

Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council
Minutes of Meeting Monday 13 November 2017
Held in Stewart Melville's College Dining Hall

Present : Emma Phillips (Chair), Alan Denham (Secretary/Treasurer), Peter May, Martin Riddell, Paul Moran; Ward Councillors Gavin Barrie, Max Mitchell, Hal Osler, Iain Whyte
Also in attendance Ellen and Philip Nesfield, Lloyd and Pamela Croan, Jim Hall

Apologies : Rupert Lezmore, James Maclennan, Claudia Romero, Neil Watt,
PC Pete Sparrow, Deidre Brock MSP, Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP.

Meeting of 9 October - minutes agreed and approved.

Matters arising - in advance of changes to the City Council local structures, Neighbourhood Partnerships will continue. A paper on the move to localities, including the relationship with community councils, will be considered by a Committee or Council by the end of 2017 - after which there will be consultation.

Police Report - PC Pete Sparrow was not able to attend and offered his apologies. It was also noted that he was moving on and new Police Scotland representatives would be at future meetings. A number of issues were raised by both community councillors and those attending :-

Motor bikes on Roseburn / Davidson's Mains cycle and footpath - following a temporary respite after the recent accident in Drylaw, the problem of illegal motor bikes has returned, making it unsafe for pedestrians and pedal cyclists. Martin Riddell suggested the Maiden Craig CCTV camera should be reinstated. Iain Whyte explained this was a decision to be taken jointly by Council officers and Police Scotland.

Agreed - Emma Phillips will contact Police Scotland at Drylaw regarding the problem.

Speeding on Ravelston Dykes Road - Pamela Croan stated that the 20mph speed limit was being frequently ignored, resulting in overtaking by speeding vehicles. Following a general discussion on the enforcement of 30mph and now the 20mph speed limits, it was noted that the Council pay for 6 community police officers who are responsible for not only speed checks in the city, but other local issues such as parking on pavements. There was no data yet on the 20mph zones.

Agreed - a sub-group would be set up to review traffic and safety issues in Blackhall and Craigleith. The sub-group members will be Paul Moran, Peter May, Alan Denham, Councillor Hal Osler and possibly Neil Watt.

Chair Report - at a recent coffee morning at Blackhall Primary School, Emma Phillips met with Gus (Angus Egan) of Earth Calling - **agreed** that the Community Council would support an initiative to remove inappropriate vegetation eg Himalaya Knotweed, on Corstorphine Hill. A working group would be set up in the spring 2018.

Graffiti in Ravelston Park - the Council had responded quickly to the report.

PA systems - **agreed** that we should look at the costs and the feasibility of sharing with other community councils in north-west Edinburgh.

Planning / Secretary / Treasurer - Proposed Care Home in Hillhouse Road Woods - Alan Denham reported that there had been no further development. The presence of badgers locally had been noted by a number of residents.

Craigleith Road former filling station - planning application for housing has not yet been considered by the Committee.

As part of the review of the Local Development Plan an event for north Edinburgh will take place on 4 December at Drumbrae Hub.

The Community Council had received a number of consultations. The Scottish Electoral Commission was consulting on changes to constituency boundaries and proposed Edinburgh West should follow the eastern boundary of Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council.

Agreed -to note the change.

Scottish Government consultation on the introduction of Low Emission Zones (LEZ) to tackle vehicle pollution in the 4 cities. **Agreed** - following discussion the Community Council would note their likely introduction, but also express the view that the problem should not be displaced to other parts of the city e.g. if a LEZ is introduced in Corstorphine St John's Road it could lead drivers taking avoiding action and to an increase in the number of polluting vehicles on Queensferry Road and other local roads.

Edinburgh City Council consultation on Parking Permit Diesel Surcharge - this would affect residents in Craigleith and Craigleith Hill areas. There were mixed responses from local residents. It was also considered unfair to charge when vehicles were parked rather than moving. Non parked vehicles would not be charged. Following a vote, **agreed** to respond on the basis that the changes should be delayed until they could be co-ordinated with the introduction of LEZ s - this would allow residents time to change their diesel cars.

Blackhall Dip Christmas Tree - **agreed** that the Community Council would support the Christmas event by paying £250 (to Maddie and Marks) towards the Christmas tree.

Emma Phillips also raised the proposed changes to the City Council's 2018-19 budget - the information on budget savings was not clear. Gavin Barrie said tat online information showed savings year by year. **Agreed** - to consider further at 4 December meeting.

Councillor Reports - Councillor Osler was to meet a visually impaired resident regarding the problems of crossing Strachan Road.

AOCB - defibrillators - **agreed** to consider further on 4 December.

Lothian Bus services 41 and 43 - Philip Nesfield asked whether the service frequencies on Queensferry Road could be co-ordinated more effectively. **Agreed** - to contact Lothian Buses.

Future meetings - agreed that they should be on the second Monday of the month. Alternative permanent locations would be explored.

Next meeting - Monday 4 December 7.30pm at Stewart Melville's College Dining Hall