

Meeting Minutes Monday 13 April 2015

7.30pm, Dining Hall, Stewart's Melville College

Committee present Ian Hewitt, Alan Denham, Rupert Lezmore, James McLennan, Neil Watt, Eddie Thorn, George Millar

Ex-Officio present Gavin Barrie, Nigel Bagshaw

Also present PCs Lawrence & Halliday (Drylaw Police Station), Bill King, Scott Langley, Dave Halbert, Ross McCabe

Apologies Mark Lazarowicz, Margaret Richardson, Jim Bishop

Minutes of the previous meeting

- The occupier of the disputed site on Groathill Avenue is selling the sets that are stored there. Michelle Fraser will look into ownership.
- There are anecdotal reports from the community that there are a number of crimes in the area and that the police don't have the capacity to deal with them.

Police Scotland Report

- Drylaw's current area of interest is housebreaking.
- There has been a recent shift from car crime
- The Housebreaking Investigation Unit has been formed (HIU)
- The helicopter unit has recently been employed but this has caused a lot of disturbance.
- Employment of CCTV van where there are gaps in CCTV
- The city centre is all on CCTV, usually undertaken by the Council.
- The usual MO is:
- Breaking of a glass panel in doors or patio doors
- Stealing small items which they can carry

- Car keys and subsequently cars

The current Campaign Against Violence is bringing the senior officers onto the streets, however, the housebreaking is not violent crime. Police are now patrolling in pairs which is causing a strain on resources. There has been a recent issue with 101 which is being addressed. The cycle path is being used for a quick getaway. There are changes to legislation which will mean prison for young offenders. Sheriffs are going out to speak to people about the consequences of committing crime. Men are being tracked, arrested and charged, some under Section 57 (the intention to commit crime). Police encourage the formation of NW groups and the use of social media for updates. Police will attend NW meetings.

Police advise:

- Lock all windows and doors
- Buy, service and set alarms
- Buy and use light timers
- Buy and use motion detector lights on the outside of your house
- Know your neighbours

Chair's Report

Attended a meeting to reform the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils. Proposals to create a separate website with joint access.

Secretary's Report - None

Treasurer's Report

Final accounts of the financial year awaiting final receipts. Queried whether Zurich Financial should continue to provide public liability insurance for the next year. Amounts to roughly £50/year. This was agreed.

Planning Report - None

CEC Councillors' Report

- Cllr Bagshaw is looking into the situation with the trees on Craighleith Road / RVH site.
- Cllr Barrie will provide crime figures for next meeting.

INP Committee Representatives' Reports

JMc attended the Neighbourhood Partnerships workshop. CBCC should provide more members to the Partnership.

Matters Arising

Community Council Recruitment

- Current numbers: Councillors 8/12; Nominated 1/6
- Age / gender balance

- Communications and conversations via the Secretary's email

Due to time restrictions, the above were deferred to the next meeting

Michelle Fraser (CEC): The SfC performance report, queries from the assembled:

- Should the reports be looking at other items on the roads, such as salt/grit
- Should litter target setting be 100%?
- Are we entitled to a seat on the committee?
- Can we have more local data?

AOCB

- The purpose of the new double yellow lines on Seaforth Drive were queried by a resident.
- Recycling bins at Craigleith Shopping Centre: Sainsbury's won't take over ownership of the bins but will have them emptied more frequently.
- The playpark in Sainsbury's is being replaced at Sainsbury's expense.
- Due to the forthcoming 20mph restrictions, there will be new signs.
- HGVs taking smaller roads was debated but the Council only has the power to put up advisory notices.

Date of the next meeting: Monday 11 May 2015