

Craighleith/Blackhall Community Council

Minutes of Meeting Monday 16 December 2019

Held in Blackhall St Columba's Church Small Hall

Present : Stuart Pinkerton, Alan Denham, James McLennan, Duncan Osler, Grant Roger, Inverleith Ward Councillors Hal Osler, Max Mitchell, 2 members of the public.

Apologies : Michael Cockburn, Councillors Gavin Barrie, Iain Whyte, Deidre Brock MP, Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP.

Meeting of 19 November 2019 - approved.

Matters arising :-

Consultations - following discussion at EACC, it was agreed that future consultation responses should be cut and pasted into minutes.

ATM in Blackhall Dip - no progress because of election period.

Drain cover at junction of Craigcrook Road/Jeffrey Avenue junction - problem resolved after replacement drain cover installed.

Craighleith Hill Neighbourhood Watch - City Council had provided form to be completed and which had been forwarded. There was discussion about other local groups joining the Community Council.

LIDL - planning application noted; no comments on the application offered by the Community Council

Police Scotland were not able to attend the meeting and no written report had been provided. The Chair agreed to chase up.

Chair Report

Stuart Pinkerton referred to the recent meeting of the Edinburgh Area of Community Councils (EACC). There had been a presentation on poverty in Edinburgh, discussion about the consultation on the West Princes Street Gardens including upgrading concert venue - Councillor Osler said the City Council was not privatising the gardens but bringing them into the 21st century.

Stuart Pinkerton noted that the new chair and vice chair for EACC were from Leith and Corstorphine CCs.

Other Community Council Matters

Bus Lanes

The Secretary attended the Stakeholders' meeting on 21 November to discuss the extension of the bus lane hours of operation to 7 days 7am-7pm. While there was support from the bus companies, there was scepticism from other interests present including taxi operators - they were critical of the poor level of enforcement of the present hours of operation. A report will be submitted to the February meeting of the Transport and Environment Committee - as will a report on the review of the spacing of bus stops.

Police Scotland survey - after discussion it was agreed that the Secretary should complete and submit the consultation form.

City Councillors Reports

It was noted that there were concerns about foxes getting onto large communal wheelies. City Council policy is not to provide lockable wheelies.

New bench in Ravelston Woods - while it was noted that its provision may attract anti-social behaviour in the evening, there was a need for it during the day. Its provision had been welcomed by older people. The object should be to normalise behaviour.

Councillor Hal Osler said that replacement lollipop person was now in place at the Blackhall Dip traffic lights.

AOCB

Residents in Craigleith Road area have been notified of water and sewage works in the Orchard Road/Craigleith Road for 5 weeks from early January. These will be additional to the gas works in Stockbridge requiring closure of the main road through Stockbridge.

Service 13 - Secretary agreed to explore with Council officials whether any changes were being considered.

Next meeting : Monday 20 January 2020 at 7.30pm Blackhall St Columba's Church

Alan Denham, Secretary
29 December 2019