

Craigleith / Blackhall Community Council

Minutes of Meeting - Monday 16th May 2022

Held at Blackhall St Columba's Church

Present - Stuart Pinkerton (Chair), Grant Roger (Stand-in secretary), Martin Riddell (Treasurer), Susie Ross, Duncan Osler, Darlene Jeffrey, Michael Cockburn, Ward Councillors - Hal Osler and Jule Blandel plus 4 members of the community.

Apologies - Angus Robertson (MSP), Deirdre Brock (MP), Alan Denham, Vicky Nicolson (Ward Councillor) and Max Mitchell (Ward Councillor).

Minutes of 25 April 2022 meeting - Stuart noted some minor amendments and feedback on the circulated minutes to ensure full balance of discussion on community asset transfer and note that a neutral submission was made for the formal consultation.

One community member noted some feedback to be provided to the nursery to build some flexibility in their plans to potentially allow transfer of the community space to nursery space to future proof the nursery. Hal noted that no formal plans as yet and without revisiting the minutes of prior meeting, Stuart noted he would feedback to Fiona Gilbert.

Police Report - no formal attendance but Police report provided. Stuart summarised the report (attached as appendix) noting continued patrols in Maidencraig Crescent, Craigleith and Ravelston Woods under operation PAX.

Community Council matters - a number of matters were raised in person and ahead of the meeting.

1. Continued speeding in Craigcrook Road - noted by Susie Ross as a recurring trend of delivery drivers. Hal noted there have been some police patrols, but no outcomes noted in police report in terms of findings. One community member asked if traffic wardens could be given powers for handing out speeding fines. Hal noted that parking matters are for traffic wardens, but speeding is a criminal offence and therefore is a police matter.
2. Parking on Craigcrook Road at Ravelston Park - discussion on parking issues and impact on speeding and how this could be managed by local residents given council challenges of enforcement and lack of resource.
3. Takeaway refuse in Blackhall dip - point raised regarding recent examples of waste from takeaways being left on the street rather than bins and been shredded by foxes. birds. Noted as something that has happened in past but has come up again more recently. Hal noted this is an Environmental Warden issue, so she agreed to pass on.
4. Overgrown hedges (Jeffrey Avenue and Columba Road) - Stuart noted a query had been raised due to overgrown hedges and safety concerns (lack of space on the pavement for pedestrians) and that the council response was that there was no safety concern. Stuart agreed to provide Hal / the councillors with the council response and reference number.
5. City Fibre installation - issues raised about the road quality post-work and issues with rubbish leftover (both materials and contractor rubbish). Suggestion of a counsellor "walk around". Hal noted the same themes were raised in other wards.

City Councillors report - Hal reported on a few key points, including an update on Scottish Water works on Craighleith Road and ongoing discussions of when the road will open again (potentially June), and how to find a workable solution to maybe open one lane and get the buses back up and running on this route.

Hal also noted speed reducing measures being discussed for Queensferry Road, and extending the 30mph zone, as well as looking at measures on Strachan Road, Craigcrook Road and March Road, including pedestrian crossings.

One community member raised a point regarding issues with length of lights at crossing of Queensferry Road, Craigcrook to Quality Street and issues with traffic flow.

AOCB - one community member raised a query regarding potential development on Ravelston Dykes Road near the golf club. Stuart and Grant noted nothing in the planning lists of note and that this falls into Corstorphine / Murrayfield ward. Suggestion to email Alan to get notifications of developments so golf club remains informed.

Another community member raised points regarding speed cameras and cameras in bus lanes, as well as the quality of gulley maintenance. On the latter point the suggestion was to email Hal to forward to the Roads team.

Date of next meeting - 20 June 2022, including Annual General Meeting. To be held at Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall at 7.30pm.