

MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting  
held on Tuesday, 4 October 2022 at 7pm  
in Murrayfield Parish Church Centre  
Chair: J Yellowlees and Cllr F Ross

Present: A Anderson, R Brown, J Forbes, P Gregson, B Knowles, Norma Macdonald, S Macpherson, J McDonagh, E Robertson, M Stevens, H Whaley, J Yellowlees,  
*Ex officio:* Cllr Frank Ross,  
In attendance: 4 members of the public,  
Apologies: R Beavis, D Dawson, Cllr Alan Beal, Cllr Euan Davidson, Cllr Margaret Graham, Cllr Finlay MacFarlane, Cllr Claire Miller, Cllr Jo Mowat, Jeremy Balfour, MSP, Sarah Boyack, MSP, Miles Briggs, MSP, Foysol Choudhury, MSP, Alison Johnstone, MSP, Angus Robertson, MSP, Lorna Slater, MSP, Sue Webber, MSP, Christine Jardine, MP.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received as above. The Chair welcomed those in attendance. He reported that Roy Beavis had tendered his resignation in order to concentrate on Roseburn Maltings Owners Association. The Association hoped to put forward a new owner to join MCC in due course. The Chair thanked R Beavis for his contribution to the work of MCC in the role of Social Engagement Officer and generally.

2. Order of Business

This was approved.

3. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 9 November 2021

R Brown corrected Item 8.3. The Community Council elections are held on a 3, and not a 4, yearly cycle. It is correct, however, that the next election will be held in 2023.

The Minutes were approved. Prop: J Yellowlees, Sec: J Forbes.

4. Chair's and Secretary's Report

The Chair, who confirmed that he also monitors the Secretary's mailbox, had circulated his report by email prior to the meeting. A copy is attached.

5. Vice Chair's Report

The Vice Chair had circulated his Report on planning and licensing issues by email prior to the meeting. A copy is attached.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had submitted the audited Accounts for 2021-2022 by email prior to the meeting. A copy is attached.

7. Social Engagement Report

The Chair mentioned that Dave Dawson had been assisting R Beavis with the role of Social Engagement Officer and had confirmed his willingness to stand for election to that role following R Beavis's resignation. He had, however, had to tender his apologies for the current meeting.

The Chair reported that D Dawson is compiling a database of local organisations. P Gregson had provided contact details for a number of organisations.

8. Election of Office Bearers

The Chairman reported that the current office bearers had indicated their willingness to serve again. R Brown confirmed that no further nominations had been received. The Chairman and the other office bearers stood down and Cllr Ross took the Chair. He asked that the Minutes record his thanks to the office bearers for their time and efforts on behalf of MCC.

In the absence of any further nominations the office bearers were re-elected without a contest as follows:-

Chair: J Yellowlees

Prop: P Gregson, Sec: M Stevens

Vice Chair: J Forbes

Prop: J Yellowlees, Sec: N Macdonald

Treasurer: J McDonaugh

Prop: J Yellowlees, Sec: P Gregson

Secretary: J Yellowlees

Prop: P Gregson, Sec: R Brown

Social Engagement Officer: D Dawson

Prop: J McDonaugh, Sec: B Knowles.

Cllr Ross congratulated the newly elected office bearers and J Yellowlees took the Chair.

9. Community Council elections in 2023

The Chair confirmed his understanding that Community Council elections will be held in September/October 2023.

10. Any Other Competent Business

10.1 Cllr Ross reported that he had become aware of a significant licensing application for an extension to the Murrayfield Hotel which would increase its capacity by 690 and involve the erection of additional structures. He was concerned that the City Councillors had not been informed and had asked for a report from the Convener of the Licensing Board. He commented that to his surprise the Police had raised no objection to the licence application.

10.2 The Chair passed round a copy of a recent article in the Edinburgh Reporter which highlighted the latest commemorative plaque to have been erected by MCC and detailed the others. P Gregson felt that MCC's efforts merited more prominence and his offer to write a press release was accepted by the meeting.

11. Date of next AGM

The meeting agreed that in view of the return to some in-person meetings MCC should revert to holding its AGM in May each year. (Note : the proposed date for the next AGM is 2 May 2023.)

