

Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council

Minutes of Meeting Monday 14 December 2020 - Held online via Teams

Present - Stuart Pinkerton (Chair), Alan Denham (Secretary), Martin Riddell (Treasurer), Duncan Osler, Grant Roger, Darlene Jeffrey, Susie Ross, Michael Cockburn, Paul Moran; Inverleith Ward Councillors Hal Osler, Gavin Barrie, Max Michell; and one member of the public.

Apologies - Jim McLennan

Minutes of 16 November meeting - approved.

Police Report - Police Scotland could not attend but a written report had been provided- see attached annex.

Community Council matters

Waste bins at bus stops on Queensferry Road - noted that the bins had been removed recently, but Councillor Hal Osler said that they will be replaced with new bins. Bin crews were concerned about the speed and volume of traffic on Queensferry Road which made the emptying of bins problematic.

Development of Fettes Police HQ Land for housing - agreed that a short presentation would be helpful. Noted that although the site was outside the Community Council area, being on Crewe Road it was adjacent. Development of the site plus the redevelopment of the Royal Victoria Hospital site in due course would result in significant pressure on schools, particularly Flora Stevenson Primary School. Additionally the open nature of the surrounding area - the cemetery to the west and the school playing fields and Inverleith Park to the east - made it a sensitive site.

Christmas Lights - the efforts of residents to brighten up their houses and streets with lights was to be commended. Many of the displays are impressive. It was also noted that although the Community Council had paid for the Christmas tree in the Dip, there was no acknowledgement on the tree base. Community Council will give further consideration how this can be rectified in future years.

Councillors Reports - matters raised and noted by the Councillors were :-
Leaves on wet paths and leaves blocking drains;

Cycle racks on Craigleith Road - following vandalism cycle racks on Craigleith Road are to be removed but will be replaced in the spring, although Councillor Osler said that Just Eat had not been forthcoming about whether they would be reinstated in the same location.

Overflowing communal waste bins in the rest the city - as a consequence public waste bins were being used by residents from outside the community council area and the bins are being filled by household waste frequently. Agreed that individuals should retain their waste or book a slot at the recycling centre. The issue of delivering waste on a trailer to recycling centres was also raised. The City Council has criteria for judging whether such waste on a trailer is acceptable.

AOCB - Craigmook Road /Queensferry Road junction site - noted that following the (illegal ?) felling of mature trees on the site, the remaining trees are to be safeguarded with a new Tree Preservation Order. The owner and the selling agents have been notified.

Craigmooth Road - Scottish Water is to carry out major sewage works on Craigmooth Road commencing in February 2021 and lasting 56 weeks. Councillor Osler said that the main pipe was cracked.

Blackhall Community Trust thanked the Community Council for the paying for the Christmas tree in the Dip.

Next meeting - agreed that the date should be revised and will now be held online at 7.30 pm on Monday 18 January 2021 using Teams.

Alan Denham
Secretary
15 December 2020

Annex - Police Report

Northwest Monthly Community Meeting Update

November 2020 (Inverleith)

Addressing violent crime

All **Serious Violent crime** (incl. serious assault/robbery) is down 11% across NW compared to last year and 1 further incident recorded in Inverleith Ward.

Domestic Abuse crime is slightly up by 6% in NW despite concerns this may have shown greater increase during covid restriction period. There has been continued enforcement of domestic bail conditions during this period to protect vulnerable victims.

Reducing drug harm and targeting supply

Drugs (supply, production and cultivation) – Focus of increased activity. The Drylaw based Proactive LAVRU unit are actively carrying out search warrants and disruption to target drug related crime following intelligence gathering and Crimestopper notifications from communities. It is important that members of the public are encouraged to ring 101, contact a police officer or through Crimestoppers on 0800 500 111

This has led to several notable arrests during the month of November, including the discovery of a large scale Cannabis cultivation.

Tackling housebreaking and acquisitive crime

Housebreaking to domestic homes is down 45% on last year across NW and down 24% in Inverleith ward. We have maintained focus on the minority of individuals committing housebreaking and there has been continued enforcement of bail curfews for offenders by local and specialist teams.

Housebreaking non-dwellings (sheds/garage) has increased this year both in NW and across the city with a focus on stealing pedal bikes. Operation Agora is the citywide police operation aimed at tackling this and a number of recent arrests/recovery of stolen bikes has been made.

Theft of pedal cycles has increased in NW and across the city. A number of bikes have been recovered and reunited with their owner through bike register - we've held a number of bike marking events which are advertised through our social media pages.

We have this month had success with a large seizure of pedal bikes a number of which are stolen. Officers are working hard to reunite bikes to owners.

The '**Autumn Awareness**' campaign focussed on crime prevention during darker nights – including Home / Garage & Shed Security, Pedal Cycle Security, Road Safety / Vehicle Crime, personal safety and business security. Keep up to date on our internet/social media pages for advice on keeping safe.

Theft of motor vehicles which includes theft of motorcycles is down 18% this year to date. We continue to focus on motorbike theft and associated ASB.

Dealing with disorder and antisocial behaviour

Antisocial behaviour incidents have increased and can be attributed to the COVID-19 protocols. Calls in this category include concerns about young people gathering, reports of neighbours not adhering to social distancing and noise/party calls.

Hate crime in NW is down 1% on last year to date. This follows on from the National hate crime awareness campaign which ran during October. There will be a continued focus on encouraging the reporting of hate crime and supporting vulnerable victims.

Area focus – Continued focus on the Maiden Craig, Inverleith Park and Ravelston area with our local community team paying frequent reassurance visits. We continue to check out gathering areas and engage with young people.

Making our roads safe

Road safety stats - The number of people seriously injured on roads in NW is down 42% on last year and the number slightly injured is down 63%.

Additional training of local response and community officers in use of hand held laser device.

Enforcement activity was carried out during November in Inverleith and Blackhall with our local community being supported by officers from Roads Policing.

Winter Road safety campaign planned over coming months – ensure your vehicle is fit for winter.

Drink driving campaign will run during the month of December.

Other e.g. Events/initiatives/local ward updates or national campaigns

05/11/2020 – 07/11/2020 – Operation Crackle

16/11/2020 – PC Hickie attended CCM via Teams. Report passed incorporating items on this document. Well received. Expression of thanks passed by Martin Riddell re: ongoing work in Maidenraig Crescent and Ravelston Woods.

18/11/2020 – CPT assisted LAVRU in warrant execution Wester Drylaw Row.

26/11/2020 – PC Hickie, Milne and Cursiter carried out speed check in Craigcrook Road. 1 x report for speeding at 35mph in a 20mph zone and 1 x warning.

28/11/2020 & 29/11/2020 – CPT (PC's Walton & Lawrence) & Response did speed checks @ Craigcrook Road and Queensferry Road. 1xreport for speeding at 35mph in a 20mph zone and x4 warnings.

Contact Us:

Email (for all ward areas): EdinburghCPTNorthWest@scotland.pnn.police.uk
Email address is not monitored 24/7 or for reporting crime or ongoing incidents. These should be reported by calling 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency).

Twitter: @EdinPoINW **Facebook:** <https://en-gb.facebook.com/EdinburghPoliceDivision>

