

Minutes - 9th May 2016

Committee present - Ian Hewitt (Chair), Alan Denham, Jim Bishop, Cllr Gavin Barrie, James McLennan, Margaret Richardson

Also present - PC Peter Sparrow, Emma Phillips, Robin Cathcart

Apologies - Rupert Lezemoore, Cllr Nigel Bagshaw, Neil Watt

Introduction

The Chair commented on the recent Scottish Parliament election hustings organised by the Community Council and congratulated the successful candidates.

April minutes were approved.

It was agreed that Emma Phillips and Robin Cathcart should be co-opted to the Community Council.

CEC Councillors' Report

Cllr Barrie acknowledged that it had been a quiet period.

Cllr Barrie in response to a question about Council taxes and level of services provided by the Council, said that the Council were striving to maintain services but provide them more efficiently. He cited bin lorries now working double shifts from 6am-2pm and 2pm-10pm. There were no proposals for a 3-week cycle at present. There was a brief discussion about the forthcoming cessation of trade waste by the City Council.

Job losses of about 2000 are expected in the City Council.

Police Scotland Report

PC Peter Sparrow said that a reorganisation with Police Scotland at Drylaw will result in a return to community policing for the Inverleith Ward. He will share this role with PC Emily Grinwood. Anecdotally there appear to have been an increase in break-ins. Audible alarms were recommended as a deterrent, although no deterrent was foolproof against determined thieves. The issue of red light jumping on Queensferry Road at Quality Street/Craigcrook Road junction and Blackhall Library was raised. PC Sparrow will look into the matter including cameras.

Chair's Report

The recent hustings were attended by 45 people.

It is proposed to carry out a tree survey of the Orchard Parks. The need for replacement planting on Queensferry Road was emphasised in discussion.

South Groathill Road yard - City council ownership still uncertain.

Treasurer's Report

Annual accounts, which had been audited, were presented and approved.

Planning Report

CBCC has submitted an objection to the current planning application by McDonalds at Telford Road for extended hours of operation. It was noted that the 2015 application for houses at Ravelston Dykes Road has been refused planning permission by the Council.

Matters Arising

Issues for future meetings should include:

How to engage more local citizens to attend CBCC meetings?

Should the night of the meetings be rearranged as it conflicts with school governance meetings.

AOCB

Date of the next meeting: Monday 13 June 2016