The Chairman closed the Annual General Meeting.

Minutes approved at AGM of [2 May] 2023

## MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM 2022

### CHAIR'S/SECRETARY'S REPORT

Omicron kept us online until June, when we were able to revert to the first in a sequence of physical meetings in which this is the third. For the future a survey has suggested that people want to see a mixture, with perhaps a reversion to virtual on the dark winter evenings. Dave Dawson is working on developing our social media presence.

At the City Council elections in May we bade farewell after five constructive years to Cllrs Gillian Gloyer and Scott Douglas. We welcomed instead Cllrs Alan Beal and Euan Davidson, and were grateful for the continuance of Frank Ross, now liberated from the office of Lord Provost. Nikki Oldroyd who had done much for our relations with the Scottish Rugby Union left us when her marriage to Ross led to their relocation away from our area, and we welcomed in her place Stella Macpherson who has kindly offered to help our hardworking minutes secretary Rosanne Brown.

During the year we were delighted to see some successes, including the Christmas tree on the Old Colt Bridge and the start of work on converting the old toilet-block at Roseburn Park into a keenly-awaited cafe. New projects that came into view included an improved appearance for the Balgreen tunnel and an adopt a tree programme for the Water of Leith floodplain at Saughtonhall. The Eagles landed happily as did an Edinburgh Festival opening event at BT Murrayfield, where we enjoyed improving relations with Graham Law at the Scottish Rugby Union whose effort at better communication is much appreciated. We delivered three microprojects - plaques for an artist, sculptors and a horse-tram route - and I hope that our finances will permit continuance of this programme. And with funding from the City Council, we were able to support the Friends of Roseburn Park's celebration of the Platinum Jubilee – a successful day on which the subsequent march of events would in retrospect bestow greater significance.

There is however no doubt that local affairs have continued to be dominated by the CCWEL cycle-route, which finally commenced on-site 7 February but seems to be taking forever, with delays owing to asbestos and a gas leak contributing to a situation where it felt like nothing was ever completed. Work started only in September on the Roseburn Terrace section with no respite before December, and traffic management at Roseburn Street has at times felt lamentable. It was a particular blow to learn that resurfacing might be still under way into the spring of 2023.

Other transport news included an indication that we are likely to get traffic-calming measures soon at Ellersly and Kinellan Roads. On the planning front Jim Forbes will tell you of our successes and setbacks. Jim McDonough has ensured that our finances remain in good order. I am grateful for the continuing support of all MCC members, City Councillors, PC Sam Davison and members of the public. We look forward to better times in 2023, when Community Council elections may refresh our ranks and we should start to enjoy the benefits of CCWEL and the associated Rejuvenating Roseburn programme.

J Yellowlees

VICE CHAIR'S REPORT on Planning and Licensing Issues – Jim Forbes

The biggest single issue of the year was the planning application for 14 residential units at **9 Kinellan Road**, which would destroy a wildlife-rich loch and shoreline habitat. A major local community engagement exercise resulted in 60 objections, in addition to MCC's submission. The application is still "awaiting assessment" after 11 months, with at least three significant defects not yet corrected.

Disappointingly, in June 2022 the Scottish Ministers issued a "minded to grant" decision on a 20-flat development at **37 Corstorphine Road**, to which MCC had objected. Formal CEC planning approval is expected soon. Also in June, permission was granted to redevelop historic cottages at **9 and 11 Corstorphine Road**. MCC's concern over heritage loss was to some extent mitigated by the requirement for an archaeological study.

Mike Stevens has kept a watchful eye on a trio of development proposals close to MCC's eastern boundary. Permission was refused for replacement of **Rosebery House** with an 8-storey office block, but granted for new student accommodation on **land behind 22 Haymarket Yards**.

Redevelopment of **Elgin House** is the subject of a full planning application now pending. None of these is expected to have significant impact on residents within the MCC area.

An application for floodlighting at Lansdowne Lodge, which would have affected residential amenity on **Henderland Road** and nearby streets, was withdrawn following objection by residents, supported by MCC.

