

Craigeith/Blackhall Community Council Minutes

Date of Meeting: 6th March 2017
Chair: Emma Phillips, CBCC Chair
Venue: St. Columba's Blackhall Church
Prepared by: Robin Cathcart, CBCC Secretary
Circulated by: Email and website
In Attendance: Max Mitchell, Richard Proudfoot, Christine Proudfoot, Grant Roger, Lesley Pringle, James Dalgleish, Hal Osler, Emma Phillips, Peter May, Claudia Romero, Robin Cathcart, Rupert Lezmore, Martin Riddell, Neil Watt, Alan Denham, Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP, Cllr Nigel Bagshaw, Cllr Gavin Barrie, Cllr Iain Whyte, PC Peter Sparrow

	Action With
1. Apologies: Cllr Lesley Hinds, Deidre Brock MP,	
2. Approval of minutes from last meeting (6th Feb 2017): Approved by members	
3. Police Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There have been eight break-in and attempts over the past month. This is down for most months. The Royal Victoria Hospital demolition site has been an area of some antisocial behavior and the police are trying to keep notice of the area. The footpaths also remain an area of concern and reports of motorbikes along the footpath will continue to be investigated. There has been a large operation in the north western Edinburgh police unit to address motorbike crime and the police helicopter is often used to pursue individual on bikes. Also about 6-7 plain clothes officers have been tasked specifically with addressing motorbike theft and house break-ins. Residents are asked to keep up their vigilance and call on the non-emergency 101 hotline if you see anyone acting suspicious in the area. If you see an active break-in or crime, call 999 to report it. 	
4. Active Transport & Road Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBCC conducted an online survey about active transport and 80 residents responded. Residents were asked about particular road crossings that they are worried about and specific issues that they find most problematic. The parent council at Blackhall Primary was also asked about safer routes to school. Speeding vehicles and running red lights had the largest number of survey respondents listing as the most problematic issue for our area. Speeding and running red lights are policing issues, PC Peter Sparrow said that he would look into speed detection guns as part of the new 	

<p>20mph roll-out for are area. Any other suggestions on the 20mph roll-out plan can be sent to him at peter.sparrow@scotland.pnn.poline.uk</p> <p>In 2007 a travel plan for Blackhall PS and the parent council was put together and it could be updated to reflect the concerns raised in our survey.</p> <p>What can the CBCC do now? Prioritizing issues is key, as the CEC budget is stretched. Cllrs recommended focusing on areas of concern and areas with simple or inexpensive “fixes” such as getting a green man on a junction with lights already but no pedestrian crossing. Additionally, getting a dropped curb at a location with no prior dropped curb is more likely than fixing existing dropped curbs. Craigcrook Road, despite the bicycle path painted on the road, is not cycle friendly due to parked cars and road condition. But for example, dedicated cycle lanes on existing narrow residential roads are not easy to install unless the road becomes one way. Recording and reporting accidents and near-accidents is important for communities to do if CEC funds are needed to install additional crossing or safety measures for roads or junctions. CBCC will look into how we can help to record some of this information so that it can be fed into the planning of transportation improvements in our area. It was noted that funds for speed cameras are stretched, and 7 points are needed to install a speed camera. However, 3 points are given for a fatality, so installing speed cameras is only possible on highly dangerous areas with histories of injury/death.</p> <p>Some extra funds may be available in the “safe routes to school” programme as opposed to the general road budget.</p> <p>CBCC will start a prioritization and present a selection of issues to CEC to begin the process of addressing resident concerns for active transport in our area.</p> <p>The 13 bus was discussed as there is a threat for it to be cancelled. A show of hands was heavily in favour of the CBCC continuing to advocate for CEC subsidies of this bus route.</p> <p>An airport bus with a route through part of Blackhall may be starting soon.</p>	<p>Neil W and other CBCC members</p>
<p>5. Councilor/MSP Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP reported that a police operation in the north west of Edinburgh has been getting police helicopter support instead of car pursuits due to a non-pursuit risk assessment undertaken by the police. 	
<p>6. Planning Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ravelston Quarry has been granted planning permission by a panel of CEC Cllrs. Despite the same panel rejecting a near identical application less than a year ago, this application was allowed to continue much to the dismay of the CBCC, who submitted a formal objection to the permit application and the verbal objection of our only Inverlieth councilor on the planning committee, Cllr Nigel Bagshaw, who voted against this application. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Despite developers having the ability to appeal and resubmit a planning application that was denied, there is no ability for an appeal of a granted planning application. CBCC will comment via the Scottish Government Planning System consultation on the rights of communities to have an equal right of appeal at times where an application is not in line with the Local Development Plan, as is this Ravelston Quarry application.	Alan D
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