

Present

Dr David Houston, Tom McDonald, David Bewsey, Gordon Neill, Nigel Rudd, Bill Alexander, Catherine Lang, Alastair Watt, Lorraine O'Shea (CVE), Cllr Jason Rust, PC Graeme Howie & 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Ken Eyeington, Cllr Elaine Aitken, Cllr Richard Lewis

Welcome by the Chair

Councillor Jason Rust (Returning Officer) chaired the opening of the meeting and welcomed the newly elected members of the Community Council and other attendees. The members introduced themselves and David Bewsey agreed to take the minutes.

Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

Election of Officer Bearers

Councillor Rust noted the option to elect interim Office Bearers. It was agreed that as there was an AGM in May, it might be appropriate at that time to make any changes then. Councillor Rust therefore asked for nominations and the following were duly elected unopposed.

Chair: **Dr David Houston**, proposed by Bill Alexander seconded by Tom McDonald.

Vice-Chair: **Tom McDonald**, proposed David Bewsey seconded: Dr David Houston.

Secretary: **David Bewsey**, proposed Nigel Rudd seconded by Dr David Houston

Treasurer: **Gordon Neill**, proposed Catherine Lang seconded by David Bewsey

Other group representatives:

Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership: **Tom McDonald**, proposed by David Bewsey seconded by Nigel Rudd.

Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC) rep.: **David Bewsey**: proposed by David Houston seconded by Bill Alexander

PNP Funding Panel rep.: **Gordon Neill**, proposed by Tom McDonald, seconded by David Houston

Police Report

PC Graeme Howie (GH) gave an overview of crime in the Colinton area. Detailed reports were available to members. He stated that there had been three housebreakings which were being dealt with by the Criminal Investigation Unit Team. GH reported that there had been no assaults. Concerns were expressed over a supposed assault in Spylaw Park. GH stated that there was no evidence or complaint about any assault in Spylaw Park.

GH said that road safety speed checks were being carried out in the area but there were difficulties on Woodhall Road due to road works and temporary traffic lights.

Minutes of the meeting of 13th September 2016 and matters arising:

These were accepted as a true record. Prop. NR, Sec. DH.

Under matters arising, the Secretary mentioned that Posters for the Crime Prevention meeting had been distributed. AW suggested emailing the Bowling Club Secretary to use their mailing list and a request was made for four posters for Woodthorpe. **ACTION: Secretary**

TM followed up on the 6-8 Bridge Road situation. It appeared the issuing of a Building Warrant was holding up development. Concerns were raised over the knock-on effect the delay would have on Colinton. TM is to seek further information from Kilpatrick Property.

ACTION: Vice-Chair

Colinton Village Ventures update: DB said he had attended the public meeting and the key issue was around finding suitable premises and licensing. LO mentioned the formation of a constituted body and a business plan was in preparation. A short discussion was then held. AW asked what the Co-op was going to offer. It was suggested that would need to be clarified.

The Secretary attended the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership meeting at which a report was presented on Community Council Training session attendance. Colinton was third top in the list with 13 attendances. He went on to say that future training sessions would be planned.

He went on to mention a presentation, by the Locality Manager Mike Avery, on the Locality Improvement Plan (LIP). The process was being continually refined but the presentation would be made available to members. **ACTION: Secretary**

The Secretary informed the meeting that he along with Cllr Rust had been invited to a meeting of residents of Dreghorn Link to discuss concerns over the refurbishment of the Shell Service Station. He went on to say that most of the grievances the residents expressed was being dealt with by Cllr Rust, but both TM and NR had been kept apprised of the situation. It was clear that these were mostly planning issues but some environment concerns would need to be looked into following completion of the work. A security issue raised by residents might be solved with the MoD proposal to extend the Dreghorn Barracks facilities and move the perimeter fence southward; nearer to the City Bypass. TM suggested that it should be noted that the MoD go through a separate part of the planning process in this regard.

The Secretary also intimated that he had been invited to attend a presentation by the City's Chief Executive at an Edinburgh Partnership meeting on the Edinburgh City Vision – 2050. Views, especially from younger members of the community, were welcome.

The Secretary also mentioned the Workshop on Parks and Greenspace which will be held in St Cuthbert's (Episcopal) Church Hall. This is on the same night as the Crime Prevention meeting. Details were available on the website. Both are open to the public and all are welcome.

LO reported that CVE were involved with improvements in Spylaw Park and were involved in planting a wheel barrow. They are also looking at refurbishment of the village planters. She announced that the park wall adjacent to the shed would be planted and the mural on the wall of the park shed was to be repainted in conjunction with pupils of Firrhill School.

The Chair suggested Community Council PNP Funding Panel support for this. GN suggested that providing the application came in sufficient time to be reviewed at a CC meeting then potentially it could be supported.

BA suggested that the installation of Christmas lights on village thoroughfares be looked into. NR proposed that BA look into this and report back to the next meeting. This was seconded by GN.

The Secretary highlighted two items in Councillor Lewis's report. There followed a discussion on music at outdoor events.

AOCB

The Chair wished to thank outgoing members Mike Scott, Alastair Murray and Colin Proctor for their contribution over the past 18 months. It was agreed that the Secretary should write formally thanking them. TM expressed concern that there was some uncompleted business as a result of them not seeking re-nomination. He proposed a continuation business meeting

There was a discussion on the length of time the banners advertising the meetings should be left attached to village railings. It was agreed that they should only be there for a few days before the meeting and taken down the day after. The Secretary asked if he might have some help in the putting up and taking down of the banners. BA said he would help.

LO asked whether the BT Stickers that had appeared on the cabinets on Woodhall Road was a planning matter. It was agreed that TM and LO would look into this matter and report back to the next meeting.

ACTION: TM & LO

The Treasurer stated that the current bank balance was £423.29 and so far this financial year an expenditure of £359.65.

Public Comment

Concerns were expressed about the temporary closure of the Bus No. 10 route to Bonaly due to the Gas repair works. Councillor Rust agreed to look into the matter with Lothian Buses.

ACTION: Cllr Rust

It was suggested that having speakers at meetings might boost attendance. This was gratefully accepted and members agreed to look into this.

BA reported that the safety issue in regard the bridge over the Water of Leith into Spylaw Park had now been rectified.

BA also reported that a resident had requested paper copies of the minutes. It was agreed the resident should contact the Secretary or visit the Library where there are copies available.

TM thanked DH for his contribution as Chair since the inception of the Community Council.

Date of next planned meeting: Tuesday 8th November 2016 at 7:30pm, at Colinton Bowling Club.