

Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council

Minutes of Meeting Monday 11 September held in Blackhall St Columba's Church

Present : Emma Phillips (Chair), Alan Denham, Peter May, James Maclennan, Martin Riddell, Robin Cathcart, Councillors Iain Whyte, Hal Osler, Gavin Barrie, Max Mitchell. Also in attendance PC Pete Sparrow, Tina Woolnough, Marianne Smith

Apologies : Rupert Lezmore, George Millar, Claudia Romero, Fergus Henderson, Neil Watt

Chair Report - Emma Phillips reported back on the recent Neighbourhood Partnership meeting; the intention is to set up future meetings on health and social care. Queens Avenue steps - to make it suitable for bikes and prams, agreed that it should be added back on to the Partnership agenda.

In the context of the forthcoming meeting of the Edinburgh Association of Community Council, the possibility of changes at the community and locality area was discussed. A consultation paper by the City Council is likely later in the year.

Robin Cathcart had stood down as secretary after moving house outwith the CC area. She was thanked for her work as secretary. Alan Denham agreed to act as secretary. Alan Denham reported the budget standing at £1259.61.

Police Report - PC Pete Sparrow reported it had been a good month with reduced number of break-ins.

Shoplifting at Craigleith had increased over the summer months.

20mph speed limit being ignored by many drivers - particular problem on Craigcrook Road. Concern about high speed of some cyclists on Roseburn walkway and cycle path following recent court case in London. Reduction in motor bike thefts in north Edinburgh, leading to reduction of their use on cycle tracks.

Care Home Proposal, Hillhouse Road Woods - following the public exhibition in August, the current position was outlined and there was the possibility of the developer's representative attending the next meeting of the Community Council.

Community Trust - Tina Woolnough said that any future development of the nursery would be on the footprint of the existing building and would not extend into the public open space. An alternative site at the quarry near the school was not currently available as the owner was not willing to sell.

Councillors' Reports - Max Mitchell noted the dismissal of the planning application for a dwelling on Craigleith Road. Hal Osler commented on the need for a pedestrian crossing at Blackhall Primary School, new surface chipping in Craigcrook Road and street lighting in Loch Road. Gavin Barrie commented on the developing housing crisis in the city, people being evicted and little alternative affordable housing available. 10,000 affordable houses are to be built in the city in the next 5 years. Gavin Barrie also voiced concerns about the light controlled crossing outside Royal High School at the foot of Clermiston Road/Queensferry Road junction.

Next meeting - Monday tbc October