

Minutes of the meeting of the Craigleith and Blackhall Community Council on 9th December 2013 in Stewart's Melville College Dining Hall

Present: Eddie Thorn (Chair), Ian Hewitt (vice Chair), Maureen Kane, Alan Denham, Margaret Richardson, Jim Bishop, George Millar, Kirsty McLaughlin (Police Scotland), Cllr Barrie, Cllr Bagshaw, Cllr Hinds.

Apologies : Mark Lazarowicz (MP), Cllr White, Neil Watt

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of 11th November 2013 were approved with an amendment to the item of the vote on the Blackhall Village Signage. It was noted that by 4 votes to 3 that the signage would be based on a professionally designed badger and tree logo format.

Police Report:

Kirsty McLaughlin reported that there were 26 reported crimes in Craigleith/Orchard Brae in the past month and 7 in Blackhall. Among those were 2 break-ins, 3 attempted break-ins, 5 bike thefts, 2 motorbike thefts and a bogus workman had been arrested in Blackhall. Parking on the pavements in the Telford Road area was being monitored. Cllr Hinds confirmed that a flashing speeding sign was to be installed at the Blackhall dip.

Chair's Report:

Eddie Thorn announced that he had received a letter of resignation from John Adams, who had been a founder member of the Community Council. Eddie thanked John for his service to the Community Council. The signage for Blackhall Village had now been decided and the placement of signs would now be agreed with Neil MacFarlane. The Chair proposed that a "Referendum Hustings" should be held in 2014 and this was approved. He had visited Blackhall Nursery recently and had been impressed by the work being done in cramped conditions. Any comments concerning the City of Edinburgh Council Budget process had to be submitted by 20th December. Eddie tabled the leaflet " Be Prepared for Winter".

Treasurer's Report:

Alan Denham had nothing to report as Treasurer.

Planning:

It was agreed that Alan Denham would comment on behalf of CBCC on the proposals in the planning procedures about the level of advice to applicants made by planning officers.

Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Hinds advised that it had been agreed to place a yellow box on the eastbound carriageway of Queensferry Road at the Craigleith Crescent junction. The proposals for priority parking in the area had been approved. A study will be done to control parking by introduction of yellow lines in South Groathill Avenue. Ian Hewitt offered to speak to Neil MacFarlane on this issue.

Cllr Barrie advised that the issue with bollards in Craigleith Road had been reported. George Millar added that two more bollard accidents had occurred in the last month and that street lighting was still an issue. Cllr Barrie indicated that the saving on power was significant and that the Council were trying to upgrade light standards throughout the city.

Cllr Bagshaw reported that the police had agreed to take more measurements of traffic speeds in Strachan Road. He advised that there was no further information about the outstanding Section 75 payments.

Matters Arising

Youth Representation:

There had been no uptake from the schools on representation. There was a discussion about representatives being appointed by other local organisations.

CBCC Website:

The Chair offered to speak to Elaine Hewitt about the status of the current CBCC website and the possibility of support to maintain it.

EACC Representation:

In the absence of any volunteer it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

Business:

The paper submitted by Eddie Thorn was discussed and Cllr Barrie's proposal that it should be a living document was agreed. The Chair agreed to update his paper with the points raised and circulate it for comment.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Craigleith and Blackhall Community Council will be held in the Dining Hall of Stewart's Melville College on Monday 10th February 2014 at 7.30pm.