

Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council

Minutes of Meeting including 2019 AGM Monday 19 August 2019

Held in Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall

Present : Alan Denham (Chair / Secretary), Martin Riddell (Treasurer), Emma Phillips, James McLennan, Michael Cockburn, Inverleith Ward Councillor Hal Osler; Diedre Brock MP; PC Holly Matheson(Police Scotland).

Apologies : Rupert Lezmore (Vice Chair), Peter May, Claudia Romero, Fergus Henderson; Councillors Gavin Barrie. Max Mitchell;

Minutes of meeting on 17 June approved

Matters arising from 17 June meeting:-

Inverleith Neighbourhood Network - a request to be included on the network had not been accepted by the City Council without a proposer and a seconder - there had not been sufficient time to make arrangements after 17 June.

Ravelston Park - no progress on the extension of the white lines. Councillor Osler said that the priority was the painting of yellow lines as they are mandatory while white lines were advisory; white lines were painted when there was spare capacity.

Telford Road / Groathill Road North and South junctions - Councillor Osler said that following the on-site meeting in February, there had been recent changes to the white lines markings as well as repositioning some signs.

The discussion extended into the issue of parking, with major problems in the Seaforth and Forthview areas arising from those working in the Western General Hospital. Councillor Osler said that there would be a report to the Transport and Environment Committee in September following a major review of parking in Inverleith - after which there would be a period of consultation.

Police Scotland Report - PC Holly Matheson reported on :-

Changes on Police Scotland Community team - a new member of staff will be introduced at a forthcoming meeting.

It had been a quiet period with no major problems; there had also been no major issues in Ravelston Woods.

PC Matheson referred to major online and telephone scams, targeting in particular the aged and residents with dementia. The scams include a TV licence scam. Door-to-door sales still take place, but less frequently. Those selling at the door need a peddler's certificate from the Council to carry out selling; this should be asked for.

Shed break-ins continue with a particular focus on the theft of bicycles.

Drones - the increased flying of non-commercial private drones - Police Scotland asked that they should be contacted when drones were sighted with information on their flight

path. Commercial drones eg for filming, assessing building condition, require permission from the City Council.

Seaforth Drive - recent reports of damage to cars by youths

Speed checks in 20 mph zone - still a significant percentage of motorists exceeding the limit and driving at least 30 mph - about half of the drivers at a speed check on Craigcrook Road on the evening of 19 August.

E-scooters - following discussion, PC Holly Matheson said that she would report back on the legality of riding e-scooters on the road or pavement.

Report on Community Council Matters - Alan Denham reported on the following :-

Emma Phillips was warmly thanked for her role as Chairman over the previous 4 years.

Community Council Elections to be held in September with nomination forms to be submitted between 9 and 30 September - during discussion it was agreed that it was important that the Community Council continued to support the local community and as well as the City Council's expected publicity drive, it was important that the Community Council generated interest locally - both through traditional means and also through social media. Emma Phillips agreed to provide a social media link, but her preference was to share the role.

Community Council web site - it was noted that there were problems in renewing the site and domain name as it was held in the name of the previous secretary.

Blackhall Dip Post Office - the transfer to the Late Store will take place on 13 September at 13.00 hrs. The retention of a Post Office was welcomed.

Planning matters :-

184-186 Queensferry Road - Actualultra Ltd (Baillie Signs) - the appeal to the City Council Local Review Body for refusal of planning permission for a 8-metre high industrial shed adjacent to their premises had been rejected and permission refused.

Edinburgh Planning Concordat 2019 - it gives community councils a stronger role in major or complex local development applications, encouraging all parties to work together at the pre-application stage. It was noted that only a small number of planning applications in Craighleith and Blackhall fall into the category.

Strategic Plan (SESPlan) update was rejected by Scottish Ministers because the Plan did not take account of the relationship between land use and transport, Councillor Osler acknowledged that the decision was unexpected and could lead to an increase in planning appeals. The transport issues would be looked at on a piecemeal basis.

20 mph sign - agreed to carry the item over to a future meeting

Councillor Reports - flooding - Councillor Hal Osler said that flooding of streets following the recent significant rain storms had highlighted the inability of the drainage system to cope. In some cases it had resulted in sewage being mixed with the flood water. The mat-

ter was to be considered by the City Council. Discussions with Scottish Water had commenced.

Ravelston Dykes Road Quarry site - material changes to the design and details of the houses had been approved on the AMA development site

46 Craigleith Road - the appeal had been sustained by the Scottish Government Reporter.

AOCB - Emma Phillips said that the City Council were consulting on the transfer of land in Ravelston Park designated as Common Good land for the upgrading and extension of the nursery in the Park being promoted by Blackhall Community Trust. Agreed to consider at the September meeting.

Next Community Council meeting - Monday 16 September 2019 in Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall at 7.30pm

Alan Denham
23 August 2019

Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council