

Granton & District Community Council
Monday, 27 November 2023, 18:30
RWCC and on MsTeams

In Attendance: Fred Marinello, George Gordon, Jill Talēyarkhan, Rod Shearer, Donald McDonald, Logan Rutherford, David Jamieson (WBRA), Carolyn Samson, Suzanne Ebel (Minutes)

CEC & Waterfront Development: Sat Patel (CEC), Michelle Fraser (CEC) and the design team.

Online: Lorna Forsyth

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Fred welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

These were received from: PC Hall, PC Lawrence, Deidre Brock MP, Tim Parker, Cllr Dobbin, Cllr Day, Cllr Dijkstra-Downie, Ben McPherson MSP

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Various name spellings were corrected, and Rod Shearer was added as an attendee. Apologies from me (Suzanne) for these.

The Minutes were proposed by Jill and seconded by Donald.

4. Presentation from Granton Waterfront Team (Phase 1 update)

CEC

Sat introduced the team and explained that the project is in pre-planning stage for phase 1 construction. This covers 2022-2036. A preferred company has been appointed to supply the Granton Heat Network services, which will draw heat from the sewers.

The three current sites are the Western Village (residents from 2024), the Granton Station building with D1 (building site behind Granton Station with tenants from March 2024) and the Gasholder Project, which is about 12 months from completion.

Questions

- Is the gasholder project on budget? Yes, it is a fixed price project.
- Is the public realm work funded? Yes, this funding was secured from the Scottish Government.
- Will existing heat systems become integrated into the new network? Yes, hoping this will be achieved over time.
- Electric vehicle charging points – there are only two sites – are there possibilities for more? Yes, but trying to minimise car ownership in this new town. (Only 1 in 6 households will be able to have a vehicle.)
- The existing bus services are already busy, what are future plans? The project team has spoken to LRT about future provision and the streetscape is being designed to accommodate buses.
- How is waster going to be dealt with? There is a new underground system where the lorries do the work rather than relying on a mechanism to raise bins. This should be more reliable.
- Lower Granton Road and Granton Square seem to have fallen off the development plan. There was a short discussion about this. Michelle said that she knew there were changes to Pennywell Road and roundabout but could ask about Lower Granton Road and Granton Square.
- Can contractors use a single route in and out of the construction site? Yes, the team will speak to the contractors before work starts.

- Granton Square is a natural transport hub and could serve people in both Granton and part of Trinity, how will it be used. Michelle said it will be a mobility hub site in Phase 2 (2026-2030).

Cruden Homes/Smith Scott Mullan/ OPEN

This section discussed the active travel plans to reconnect the north to the south of the area and the diagonal path running through the site, which is dark and needs to be lit better. The single 'artery' will be the bus route with a bus gate to prevent the road being used as a rat run. The planning application will be submitted end of January/beginning of February of r Phase 1 and it is hoped to break ground in spring 2025.

Questions

- What NHS provision will be in place? NHS Lothian is engaged in discussion about this.
- What about apprenticeships for local people? Cruden Homes has an apprenticeship programme and they attend Edinburgh College. Michelle added that they are also working on green tech training as these will be the jobs of the future.

OPEN

Will be responsible for the landscaping, 'amenity' and facilitating transport and travel. There will be sustainable drainage to prevent flooding. The NGS landscaping will 'speak' to the Western Villages landscaping so there is continuity. Planting will be done to make people feel safe and to delineate areas clearly. The development is mixed tenure – private and social housing.

5. Police Report

Please see attached report. Sorry we can't attend.

Housebreakings

- A business in New Broompark was broken into on 4/10.
- There was a break-in to a garage in Grierson Road on 24/10 around 20:45 hrs. Nothing stolen.
- On 25/10 a flat in Wardieburn Place South had the door handle broken in an attempt to gain entry. Attempt failing.

Vandalism

- There was a window smashed at Granton Primary on 9/10 with 2 youths being charged.
- On 16/10 Boswall Post Office had the wall spray-painted by youth suspects.

