

Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council

Minutes of Meeting Monday 18 June 2018

Held in Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall

Present : Emma Phillips (Chair), Alan Denham (Secretary/Treasurer), Rupert Lezemore, Martin Riddell, Peter May, Paul Moran, Michael Cockburn, Fergus Henderson, Inverleith Ward Councillor Hal Osler,

In attendance PC Neville Richardson, and 12 others from the local community

Apologies : James MacLennan, Paul Moran, Claudia Romero, Councillor Gavin Barrie, Deidre Brock MP, Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP.

Minutes of 21 May 2018 meeting - approved

Police Scotland Report - PC Neville Richardson reported on parking problems, including obstruction to residents' drives, in House o' Hill area linked to attendance at the Mosque. He said the Mosque recognised the problem and were co-operating in addressing the problem.

To address anti-social behaviour, patrols had been introduced around Maidencraig Recent area and Ravelston Woods. PC Richardson said that no significant issues had arisen since tackling the issue. Martin Riddell commented that the police presence had made a significant difference in Maidencraig Crescent.

Speeding - traffic speeds were being monitored in the Dip, Craigcrook Road and Strachan Road.

Break-ins - the holiday season often coincided with increased house break-ins.

Speeding on Craigcrook Road and in Blackhall - local residents present at the meeting raised their concerns with PC Richardson about the 20 mph speed limit being ignored, particularly outside Ravelston Park. There had been a recent accident involving the central island. Craigcrook Road not only provides access to the children's play facilities in the Park, but also access to the tennis club, the nursery and Blackhall Primary School, all used by toddlers and children. PC Richardson said that they would seek to put in greater effort to monitor traffic speeds, having regard to their limited resources.

There was also a view at the meeting that part of the solution could lie with Edinburgh Council. Various options were discussed to address the problem on Craigcrook Road including physical measures such as speed bumps or narrowing of the road to give priority to traffic in one particular direction, making Craigcrook Road in this section one way, and a campaign involving protests by local residents and the Edinburgh Evening News.

Traffic exceeding the 20 mph speed limit was also a problem on other parts of Craigcrook Road, Strachan Road, Ravelston Dykes Road and March Road. A member of the public present at the meeting, while carrying young children had been verbally abused by another driver for driving at 20 mph on March Road.

Ravelston Dykes Road pedestrian crossing - concern that some drivers were ignoring it.

Strachan Road - need for white line reinstatement.

Agreed - the Secretary would contact Edinburgh Council road officials.

Chair Report - the Chair reported that the Community council had attended the Blackhall Sports Day and was appreciative of the presence of Police Scotland.

The poor state of the pavement on Craigcrook Road adjacent to the horse field and its unsuitability for partially sighted children had been reported to the Chair .

The wider discussion raised concerns about the poor condition of the pavements, including the growth of weeds, in Craigleith Hill Gardens and Craigleith Hill Crescent.

Other Community Council matters - following attendance at a briefing meeting on the Edinburgh Local Development Plan Review earlier in the day at Drumbrae Hub, the Secretary emphasised the importance of community awareness in participating in the Plan review process as essential to the continued maintenance of the open space at the horse field on Craigcrook Road and at Hillhouse Road woods

Other matters raised - bench at Abingers, Craigcrook Road. A request had been made to the Community Council for financial support to help in upgrading the existing public bench outside the group of shops at the junction of Ravelston Dykes Road and Craigcrook Road. During the discussion it was also noted that an existing public bench at the junction of Strachan Road and Hillhouse Road had been relocated "temporarily" on to provable land at Crescent Foods 2 Strachan Road. **Agreed** the Secretary would contact Edinburgh council officials.

Next meeting - Monday 20 August 2018 in Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall at 7.30pm

Alan Denham
Secretary
23 June 2018