present: Councillor Danny Aston. Councillor Alex Stanniforth, CPO Anna Morrison
Three members of the public

Apologies: James Keating, Councillor Joan Griffiths

1. The Chair gave apologies and welcomed those present.
2. The minutes of the last AGM were formally approved, proposed by GM and seconded by CW. There were no matters arising.
3. Approval of Annual Report. These reports, comprising the Report of Activities, Annual Accounts and Engagement Report, had been previously circulated. MB emphasised aspects of the Engagement Report - Piershill Community Flat - residents very enthusiastic about the possibility of reopening the flat, but there are structural issues which need to be resolved first. 69 bus service - MB had met with the transport consultants employed by the council and had been able to share the views of residents on the importance of this service and the optimal route to meet their needs. Cllr Aston stated that there was as yet no agreed route but report would be with Transport & Environment Committee of the council shortly. Local Place Plan - MB reported on coffee mornings held as part of this. Further consultation is planned. The reports were approved, proposed by NM and seconded by GM.
4. Minutes of last meeting on Tuesday 12th March. NM proposed two amendments to the minutes: Item 4(d) to read "Overall costs of the LPP project were now estimated at about £1500 and this sum was approved." Proposed by JK and seconded by GM." Item 7(a) to read "At the suggestion of a councillor, it was agreed that the community council should also apply for a PBIF grant of c.£25,000 for lighting in Baronscourt Park." The minutes were approved subject to these changes (proposed by DA, seconded by MB).

Matters Arising

- (a) Lady Nairne wall repair - council officer involved has huge workload, so repair may not be a priority.
- (b) ASB at Royal High PS. CA had spoken to the nursery manager and CPO Morrison reported that nothing has happened re lighting.
- (c) St John's RC PS street signage - CW reported that this should have been installed by mid-May but not yet in place at time of meeting. CPO Morrison more concerned with use of open spaces near schools as an unofficial car park.
- (d) Baronscourt Park lighting - Cllr Stanniforth reported that may not be installed this year, but was in top 20 so will still be considered. Money is available for installation of seat.
- (e) Holyrood Park consultation - Councillors had attended consultation meetings, report should be out shortly.
- (f) Bank Account signatories - AP, CA to check with B of S if relevant changes to signatories have been made (addition of JK, GM, DA, NM; removal of JN, FD)
- (g) Meadowfield Park - Survey conducted by Diana Dodds is now on website.
- (h) Proposed development at 229 Willowbrae Road - council missed deadline for committee to consider proposal, and applicant appealed straight to SG Reporter. Council Officer

recommendation was for refusal, which should influence Reporter's decision. Previous proposal for student accommodation on site was refused.

- (i) Police Report - CPO Morrison reported on ASB outside RHS PS (drumming) and various incidents involving youths on bikes and scooters. Meetings to be held re issues on Portobello Beach. Also dealing with unauthorised car trading in the area. Will attend October coffee morning.
- (j) Financial Matters - CA submitted Treasurer's Report for period since last meeting - Council grant due in August. Should be used mainly for engagement, but insufficient to do all that is needed. NM is working on community grant application for £2600 to cover expenses for LPP and Environment Fair. It was agreed that this should be submitted (AP, NM) proposed by MB, seconded by CA
- (k) Membership - Frances Devlin and John Nisbet both formally resigned from the council. GM conveyed thanks for all their work for the CC over the years. Also announced death of former CC member Ian Murray. Memorial service to be held for Ian at Priestfield Church on Friday 17th May at 2.30pm. His work for NWCC over many years was appreciated.
- (l) Engagement - MB reported on two sessions completing the Local Place Plan questionnaire with Pupil Council and P7 at Parson's Green PS. Portobello HS had also been in contact via PT Modern Studies. Next coffee mornings scheduled for Saturday 8th June and Saturday 3rd August, both 10-12 at the community centre. MB reported on the lack of response from Council Officer on Piershill community flat. Cllr Aston agreed to chase this up.
- (m) Street Tree replacement - There has been great competition for this (£4m worth of proposals for a £1.2m fund) and further analysis is needed, so decisions will be delayed from now until August.

5. AOCB - Local Traffic Improvement Funding - new scheme for local involvement (email from Alan Dunlop) was noted. They are looking for proposals to encourage walking and cycling in the area.

Concern was expressed about potential traffic problems which might be caused during the construction of the Student Accommodation at Jock's Lodge.

6. Date of next meeting - Tuesday 16th July