

**Craigleith/Blackhall Community Council  
Minutes of Meeting Monday 4 December 2017  
Held in Stewart Melville's College Dining Hall**

**Present** : Emma Phillips (Chair), Alan Denham (Secretary/Treasurer), Rupert Lezemoore, Claudia Romero, May, Martin Riddell, Paul Moran; Ward Councillor Hal Osler, Also in attendance PS Samantha Rose, PC Holly Matheson, Anne-Sylvie Todd

**Apologies** : James Maclennan, Neil Watt, Deidre Brock MP

**Meeting of 13 November** - minutes agreed and approved.

Matters arising :-

Microphones - to reduce hire charges, a bid will be put forward to Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership on the basis of sharing with other community groups; Sub-group on traffic and safety to meet on 19 December; Blackhall Dip Christmas tree - contribution of £250 made; Alan Denham had submitted comments on the Scottish Government consultation on Low Emission Zones and the City Council's consultation on parking surcharges for diesel cars; Lothian Bus Services 41 and 43 - following last meeting, Lothian Buses had been contacted and their response circulated; City Council Budget consultation - concerns were expressed about proposed advertisements at roundabouts, cut backs in the hours of recycling centres, reduction in Edinburgh Leisure annual budget of £400k plus maintenance charge of £300k, increase in parking permit charges by 5%, cut backs in community police officers and possible implications for the budgets and anti-social behaviour, and aligning public transport (implications uncertain). **Agreed** that Emma Phillips would circulate draft comments.

**Police Report** - PC Holly Matheson summarised the recent number of crimes in the north-west Edinburgh area - pedal cycle thefts 21, house break-ins 21, vehicle crime vandalism 9, break-in 2. Although more sporadic there were reports of motor bikes on cycle paths; PCs were being trained on dirt bikes which would then be used in cycle paths as one way of countering the problem. Police also attended Blackhall Primary School to view parking problems. A further meeting at Blackhall Primary School on 11 December is proposed to look at excessive speeding, double and illegal parking. Red light jumping was also noted as problem at Blackhall Dip when lollipop lady was on duty.

PS Samantha Rose reported that Operation Myriad resulting in an increase in police presence between 9-22 October had been a success with arrests for drug dealing, offensive weapons, robbery, firearms; 28 cars clamped as well as recovery of drugs and pedal bikes.

Anne-Sylvie Todd raised the recent problem of car vandalism in Groathill Road South when paint was thrown at a car. She questioned whether there was a case for CCTV. PS Samantha Rose agreed to look at the issue.

**Chair Report** - Emma Phillips had received an e-mail from George Millar (representing Blackhall St Columba's Church) informing of his intention to stand down from the Community Council. Emma thanked him for his support and contributions.

Emma had attended the AGM of the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC). **Agreed** - Peter May will represent CBCC at regular meetings.

Emma Phillips is to set up a meeting with other community councils in North West Edinburgh.

**Planning / Secretary / Treasurer - planning** - Alan Denham reported that there had been no further development on the proposed care home in Hillhouse Road Woods. The application at the former Craigmill Road petrol filling station had been withdrawn.

He also reported on the meeting on the action plan for Local Development Plan (LDP), an event for north Edinburgh which took place on 4 December at Drumbrae Hub. There may be further meetings as the City Council move to review the LDP.

**Secretary** - agreed that CC meetings in the first part of 2018 would be held at Blackhall St Columba's Church on the 3rd Monday of the month. The arrangement would be reviewed in April.

**Treasurer** - agreed that Neil Watt should be the third person for cheque signing.

**Councillor Reports** - Councillor Osler said that Localities Committees had been approved, subject to only councillors representing the particular locality sitting on the Committee. Local improvement plans were expected to be approved on 5 December, subject to further consultation on them. There would also be an option to retain Neighbourhood Partnerships.

Councillor Osler had met a partially sighted resident who was concerned that the traffic lights at the Craigmill Road junction did not provide for his condition.

The rubbish and litter clear-up 2 December on the cycle path at Craigmill was welcomed but unclear who had organised it.

**AOCB - defibrillators** - **agreed** no further action.

Emma Phillips commented on the City Council's proposals for secondary school reorganisation in the south-west of the city and the possible impact on the Royal High School.

**Next meeting** - Monday 15 January 2018 : 7.30pm at Blackhall St Columba's Church Hall

Alan Denham  
Secretary  
6 December 2017