

Granton & District Community Council
Monday, 30 September 2024, 18:30
RWCC and on MsTeams

In Attendance: Fred Marinello, George Gordon, Donald McDonald, Jill Talēyarkhan, Carolyn Samson, Cllr Stuart Dobbin, Rod Shearer, PC Tony Lawrence, PC Sarah Hall, Maureen Nelson, Suzanne Ebel (Minutes)

Online: Lorna Forsyth, Logan Rutherford

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Fred welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

These were received from David Jamieson (WBRA), Bill Rodger, Cllr Sanne Dijkstra-Downie

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no matter arising. The Minutes were proposed by George (with amendment under 10a to street name) and seconded by Donald.

4. Police Report

August statistics

A 27 yo male has been charged with a break-in to 20 Boswall Parkway – a mobile and car keys were stolen.

Vehicles

West Harbour Road – window smashed but nothing stolen.

12 August – blue motorbike was stolen from Madelvic Square

Cycles

There was an attempt to steal a bike from Heron Place.

Bikes were stolen from Heron Place, Hesperus Crossway and Lower Granton Road.

21 August a delivery driver was robbed of his scooter in Heron Place. A 16 yo male was charged as were the rest of the group involved.

Youth anti-social behaviour

There is a small group of young people (aged P7 to S4) who are responsible for virtually all of the issues in Drylaw and in the Morrisons supermarkets on Ferry Road and Granton. The supermarkets have good CCTV so it is always possible to identify the offenders and charge them.

5. Elected Members' Reports

Cllr Dobbin

- a) There has been some anti-social behaviour by children living in the caravans on the wasteland beside the NGS building. Also, two serious fires one of which resulted in a twelve-hour power cut.
- b) Cllr Dobbin has had correspondence about the different groups targeting Morrisons, B&M and Lidl. Cllr Dobbin has written to Gareth Barwell to ask for a clear-up and clear-out of the

space and to put better security on the site. Before the ground is broken there needs to be an archaeological investigation.

- c) A meeting with the council, Scottish Government and Police Scotland is required to find a way forward. There are also groups of travellers at Gypsy Brae and near the Biffa site where rocks were being thrown through windows and windscreens.
- d) On 1 October, Cllr Dobin attended a meeting of the North Edinburgh Parents' Action Group along with council housing officials. There was a lot of dialogue, which seemed positive. In April a new framework will come into use along with dedicated workers for the indoor issues. It does not appear that this is joined up with the external repair workers.
- e) New bin hubs are being rolled out. They do not appear to be working in Granton Crescent, especially at the west end. Officials need to meet to find a solution.

Questions and comments

- f) Carolyn and Maureen suggested that cameras are the only way to resolve this – has been used previously.
- g) Donald asked what was happening to Granton Primary once the new school opens on the Waterfront. Cllr Dobbin said he didn't think anything would happen – all the provision is needed.

Cllr Dijkstra-Downie sent this update with her apology.

- The Granton Waterfront School consultation closes on 3 October, link to the Consultation Hub: <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/grantonwaterfrontps/>
- The insulation retrofit project at Crewe Road North and Crewe Road Gardens is now nearly (if not fully) complete. I've been asked a few times why one of the buildings has not been included in this project; this is because there wasn't a majority of owners in the block in favour of the works.
- I've recently had a number of queries about the situation on the Scottish Government land designated for the Art Works (next to Waterfront Avenue). This has been raised again with the Scottish Government and I understand that the Council Leader has written to the First Minister to instruct action on this land.
- I have been pursuing options for safety improvement of the junction between Waterfront Avenue, West Harbour Road and Chestnut Street. Unfortunately, the PV2 assessment recently carried out by the Council has not met the threshold for a pedestrian crossing. Longer term improvements are planned as part of the Waterfront project but these are still some time off. I expect residents will ask me to keep pursuing this.

6. Secretary's Report

- a) On Thursday 24th October from 10am-1pm (West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre), there will be a stakeholders engagement session at the role of community planning in Edinburgh. There will also be an online Teams version on Monday 28th October between 3pm-5pm It is important that community council members have their voice heard as there is a general shift going on within CEC in relation to community planning which includes the Neighbourhood Networks and Community Planning Partnerships.
- b) The community council elections will be held in February earlier than anticipated. George encouraged us to reapply and he will send out forms and links in due course. A Cllr Dobbin was the only elected member present, George asked if he would be the Returning Officer. (It is GDCC's understanding that Cllr Dijkstra-Downie is going to be RO for Trinity Community Council.)

- c) Library consultation – access the online version here [Edinburgh Future Libraries strategy 2024 to 2029 – The City of Edinburgh Council](#) Paper copies are available in libraries.
- d) North Edinburgh Arts is undertaking a new community wealth-building exercise.

7. Treasurer's Report

- a. Matters Arising from Treasurer's Report

There were no matters arising and the accounts were approved by the members.

8. Neighbourhood Network/NW Locality

The NW Locality has been working on the Community Planning consultation events for a while. The Community Planning Partnership has had its membership request to the Edinburgh Partnership board declined again. This is unfortunate as it is an efficient way to hear community voices.

The Neighbourhood Network will meet to allocate grants from the Community Grant Fund w/b 7 October.

9. Consultation, Planning and Licensing

Planning

- a) While there are no planning applications or decision relating to previous applications to report, there are a few matters to consider. The formal response to the Spartans application said that the new entrance will not be used on match days. Further, Spartans have an application pending to move the fencing for the additional seating but have moved it already.
- b) The new house on Wardie Road raises questions about what the Planning Department now considers to be acceptable.
- c) The house on Boswall Road that had the mast have removed it but have now applied for a gate onto Wardie Playing Fields.
- d) There is another application for a 5G mast at Boswall Crescent and also on Crewe Road North opposite the Co-op store.

Licensing

The Morrisons garage (now changed hands) has been licensed to sell alcohol until 11 pm. GDCC was not notified of this application and as they are selling cheap alcohol, it has potential for disruptive behaviour.

10. AOCB

- a) Boswall Park Crescent – the funding needs to be approved. There will be a consultation event for residents in October and then one for the wider public.
- b) Donald asked if anything can be done about the graffiti on all the bus shelters and our noticeboard. He also asked if dogs were allowed to be on the plots. The answer is that they shouldn't be but people do let their dogs out there and do not clean up properly after them.
- c) Jill reports that there is a humming noise coming from Leonardo. It can be heard at night and the council has already been involved. It was quieter but is now loud again. Nearby residents were told that it was drains being cleared but that seems an unlikely explanation.

11. Date and time of next meeting

28 October 2024, RWCC at 18:30 and on MsTeams.