Miscellaneous

- Regular patrols continue to B & M, Morrisons and Lidl due to youth related disorder. A substantial amount of charges have been recorded against a small number of youths who have been responsible.
- Bonfire Night – Op Crackle a lot quieter than previous years for Drylaw unlike other areas of the City.
- Sarah and I have a few shifts in December at Winter City in the City Centre so may not be as visible as normal on the beat.

Best wishes and Merry Christmas when it comes.

6. Elected Members' Reports

Cllr Dijkstra-Downie was unable to attend but sent this short update on a recent consultation: 'At the last TEC, the committee voted to go ahead with the process for parking controls in Granton Waterfront (including around existing homes in the Waterfront avenue and West Granton Road areas). Engagement from residents at pre-consultation was low but not supportive of the proposals. Our Lib Dem amendment was not to proceed at this time and to work with residents to get more clarity on what public transport

links etc were needed to make this viable. This proposal was defeated by the other parties on the committee, so the legal process will continue to next stage.'

Rod advised that Cllr Day is slated to appear at Trinity Community Council in February or March 2024.

7. Secretary's Report

In way of a short report, I have had six correspondences which have been forwarded on to members covering various items such as proposed boundary change, supported bus services (however none in our area), the Association of Community Council's AGM, which Fred attended and the planning issue in relation to Phase 1 of the Waterfront development which Sat will be highlighting on the Agenda and giving a presentation on, and, this which is in relation to Scottish Parliament Housing, Planning committee: <https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees/current-and-previous-committees/session-6-local-government-housing-and-planning/correspondence/2023/community-councils-response-from-minister>

In relation to the NW LCPP, the next meeting is being held on Thursday 30th and having just received the papers I will forward them on in a separate email. (Note, papers received can be found at this link: <https://www.edinburghpartnership.scot/downloads/file/215/papers-30-november-2023>)

8. Treasurer's Report

After the cheque for the room let is deducted, the balance will be £2791.21.

9. Neighbourhood Network/NW Locality

George had circulated the locality Minutes by email prior to the meeting. The next meeting will be looking at the proposed [action] plans.

Fred attended the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils AGM. They had a presentation about spending on culture for the city but it is not clear how much of that will benefit the north of the city. In general, the EACC does not represent north Edinburgh – there is no office bearer from the north for example.

There was some discussion about how localities came into being.

Fred was attending the next Neighbourhood Network meeting on 6 December and will report back in January.

10. Consultation, Planning and Licensing

Planning

The path on the NGS proposal needs to be opened up.

There was an application for another high fence on Granton Road which is contrary to the council regulation.

Applications have been received for cottage extensions asking for double glazing and skylights at Lower Granton Road and Granton Square.

11. AOCB

- a) Spartans have drawn Hearts in the Scottish Cup and the gate money from this tie will find its way into local youth groups. A new youth centre and 5000-seater stadium are being planned.
- b) Donald advised that the flooding at the bottom of Pilton Avenue and Boswall Parkway is still bad and makes it difficult to cross the road.
- c) Jill submitted her apologies for January and February meetings as she is unavailable. She asked if someone could keep an eye on the bin collections. Fred said that the money for the bin lorry recesses in the road will be voted on at the Neighbourhood Network meeting.
- d) When you stand at the Crewe Road North bus stop (by the bridge) there is a whiff of sewerage. Given that this has just been repaired, George said he will speak to Gavin Barwell.

- e) Carolyn asked what was happening with the Boswall Green park consultation. George responded that he had spoken to the relevant CEC officials and organised for the bowling club to be used as a consultation hub. Next steps are up to them.
- f) Carolyn asked if it would be possible for a public, organised firework display in 2024. George replied that this had been discussed, perhaps even with silent fireworks, but the council will not give permission for an event in any of the local parks.
- g) Donald said the graffiti in the bus stops means that you can't read the timetables. George said that he had spoken to PC Lawrence about this but the crime was too low level for the police to investigate.
- h) Rod pointed out that there are three QR codes on the bus timetables and each takes you to different sets of information that don't complement each other.
- i) George proposed that Logan Rutherford should be appointed as GDCC Communications Officer. This was seconded by Fred and unanimously approved by attendees present.

12. Date and time of next meeting

29 January 2024, RWCC, 18:30 and on MsTeams.