

Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council
Minutes of Meeting Monday 19 February 2018
Held in Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall

Present : Emma Phillips (Chair), Alan Denham (Secretary/Treasurer), Claudia Romero, Peter May, Rupert Lezmore, Neil Watt, Martin Riddell, Cockburn, Fergus Henderson, Inverleith Ward Councillors Hal Osler, Gavin Barrie, Max Mitchell, Deidre Brock MP

In attendance PC Neville Richardson, David Thomson, Thomas Cooper, Marianne Smith.

Apologies : Paul Moran, James Maclennan

Meeting of 15 January 2018 - minutes agreed and approved.

Police Report - PC Neville Richardson set out the role of the Community Police officers which he and PC Holly Matheson carry out. They cover an area from D Mains to Stockbridge and Ferry Road. One of their priorities is meeting organisations and schools. If there is suspicious activity he said to get in touch.

With increased police resources, Police Scotland are seeking to address anti-social behaviour in Pilton and Muirhouse, including motor bike thefts. He hoped it would also lead to a reduction in house break-ins in Blackhall and Craigleith, as well as shop lifting at Craigleith Retail Park.

He said that they were looking at the feasibility of holding a monthly surgery of up to 2 hrs at Blackhall Library.

Other issues raised:- included recent anti-social behaviour in Maidencraig Crescent leading to vandalism and break-ins to cars. Children and cyclists on the Roseburn Cycle Path were also being targeted by young vandals. Martin Riddell questioned whether it was possible for the CCTV enabled pole to have a camera installed. PC Richardson also said that they were being trained on the use of bicycles; speeding - PC Richardson said they were being trained in the use of speed guns. pavement parking on Telford Road - Councillor Barrie agreed to write to Council officials about the the restrictions linked to proposed yellow lines on Telford Road

Traffic and Safety Report - Alan Denham summarised the problems and issues in Blackhall and Craigleith set out in the Sub Group report. A possible way forward was also set out. During a wide ranging discussion, there was a view that not enough consideration was given to the quality of pavements, as a way of encouraging increased walking. The view that long distance Megabus and Stagecoach buses were speeding could be verified (or otherwise) by analysis of the tachographs. As a way forward it was agreed that a small CC group should meet with Council officials to establish what improvements and changes might be feasible and practical and to report back to a future CC meeting.

Chair Report - Emma Phillips reported that a meeting with other community councils in north west Edinburgh is to be held on 13 March to discuss problems and issues that cover more than one community council area. Peter May made reference to the forthcoming changes around GDPR and the need to check with recipients that they are content for the Community Council to hold e-mail addresses. Fergus Henderson updated progress on

Blackhall Community Trust's plans for the proposed nursery in Ravelston Park. There was to be an exhibition of their proposals in Blackhall Library 26 February - 6 March.

Planning Report - following the recent refusal of planning permission for a Care Home at Craigcrook Castle, Craigcrook Road, an update was given on other care home applications in the area. Alan Denham commented on the presence of banner advertisements, particularly at Strachan Road and the exit to Craigleith Retail Park. The meeting agreed that the Planning Enforcement Section should be contacted to take appropriate action.

Councillors Reports - Councillor Osler referred to the death of a dog by other other dogs, the owner of which had been charged. Councillor Barrie noted the Council meeting being held on 22 February to discuss the Council budget for 2018-19.

Deidre Brock MP - summarised briefly her Parliamentary activity including speaking on Northern Ireland, Scottish Affairs Committee, connectivity including broadband, DWP benefit sanctions, and Brexit. At the local level she also commented that the Craigleith Road / Queensferry Road junction was in need of improvement. She had also received letters about Royal High School.

Next meeting - Monday 19 March at 7.30pm at Blackhall St Columba's Church

Alan Denham
Secretary
28 February 2018