

Granton & District Community Council
Monday, 24 November 2025, 18:30
RWCC and on MsTeams

In Attendance: Fred Marinello, George Gordon, Ida Maspero. David Jamieson, Cllr Sanne Dijkstra-Downie, Rod Shearer, 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, Cllr Stuart Dobbin, PC Sarah Hall, Ben Macpherson MSP, Susan Allan

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes. They were proposed by Fred and seconded by Ida.

4. Police Report

PC Hall indicated that she would send an email report, but none had been received by the time of the meeting.

*Received 26/11/2025

Granton area – October 2025

286 calls to Police

66 crimes

Crimes

Theft Housebreaking Non-Dwelling (garages) x3 – males have been charged for 2 of these crimes

Assault & Robbery, Granton Road – 2 males charged

Misc Road Traffic Offences x5 – all solved

Theft Pedal Cycle x5

Vandalism x6

Body Worn Video

Officers in Edinburgh have been issued with Bodyworn Video Cameras.

These are not recording all the time, Officers will advise people when these are activated and are recording.

Bonfire Night

There was less disorder across the city than in previous years and no significant disorder in the Drylaw area.

Drop Ins

Morrisons, Ferry Road - Saturday 20th December, 1030 to 1230

Granton Library, Wardieburn Terrace - Monday 15th December, 1400 to 1500

Elected Members' Reports

- a. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie said that the **phase 1** scheme of the Waterfront has been approved. Unfortunately, Vatenfall have withdrawn from delivery of the heat network so this will not be available in Phase 1. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie has asked for spaces to be left as appropriate so that the futureproofing can be retrofitted. David asked if an alternative had been identified and why Vatenfall had pulled out. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie replied that exhaust heat source heating may be an option as the unit is the size of a small fridge so fits better in people's homes. She also said that the main reason for pulling out was that it was not stacking up financially for them. There may be other internal factors too. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie has a meeting with council officials to see what heat network options may be available for future phases.
- b. The **poo bins** on Granton Waterfront – the council agreed to do a clean-up of these. She is meeting with other CEC officials to discuss a way forward and support residents.
- c. **Cycle path closure** – Cllr Dijkstra-Downie (and Cllr Dobbin) was unaware that the path had been closed for two months until she was contacted by SPOKES. The path has been reopened until all parties have been notified. Suzanne noted that the stairs next to Leonardo that led to the path were still blocked off as at lunchtime on 24/11/25.
Cllr Dijkstra-Downie has asked for reassurance that the path width will not be affected.
- d. The Boswall Green gas mains and leak works have been extended by a further two weeks. They have to wait until gas levels are very low before they can carry out repairs and there have been some issues.

5. Secretary's Report

a. Matters Arising from Secretary's Report

George has emailed all relevant correspondence to members in advance of the meeting. This includes the outcome of the Neighbourhood Network Community Grant Funding meeting. Also links to the various CEC consultations.

David asked about the tram consultation. There has been a reservation on the Waterfront tram corridor for at least 20 years and if this was removed then proper spending could improve the conditions. He said Starbank Road is an example as it is particularly bad for pedestrians. He added that there are projects suggested in various reports such as the bus corridor to Portobello. Cllr Dijkstra Downie said that she can ask some questions and report back.

David also said that it was two years since Cllr Day said that he would spend some money on Lower Granton Road. All that has happened is that some paint was procured to paint some markings on the road. Cllr Dijkstra-Downie responded that there had been a focus on road safety, but this situation was systematic across the city. She added that another speed survey will be done on LGR to see if there have been any changes. Rod added that it is not just speed but there is a noticeable increased volume of traffic in Wardie and Trinity too.

Cllr Dijkstra-Downie advised that a year ago TEC went through all the reports that they had commissioned and drew up a list of priorities. It will take some time just to work through these.

- b. Ben McPherson MSP has called another stakeholder meeting in connection with the travellers on 8 December. George will attend.
- c. Fred will attend the online North-West Neighbourhood Meeting on 1 December 2025
- d. The Cockburn Association is celebrating 150 years with a reception on 9 December. George asked if anyone was available to attend as George, Fred and David were not available.

6. Treasurer's Report

a. Matters Arising from Treasurer's Report

The balance at bank is £3228.42 with £18.00 to be deducted for a room let.

7. Engagement and Inclusion Officer's Report

- a. Website improvement has been on the back burner but Ida will return to these tweaks.
- b. She has been concentrating on GDCC's social media presence, and this has engaged more people.
- c. She has been in touch with the residents in Ferryfield and West Ferryfield to remind them that GDCC is there for them.
- d. West Pilton West Granton Community Council is being reconstituted starting with an information meeting for residents on 4 December 2025, 18:00, in West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre. Ida, George and Fred are hoping to go along, and Cllr Dijkstra-Downie will contact Cllr Dobbin to see if they can go along too. Jessica Fenn and Chris Cullen are the organisers.

8. North West Locality

- a. George advised that they may be returning to the system of having sub-groups working on a council theme. This has been done before and wasn't that successful.
- b. There was a discussion about the EACC in relation to West Pilton West Granton CC and how it may be more relevant to all community councils by progressing general issues rather than local issues.

9. Consultation, Planning and Licensing

- a. There were no planning issues of note but there was a discussion about the planning application for 81 flats at Plot 35a in Granton Harbour. There had been confusion about whether the applicant had withdrawn the application, and why the proposed hearing on 5 November had not gone ahead. The application was still listed as 'awaiting assessment' on the Council's planning portal and it was noted that this could not be correct given that the Committee report had been written. There was a general concern that normal procedure was not being followed by the planning department and Sanne agreed to look into the matter.
- b. David received a response to his FOI request about the planting at Granton Station WASPS building. The Commercial Development and Investment Team have allocated £100k for this but do not have to speak to GDCC about how they are going to spend this money. George said the bigger question is why the WASP's building doesn't seem to be meeting its obligations and why CEC is not holding them to account.

10. AOCB

Maureen asked Ida to raise the issue of the two pitches that are being hired at East Pilton Park. The hirer seems to be aggressively protective of the pitches and if he is around, he is telling people (i.e. dogwalkers) not to walk on the pitches. Unfortunately, his style is intimidatory. He has threatened to put up cameras and shouts at people. George responded that this is not a designated sports ground, and all the hirers can do is get his lines painted. He cannot stop people from using a public (park) space. George will write to David Given, Head of Planning at CEC to see what can be done.

Note 25/11/2025

George realised that he had not advised that he was in contact with our previous guests from Heron View to advise how to set up a resident's association and also encourage membership of the community council and he awaits their response.

11. Date and time of next meeting

Monday, 26 January 2026, RWCC and MsTeams, 18:30