



**Minutes – Ordinary Meeting
13th January 2026
Northfield Community Centre, 7pm**

Agenda Items	Action & by whom
<p>1. The chair welcomed everyone and outlined the format of the meeting. Present: Ruth Pearson (chair), Margaret Bennett, Chris Alcorn, Dave Armstrong, George Callaghan, Gordon Macdonald, James Keating, Lauren Kennelly, Sunila Nimalasuriya, Cllr Danny Aston, Cllr Alex Staniforth, Apologies received from Rebeca Diaz-Vazquez.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of last meeting (11/11/2025) & matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hamilton Terrace update – sign is now working. Police are now able to patrol and deal with cars parked illegally. • Piershill Flat update - no progress since last meeting - Ward Councillors Aston & Staniforth will investigate taking this issue to a full Council meeting • Cavalry Park update - our formal complaint to the CEO has been fully upheld in terms of: 1) CEC being slow to follow up on actions agreed and NWCC not being kept updated on progress and timescales. 2) Lack of responsiveness to correspondence including the formal complaint itself which required a reminder and, 3) Partially upheld our complaint about clarification of areas of responsibility. Lessons learned - CEC has identified a single point of contact to provide regular updates and answer questions; CEC has identified this as an area for improvement in 2026. We await an update on the investigation into the substance of the issues by the end of this week. • Willowbrae Church Sale update - the Steering Group are taking steps towards a Community Right to Buy Willowbrae Parish Church building. In December they registered company called Jock's Lodge Community, also a charity with OSCR and have applied for a bank account. DTAS has approved £250 to cover initial startup costs. They are running a survey to gather ideas about how to use the building and encourage others to fill out the survey and forward to neighbours and friends. Volunteers are needed to help with hosting an engagement event and gathering signatures for a petition. If interested, please email jockslodgect@gmail.com. People with accounting and business planning skills are invited to join the Steering Group. 	<p>Cllrs Aston & Staniforth</p> <p>MB</p> <p>All</p>

3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morrisons Car Park update - work has now started to meet the planning requirements and should be completed by the end of the week. It is hoped that Noise Abatement & Enforcement Teams will then visit. • Community Centre Management update – Engagement Officer (MB) met with Miriam Leighton of the Community Empowerment and Engagement Service at a drop-in session on 11th December. These sessions were arranged to inform users of the building about the new arrangements following the dissolution of the Management Committee. MB expressed our wish to be involved in discussions about the uses of the centre in future and a further meeting is to be arranged. • Marionville Fire Station – two previous emails to Chief Fire Officer ignored, chased today and have received a reply with an apology, a promise to make enquiries about a delegation being able to speak at the next board meeting and confirmation that the date of the next board meeting is Thursday 26th March. • LLP progress - timescale has been changed to Summer 2026. More information available from census, also from Climate Resilience Workshop. Second draft should be available by March CC meeting and to ward councillors and neighbouring CCs. 	<p>CA, GC</p> <p>MB</p> <p>CA</p>
4.	<p>Police Report – new community police officer is Jill Bothron. The chair has emailed her inviting her to attend meetings or to provide an update by email.</p>	
5.	<p>Treasurer's update on financial position - £8813.21 in account, outgoings were £1800, but £2150 is due from the Old Edinburgh Club. £4700.04 is allocated for specific projects. It is hoped that the Lilyhill Terrace noticeboard will cost under £1000. CC received money from small community grants for improvements to Royal High School Primary School Wildlife Garden and also Northfield Estate heritage information board.</p>	
6.	<p>Planning update - 3 applications of interest, two short term lets refused. Radical Road fence in Holyrood Park is being partially renewed and new signage erected.</p>	<p>CA to write to HES</p>
7.	<p>Grant Applications 2026 - CA expects small grants will continue next year. Baronscourt Park - residents have requested another bench. Possibility of planters in area - locations suggested - Meadowbank (near Bliss Cafe), Mountcastle Drive North. Playground equipment for younger children lacking - playground and playpark survey of area partially completed, to be submitted by 23rd January (part of LLP).</p>	<p>CA, MB</p>
8.	<p>Resilience Workshop Update - This was held on 24/11/25, attended by ~20 people including several CC members and reps from various local community and environmental groups. Imagine If.Space CIC produced a detailed report of the event/ideas generated which can be seen on our Facebook page. EO (MB) attended a further event on climate adaptation organised by Edinburgh & Lothian Regional Equality Council, which showed future risks from climate change and what CEC is doing to adapt and mitigate its effects. MB has been in discussion with Council staff around how they can support NWCC in spreading the message from the workshop across our area. It was</p>	<p>MB</p>

	agreed to organise future evening events, possibly around a film such as Climate Ready Edinburgh.	
9.	CEC Local Transport Improvement ideas for 2026/27 – c£50,000 available for pedestrian and cycling improvements. Two out of our 18 suggestions were approved at June 2025 Transport & Environment Committee - Duddingston Road West near Holyrood HS and Northfield Broadway crossing. Feedback was given re other 16 proposals submitted in March 2025 and now to be resubmitted by end January 2026 - still two weeks before deadline for any other ideas.	CA
10	New Multicultural Conversation Café – This took place for the first time last Wednesday with support from Mhairi McNeil (CEC Resettlement Officer) and two volunteers. The two women who came along were very enthusiastic about the idea and hoping to come back this week. Further efforts have been made to advertise the cafe which we expect will take a while to establish itself. MB has requested a small budget of £30 for refreshments during the trial period of four weeks in January, this was approved. A review of whether to continue will be carried out then.	MB
11	Public Forum & any other business: i. Friends of Holyrood Park - GC is our rep on this, will report back from meetings. ii. Considine Terrace parking issues - a member of the public brought this to the attention of the CC. Will bring to attention of community police officer to see if anything can be done and also submit to CEC via Local Transport Improvement Projects 2026/27.	RP/CA
12	Date of next meeting – 10/03/26 at 7pm at Northfield Community Centre. Any items for discussion should be submitted no later than Monday 26 th January for inclusion on the agenda.	