

Minutes of the Meeting of Craigleith and Blackhall Community Council

Monday 11 March 2013 in Stewart's Melville College Dining Hall

Present: Eddie Thorn (Chair), Ian Hewitt (Vice Chair), Maureen Kane (Sec), Alan Denham (Treasurer), John Young, Dave Halbert, Claire Lynch, Alasdair Watson, Cllr Bagshaw, Cllr Barrie, PC Will Dickson. Guests: Caroline Burwell (CEC Transport Dept), Mr Chiswell.

Apologies: Margaret Richardson, Sally McKenzie, Jack Burton, Neil Watt, Cllr Hinds, Mark Lazarowicz.

Minutes of Previous meeting: Minutes were not approved and will be amended for next meeting; John Young requested insertion of 'John Young asked Cllr Hinds if there was a possibility that Priority Parking would take place in Blinkbonny Rd and Ave but not in Blinkbonny Gds. Cllr Hinds said that was possible'. Maureen Kane wanted to make minor adjustments to the detail of PP Craigleith in light of clearer explanations.

Blackhall Dip Traffic Presentation: Caroline Burwell, a representative of CEC Traffic/Transport, explained that a Puffin Crossing on the stretch of road between Blackhall Dip and the Telford Rd junction would not go ahead as it failed to meet the criteria for pedestrian safety and usage. After much discussion, with input from several Committee members about speeding traffic and pedestrian safety, Caroline Burwell said that a vehicle activation sign was planned for this stretch but she will investigate the feasibility of a speed camera and a plan for safety measures. PC Will Dickson will get accident figures for Blackhall stretch of Queensferry Rd. Several members expressed concerns about the traffic lights at the Sainsburys/Queensferry Rd junction and Caroline Burwell noted the concerns.

Police Report: PC Will Dickson announced the new police non-emergency number, 101. He reported that one day in every quarter all uniformed officers will be on duty. The police priority for CBCC was bicycle theft and anti-social behaviour in green spaces. Year on year, crime in the area has fallen by 29%. John Young asked if domestic break-ins mostly happened when residents were on holiday but PC Dickson said they were more likely to happen during the day

when people are out at work.

Chair's Report: Eddie Thorn received communication to say that Blackhall could not be identified as a historic village. Lines will be painted on Craigleith Drive and Queensferry Rd and yellow boxes will be painted within the year.

Secretary's Report: Two phone calls from residents re PP were received. Blackhall Sports Day is 1 June 2013 and Maureen Kane will buy trophies.

Treasurer's Report: There is £1487.54 in the account and there was no reason to believe that this could not be carried over to the next financial year. As reported in an email, following a planning appeal, the Petrol Station on Craigleith Rd was granted planning permission by the Scottish Government Reporter to have a car wash operational between 8am and 8pm and subject to more information on noise. Insurance for CC is due for renewal and further investigation will be necessary.

Councillors' Report: The CC Review is due before the CEC meeting on 14 March. Ian Hewitt pointed out that roads were in an unacceptable state as after road works, the contractors' repairs were unsatisfactory and this was not inspected adequately. Cllr Barrie said that an increased budget should address the problem. Ian Hewitt asked about Section 75 however Cllrs believed that as it was old and ownership had changed, enforcement was difficult. Ian Hewitt and Alan Denham pointed out that this was no barrier to claims. Cllr Barrie will investigate.

Matters Arising

Dog Fouling: As Councillor Hinds was not present, the item will be carried forward.

AOCB

Priority Parking: Discussion took place about Priority Parking in the Blinkbonnys. Mr Chiswell

felt there was a lack of information re PP. Ian Hewitt suggested a public meeting and invite input from residents from other parts of Edinburgh where the scheme was successfully introduced. Mr Chiswell agreed this might address the confusion of residents. The general feeling was that there was confusion about the scheme. Both Councillors said that they had received numerous emails from residents and a final consultation would be held. The Committee agreed that this was the best way forward.

The next meeting will be held on 15 April 2013 in Stewart's Melville College Dining Hall at 7.30pm.