Having learned from a previous **telecom mast** application that the planning authority is "not obliged to consider comments submitted", expectation of success in opposing one at 11 Succoth Gardens is not high. We have nevertheless supported local residents in lodging an objection to what would be an unwelcome intrusion on the skyline of the Coltbridge and Wester Coates Conservation Area.

We continue to fight a losing battle against CEC's apparent indifference to **mature tree loss** in our conservation areas. Permission is regularly given to remove trees, even if healthy and presenting no danger, where applicants indicate no intention of replacement planting. In a recent exception, replacement has been ordered for unhealthy and windblown trees at Beechmount. Trees under a protection order (TPO) fare better; imposition of a TPO at 9 Kinellan Road is therefore welcomed, although it came too late to prevent unauthorised removal of several large trees to prepare the ground for proposed development.

**Licensing** issues considered during the year, but with no action taken, have included a late hours trading licence on Roseburn Terrace, an "exotic meads and wines" off-sales outlet at the Jenners Depository, and, most recently, a body piercing and tattooing service on Saughtonhall Drive.

## MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### REPORT ON ACCOUNTS 2021 - 2022

#### 1 **Income**

Our sole income in the year 2021 - 2022 was the annual administrative grant from the City of Edinburgh Council.

#### 2 **Operational Expenditure**

Due to continued Covid-19 precautions, all Murrayfield Community Council meetings in the period April 2021 - March 2022 were run virtually using the Zoom platform. This resulted in minimal admin/annual running costs. With no hall hire or photocopying/printing charges the only operational expense items were insurance premiums, and webhosting, site upgrade & support services.

#### 3 **Discretionary Expenditure**

During the period, MCC initiated its programme of micro projects (local projects costing less than £150). In its inaugural year, the programme successfully completed 6 micro projects including:

Supply & installation of Samuel Peploe plaque

Supply & installation of 2 x milestone plaques

Supply & installation of Charles H Mackie plaque

Supply & installation of MacGillvaray & Pilkington plaque

Supply of art materials for the Xmas display on The Old Coltbridge

The average cost of these individual micro projects was £126

- 4 Murrayfield Community Council has no paid employees or fixed assets. Council members do not receive remuneration for work carried out. The balance sheet consists, therefore, solely of the money we hold in our bank account.

- 5 Due to its discretionary spend on micro projects, Murrayfield Community Council produced a small deficit of income over expenditure during the period April 2021 to March 2022.



Jim McDonough

Treasurer

15 September 2022

**MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR TO 31**  
**MARCH 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>		
City of Edinburgh Community Council Grant <sup>1</sup>	842.70	842.70
	<u>842.70</u>	<u>842.70</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Website Hosting & Support <sup>2</sup>		
Hall Rental (meetings) <sup>2</sup>	175.00	115.00
Photocopying & Printing <sup>2</sup>	----	----
Insurance Premium (Public Liability) <sup>2</sup>	84.00	84.00
Treasurer's Expenses	----	----
Micro Projects <sup>3</sup>	761.10	----
Vice Chair Expenses	----	32.00
	<u>1,020.10</u>	
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for year to 31st March 2022<sup>5</sup></b>	<u><b>(177.40)</b></u>	
	<u>231.00</u>	
	<u><b>611.70</b></u>	

**MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL BALANCE SHEET**  
**STATEMENT OF BALANCE at 31 MARCH 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>Opening Balance</b> 1,893.13 1,376.43 less uncleared cheques 95.50		
	<u>1,893.13</u>	<u>1,280.93</u>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for year</b>	(177.40)	612.20
	<u>1,715.73</u>	<u>1,893.13</u>
<b>Closing Balance</b> less uncleared cheques	1,715.73 ----	1,893.13 ----
	<u>1,715.73</u>	<u>1,893.13</u>
Represented by: Bank of Scotland Treasurer's Account	<u><b>1,715.73</b></u>	<u><b>1,893.13</b></u>

I have examined the Records of the Treasurer in respect of the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022 and found them to be correct.



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Independent Examiner

Neil M. Davidson M.C.I.B.S

Date 21/09/22