

Craigleith / Blackhall Community Council

Minutes of Meeting - Monday 16th January 2023

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 Max Mitchell plus 4 members of the community.

Apologies - Alan Denham and Deirdre Brock (MP)

Minutes of December meeting - minutes approved

Police Report - no formal attendance but Police report provided. Stuart summarised the report noting there had been 153 calls in the prior month (compared with 200 for same month PY). A number of these were raised by shop owners in Craigleith re youth activity and the policy have met with these owners and advised to contact Youth Support for future issues.

1 break-in and 1 theft reported (car since returned) and a successful drug raid in the Telford area. Police are happy to meet with residents and have requested dates of future meetings.

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

1. **Queensferry Road / Hillhouse Road** (between Farmers and Blackhall Library) - couple of accidents noted and incidents of drivers racing between the lights. DJ agreed to provide details of accidents with CBCC to pass on to Road Safety. HO noted that still layers of approval to get 30 speed limit in place and that ultimate issue is that Queensferry Road is seen as a thoroughfare for traffic flow and not as a residential area.
2. **Heavy rain / potholes** - one member noted recent issues with potholes and traffic splashing residents due to flooding. Continued discussions on road resurfacing and council prioritising locations. HO noted that issues with potholes should be reported to Road Safety. There are a limited number of claims by drivers against the council, and most are unsuccessful as claims can only be made if the pothole has been previously reported and they have had the chance to fix it.

City Councillors report - HO noted that there had been limited points over the festive period. Key points were the state of the roads & potholes, heavy rain, flooding & gullies.

Also noted that there is a central development fund for improvement works so suggested issues at Maiden Craig Steps could be resolved this way. MR noted he had been in contact in this regard. There was some discussion on the access issues here and who owns the small patch of land beside the steps and challenges of converting steps to a ramp. SR noted she knew someone who could take a look at it and consider plans for works. HO noted she was meeting a resident on plans and making sure this needs to progress through the right channels (Housing / Active Travel).

Other matters raised were filling of grit bins and issues at Quality Street junction - engineers back out and looking at traffic filter options. This has been queried by Royal

High School re timings at Drumbrae and Quality Street crossings. Links to earlier point from H of view that traffic is the priority on Queensferry Road.

Noted that Spaces for People consultation remains open for raising any queries or concerns.

AOCB - one member noted that there had been bins removed at bus stops and whether these are being replaced. Another member raised a concern over the exit at Craighleith Retail park and lane filters being too narrow and causing tail backs. Discussions with Sainsburys held re layout.

Also noted that other recently elected ward councillors had not attended a number of recent meetings. SP agreed to follow up.

Date of next meeting - 20 February 2023. To be held at Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall at 7.30pm.