

Minutes of Meeting of the Craigeleith and Blackhall Community Council on 13 May 2013 in Stewart's Melville College Dining Hall

Present: Eddie Thorn (Chair), Ian Hewitt (Vice Chair), Maureen Kane (Sec), Alan Denham (Treasurer), Alasdair Watson, George Millar, Andrew Niven, John Adams, Sally McKenzie, John Young, Dave Halbert, Cllr Barrie, Cllr Hinds, Cllr Bagshaw, PC Daren Cavaroli. Guests: Iain Liddell, Rosie Watt, Guy Watt.

Apologies: Mark Lazarowicz, Margaret Richardson, Claire Lynch,

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved by Eddie Thorn and Seconded by Ian Hewitt

Police Report: PC Cavaroli reported a reduction in crime in the area. However, some garages in the area had been broken into therefore he warned residents to be vigilant. A speeding campaign was in place to target parts of Queensferry Rd and Telford Rd.

Chair's Report: Eddie Thorn and Ian Hewitt met with Richie Fraser (Parks Dept) to discuss poor quality of workmanship in the recent Orchard Park North upgrade. Several areas of concern will be fixed. Ian Hewitt asked for volunteers to act as friends of Orchard Park South. Priority Parking meeting was well attended. A drop in session is to be arranged prior to the final consultation in the Blinkbonny area. Blackhall signage has been approved. Location and wording now need to be decided. Alasdair Watson will communicate with Mandy Rudden. At a recent NP meeting, two projects were approved; the resurfacing of road where Craigeleith Ave meets Craigeleith Crescent. Maidencraig Court will have existing gardens replaced. Sally McKenzie asked why gardens were being replaced and John Adams explained that a grant application was approved. The Committee supported the upgrades. Maureen Kane pointed out that there were several potholes on Craigeleith Drive. She will email Eddie Thorn and outline problems.

Secretary's Report: Caroline Burwell from CEC Traffic had not reported back on the CBCCs concerns about speeding traffic through Blackhall and problems with the traffic lights at the Sainsbury's/Queensferry Rd junction. An email was received regarding the closure of Cairn

Housing in Columba Rd. No reply was received from NHS Lothian regarding RVH. All relevant correspondence was forwarded to the Committee.

Treasurers Report: Alan Denham reported £1478.60 in accounts to be submitted to auditor. Eddie Thorn approved and Ian Hewitt seconded.

Planning: Dave Halbert reported that signing up to a recent EACC concordat will allow members to comment on pre consultation prior to consultation and this may be useful for RVH. Alan will report back and assess advantages of membership. He may attend a planning meeting on 16 May. Cllr Bagshaw said that funds will be available to support CCs with planning.

Councillors' Report: Lesley Hinds said: there was no money in budget to fence off areas of Orchard Park North; bins were emptied daily; no fixed penalty notices for dog fouling had been given directly and Eddie Thorn has key for notice board. Cllr Barrie said that Audit Scotland's report on CEC would be published at the end of the month.

Matters Arising

Interschool Debate: There was a debate about the CBCC interschool debate organised annually by Dave Halbert. Andrew Niven felt that it was worthwhile and suggested contacting the debating society for funding. Eddie Thorn requested invoices and statements for the proposed cost of £195. The CC voted to continue the event 8 for and 1 against.

Business

Edinburgh City Local Development Plan: Alan Denham identified 3 issues for objection: the proposal to develop housing around the Cammo/Turnhouse area would have implications for traffic on Queensferry Rd. Dave Halbert suggested contacting other affected CCs to gain concerted approach. Maureen Kane will copy in other surrounding CCs.

Cairn Housing: Rosie Watt and Guy Watt raised concerns about the impending closure of Cairn Housing Complex in Columba Rd. They pointed out that the houses were gifted and wanted to know how a grant was spent. Sally McKenzie asked if there was a title on the property. All Councillors will raise the matter with relevant people.

Priority Parking: Iain Liddell was thanked for producing a detailed report and he thanked the Councillors for their replies. The report pointed out that: different residents have different needs, emphasised it was not CPZ, suggested a phased solution to address the problem and it was successful in other areas. He agreed to consult other officials if requested. John Young felt the measures were timid, ineffective and would not make a difference. The final consultation will take place after a drop-in session.

AOCB

Section 75: Ian Hewitt pointed out that Section 75 had not been collected on the Hillpark housing development. The item will move to the next meeting.

The next meeting is on Monday 10 June 2013 in Stewart's Melville Dining Hall at 7.30pm.