

Minutes - 7th December 2015

Committee present - Ian Hewitt, Alan Denham, Rupert Lezemore, Ross McCabe, James McLennan, Gavin Barrie, George Millar

Also present - Martin Riddel

Apologies - Nigel Bagshaw, Jim Bishop, Deidre Brock MP

Police Scotland Report - No police present

Chair's Report

- Chair attended the last meeting of the Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership
- A request was submitted for gates on the Maidencraig cycle path entrance to be narrowed but this was rejected.
- Funds have been advanced for CCTV to be installed at the Maidencraig cycle path entrance.
- EACC AGM went ahead as planned but the CBCC Chair did not attend. The Chair voted as requested
 - There is a general feeling from Community Councillors that the EACC isn't of value
 - The Chair demonstrated the CBCC's new banner for public events sponsored by the CBCC.
- The skate park is not due to open for the time being but INP will fund skateboard training.
- Groathill yellow lines have been approved and some work is underway.
- The Chair encourages the community to view the Edinburgh Budget Challenge.

Secretary's Report

- Nothing to report
- The secretary will look into writing an article about the CBCC for EH4 magazine.

Treasurer's Report

Due to the spend on the Christmas Tree and banner the current bank balance is £1619.

Planning Report

Care Home, Hillhouse Road

- According to the 2015 tree survey the majority of the trees that the planning application would remove are considered to be in 'good' or 'very good' condition.
- The CBCC is concerned that removal of trees and the concreting of areas of this land would cause increased seasonal flooding.
- The CBCC does not consider this application to be a strong one.
- The Council planning system does not allow for interested parties to comment at this stage.

CEC Councillors' Report

- Decisions regarding the extension of the trams will be set aside until after the Council elections in 2017. However, it was reported that the majority of Councillors believe the tram system should be extended.
- The Private Hire Car company Uber has been granted a licence to operate in Edinburgh under the following conditions:
 - Licenced vehicles must be used
 - Licenced drivers must be used
- The Scottish Government is allowing the Councils to apply strict rules such as:
 - Drivers must speak English
 - Drivers must have passed a topographical test
- It is recommended that citizens be aware of the following when engaging these types of companies:
 - There is no set pricing
 - The companies operate a 'surge pricing' system
- It was reported that some anti-Polish graffiti has appeared. This must be reported to the police as this is considered to be a hate crime.

Matters Arising

- Street lighting in Orchard Road is not as good as in Craigeleith Road
- The recent introduction of LED lighting has created light spots leaving the remainder of the pavement in relative darkness.
- Cllr Barrie will investigate

- Large refuse black containers been replaced by small orange containers in Craigeleith Shopping area
 - These containers are always full
 - They are sponsored by Sainsbury's but it is the responsibility of the Council to uplift.
 - The Chair will speak to the manager of Sainsbury's

AOCB

- The 20MPH sign outside Broughton High School has been fixed.
- It was brought up that the Council would appear to be considering spending millions of pounds on the extension of the tram network although the Council is experiencing a considerable reduction in funding.
 - The response from Cllr Barrie was:
 - The extension of the tram network was not costing the Council, as it is self-funding.
 - Because the network is currently so short and route doesn't generate much traffic the trams currently run at a loss and the appropriate economic response is to extend the network.

Date of the next meeting: Monday 12 October 2015