

Granton & District Community Council
Monday, 29 September 2025, 18:30
RWCC and on MsTeams

In Attendance: Fred Marinello, George Gordon, Susan Allan, Jill Talēyarkhan, David Jamieson, Ida Maspero, Rod Shearer, Cllr Dijkstra-Downie, Suzanne Ebel (Minutes)

Online: Lorna Forsyth

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Fred welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies: These were received from Carolyn Samson, Billy Fitzpatrick, Cllr Dobbin, PC Sarah Hall, PC Tony Lawrence, Cllr Day, Tracy Gilbert MP, Ben McPherson MSP

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

The Minutes were passed subject to David Jamieson's requested amendments under item 10: Consultation, Planning and Licensing.

There were no matters arising.

4. Police Report

PC Hall provided a report by email:

August - Incidents

One house breaking - entry forced to a conservatory, nothing stolen

One incident where parcels were stolen from an insecure garage – be aware of potential for this as we order more shopping online

Road Traffic Offences – 6 crimes detected and reported to the PF

Drugs Possession – 2 crimes detected and reported to the PF

Vandalism – 5 crimes reported to Police

Theft of number plates from vehicle – 2 crimes reported to Police

Theft of motor vehicle – 1 crime reported to Police

Fireworks

There have already been reports of fireworks being used in the Granton / Wardieburn area.

If anyone has info about who is selling fireworks / where they are being stored / plans for ASB on Bonfire Night then please contact Police on 101 or Crimestoppers online or on 0800 555 111.

Plans are in place as usual for the City / Division to ensure we have sufficient resources for Bonfire Night.

Granton Primary School

We have had reports of problems with parking outside the school.

We will be carrying out patrols to ensure that parents are parking appropriately and that drivers are complying with the no entry signs at Wardieburn Street East and Wardieburn Street West.

Police Drop Ins

Granton Library, Wardieburn Terrace – Monday 13th October, 1400 to 1500 hours

Morrisons, Pilton Drive North – Saturday 25th October, 1030 to 1230

Comments and queries

George commented that the monthly stats we see seem to be a reflection of community policing in the ward and not all the crime in a month.

5. Elected Members' Reports

- a) Cllr Dijkstra-Downie (and George) had attended the third meeting called by Ben McPherson regarding the travellers. Sanne reported that progress is slow but this time there appears to be a suggestion of next steps even if there was no timeline. There will be a clean-up, which the Scottish Government will pay for. However, the Scottish Government has never engaged with the people living there so it is not clear exactly who they are. Also, there is no money allocated for the development of the artworks area yet. So far two letters have been written to the Scottish Government about the issues relating to this site.
- b) Trees on Waterfront Avenue with white crosses – Cllr Dijkstra-Downie has had a number of enquiries about this. A report highlighted that there were dead trees and also trees planted too close together. These trees will be removed to solve these issues. Dead or fallen trees and overhanging branches can be reported here: forestry.service@edinburgh.gov.uk
- c) Cllr Dijkstra-Downie requested a clean-up of Wardie Steps and was pleased to say that his had been done pretty quickly.
- d) Flag raising around Wardie Primary – these incidents had caused much discussion among parents, The incident on 10 September was of particular concern and Ida gave a short recap of where we are following this incident. Flag raising can be reported to the Street lighting and Roads operations team <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/streetlightproblem>. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie added that a report is coming to the council about community cohesion and what CEC could do.
- e) Cllr Dijkstra-Downie reminded us that the Roseburn Corridor tram consultation is now open.

Comments and queries

Jill asked where the money is coming from for the Roseburn Corridor tram. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie said there is money up to the strategic business case level but not beyond this.

George asked if there was still a proposal to borrow money. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie said there is no information about this and the assumption is that the Scottish Government will contribute.

David added that the lack of decision-making causes blight in the tram corridor areas. For instance, improvements were promised at Granton Square to help with road safety and these have never materialised. Susan commented that the lack of crossings is not great for families living in the Square or nearby Chestnut Street. George said that Sustrans and the Neighbourhood Network did spend money there but there was more to do.

6. Secretary's Report

a. Matters Arising from Secretary's Report

George circulated his report by email prior to the meeting. He asked if the new room set-up addressed people's requirements. It was agreed that it did and a request would be made for this to be provided for future meetings.

7. Engagement & Inclusion Officer Report

- a) Ida has been working with Lloyd to make the website tidier and more user-friendly. For example, there are now news updates on the home page and navigation is easier.

- b. The draft poster design was approved and will be printed and emailed to our usual display places.
- c. The Facebook page has been updated and is running again.

8. Treasurer's Report

- a. There is no change to the balance but a cheque for £54 to cover the room let for the last three meetings has now been issued.
- b. The annual accounts were presented and unanimously approved. They will be sent to the council so that our annual grant can be released.

David asked what the balance is used for; could we make donations to local groups and organisations. George replied that it covers miscellaneous costs, room hire and big items like tech. We don't usually give to local groups and organisations as we would be inundated with requests.

David asked if there is a live stream of meetings. George replied yes as it is a requirement to have hybrid meetings, but very few people watch. It is not recorded.

9. Neighbourhood Network/NW Locality

- a. There is still no sign of the Edinburgh Partnership holding a meeting. George will be meeting with other locality chairs to discuss how to make things happen. There is uncertainty over the CPPs and how they will fit into any revised structure.
- b. George advised that there is a meeting to discuss the Edinburgh Partnership's direction of travel on October 14th with the locality chairs.

Neighbourhood Network – Fred had planned to have an update on community policing in Edinburgh so that everyone had a full understanding of why it is important. There was also a proper overview of housing in Edinburgh with all the parties involved. However, it was decided that there weren't enough agenda items and the meeting was postponed

The Community Grant Fund closes on 7 October. Small groups with a constitution and a bank account are encouraged to apply.

10. Consultation, Planning and Licensing

- a. There is nothing of note in the past month, GDCC has lodged an objection to the proposed harbour works due to lack of information.
- b. David had a response about the cost of the Granton Station landscaping -- £80k plus vat. It would appear to be held in a budget that does not require to go before the relevant council committee nor is consultation required.
- c. There was a discussion about WASP's running of the building and what is/isn't happening as it should be.

Comments and queries

[a] Ida said that the planning application is only part of the whole process – they will also need a marine licence. RFYC are minded to support the application but subject to provision of further supporting information.

[a] Rod reiterated that this seems to be the way of applications now – vital information is provided after the closing date for objections so people do not have all the information in order to make informed decisions.

[a] George added that again, GDCC has not been consulted in its role as a statutory consultee.

[b] Cllr Dijksta-Downie suggested that it could be a 'place-making' budget. It might be held by the Revenue Budget and Commercial Development and Investment Team.

[b] Ida asked who will be maintaining this landscaping.

[b] Cllr Dijksta-Downie asked if it would be helpful to see if she could find out more and report back. This offer was accepted unanimously.

11. AOCB

a. A Wardieburn resident had raised the issue of the lack of stair-cleaning since Perfect Clean won the tender from CEC. Stairwells are not being cleaned at all or irregularly. Cllr Dobbin had picked this up but is on holiday so Cllr Dijksta-Downie will also check this. There have been a lot of complaints from tenants and owners alike.

b. Five voids were noticed on the walkabout just in Royston Mains. This is unacceptable given the lists.

c. Re the questions about the garage and pavement parking at the last meeting, it is not CEC who should deal with this but the DVLA.

12. Date and time of next meeting

Monday, 27 October 2025, RWCC and MS Teams, 18:30.

Cllr Dijksta-Downie gave her apologies in advance.