

MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting  
Tuesday, 3 May 2011 at 8pm  
In Murrayfield Parish Church Centre  
Chair: H Ross

Present: W Amcotts, R Brown, G Douglas, S Holland, G McLeod,  
E Robertson, R Smart, H Ross, W Spence, A Weatherston  
*Ex officio:* Cllr Balfour  
In attendance: 5 members of the public  
Apologies: PC P Durant, M Crockett MP, S Boyack MSP, Cllrs Edie and  
Wheeler, J Yellowlees.

1. Welcome and Apologies  
Apologies were received as above. The chairman welcomed those in attendance.
2. Order of Business  
This was approved.
3. Community Policing Report  
There was no Police representative in attendance.
4. Councillors' Report  
Cllr Balfour reported that since the last meeting a month ago the Councillors had been occupied with the forthcoming election and holidays and he had nothing of substance to report.
5. Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 6 April 2011  
Item 4.7 – it was agreed that the second and third sentences should be replaced by the following wording (set out in the second draft of the Minutes, which had been emailed to the members shortly before the meeting, but which not everyone had seen):-  
“The next meeting of the Transport Committee will discuss the proposal that residents pay £30 per annum for a permit which would give them priority to park in 70% of the spaces in the proposed zone and the exclusive right to park there for a 1 ½ hour period during the day. The remaining spaces would be available to non-residents/commuters. The 1 ½ hour period is designed to simplify policing and to prevent all day parking by commuters from dominating the zone.”  
The Minutes, revised as indicated above, were approved.  
Prop: S Holland, Sec: W Spence.
6. Matters Arising
  - 6.1 Election meeting (12 April) – Those who had attended reported that the Reverend W Brown had been an excellent chairman and the meeting had been civilised and altogether satisfactory.
  - 6.2 Roseburn Terrace – Information had been received that the Planning Enforcement Officer is not proposing to contest the display of advertisements outside the shops, as, though technically illegal, they are not considered to be seriously detrimental.

No progress has been made on the renewal of the lights on Roseburn Bridge. **The Chairman undertook to pursue this issue with the Council.**

The air monitoring unit has still not been removed. Cllr Balfour confirmed that it is to be moved, but Scottish Power has first to disconnect the power supply. It was noted that a new wheeled unit with a tow bar has appeared alongside the air monitoring unit.

Concern was expressed over the high levels of pollution from traffic fumes recorded in this area since monitoring began. R Smart suggested that altering the traffic light sequence to shorten delays for eastbound traffic trying to turn right into Roseburn Street might alleviate the problem. Enforcing the bus lane restrictions to prevent parking outside the shops might also help. **The Chairman undertook to write to the Council on this issue.** A member of the public reported that he had spoken to Miss Brown at the Council, who anticipated the imposition of an EU fine, but felt that the sheer volume of traffic going through the Roseburn “canyon” was an intractable problem.

6.3 Advertising hoardings – W Spence reported that he had had correspondence with Sarah Boyack MSP, which confirmed that the Council owns the site of the hoardings on the north side of Roseburn Terrace and leases the site to Clear Channel in exchange for the provision by Clear Channel of bus stops across the city and automatic toilets in St Andrew’s Square, the Grassmarket, Portobello and Leith Walk. The lease is due for renewal in August 2014. It was agreed that the Council should be advised well before the renewal date that the Community Council wishes the hoardings to be removed as part of the upgrading of the Roseburn area. In response to questions from G McLeod **Cllr Balfour undertook to investigate the commercial value of the current agreement with Clear Channel and ascertain who is responsible for negotiating the terms of the agreement. He is to include the hoarding on the opposite side of the road in his enquiries.**

6.4 Hedges – R Smart referred to item 16.2 of the Minutes of the previous meeting. He had emailed Murray Black of West Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnership (“WENP”) about overhanging boundary hedges impeding pedestrians and two of the offending hedges had recently been cut back.

6.5 Murrayfield Gardens Pillar – R Smart reported that work on the resiting of the pillar would start soon.

6.6 Western Corner redevelopment - R Smart reported that the work has been completed. The very light grey colour will in time weather to a quieter tone but the straightforward layout of the slabs and edge detailing are good. There are two aspects that have not been resolved:- The rubbish bins are still strewn about the pavement in front of the shops. The removal by a resident of the wall which was the old bridge parapet over the piped Stank Burn has created an eyesore.

W Spence asked when the bus stop was to be moved away from the two parking bays which cause congestion. He was told by Cllr Balfour that Lothian Buses are to discuss the resiting of the bus stop with the Council.

At the Chairman’s request **R Smart undertook to send a post completion report on the redevelopment work to Helen Platt at the Council.**

6.7 Trams – in response to questions from G McLeod Cllr Balfour confirmed that the Council are thinking of renting trams to Croydon or another Council. He could not confirm a recent report in the Evening News that the tram line will now terminate at Haymarket. The Lord Provost has called a special meeting of the

Council for 17 May and it is likely that the tram project will be the subject under discussion.

In response to a question from a member of the public Cllr Balfour confirmed that the 12, 26 and 31 bus services will not be reduced once the trams are in service, but the airport bus service will be reduced.

7. Riversdale Crescent traffic safety

The Chairman reported that a parent had contacted him about concerns over the safety of pupils crossing Riversdale Crescent on their way to and from Roseburn Primary School. She had been referred to the Safer Neighbourhood Team. This issue was to be discussed by the School's Parents Council at their meeting on 10 May. It was thought that not enough pupils were involved for safety measures to be put in place and that measures such as double yellow lines usually receive a mixed response. It was decided that the Community Council would not take a stance on this issue at present.

A member of the public pointed out that one initiative of the Safer Neighbourhood Team had resulted in double yellow lines being painted across a disabled bay. Cllr Balfour assured the meeting that Blue Badge holders can still use this bay.

8. Concerts at Murrayfield Stadium

Meetings to plan the policing of these concerts are to be held. **It was agreed that the Chairman would write to the Police to request that the Community Council be represented at these meetings.**

9. Donaldson Area Amenity Association AGM

The Chairman reported that he had attended the recent Donaldson Area Amenity Association AGM at which the realignment of the eastern boundary of the Donaldson area had been discussed. At present the Donaldson area falls within the remit of both the West End and Murrayfield Community Councils. The Chairman of the West End Community Council had raised no objection to the realignment to place the Donaldson area wholly within MCC's remit. This issue will be raised again in the 2012 review of the City's Community Councils.

10. Future Meetings

It was decided that the meetings scheduled for 14 September and 14 December 2011(both Wednesdays) should be held at Saughtonhall Community Association Hall with a view to widening public access.

**R Smart** reported that he had been unable to arrange the proposed lecture by Riccardo Marini for the current meeting. It was agreed that the lecture did not have to coincide with a Community Council meeting and he **was authorised to arrange an MCC sponsored lecture for whenever Mr Marini might be available.**

11. Publicity

The Chairman reported that he had investigated the use of flyers to publicise the work of the Community Council and that the printing and delivery to the 4,021 households within the MCC area of double sided coloured flyers would cost about £500. After a discussion on the role of the Community Council and the requirement that it ascertain, co-ordinate and represent the views of the community, it was agreed that flyers should be produced and distributed in

September this year and again in February/March next year. These would advertise the work of the Community Council, give details of future meetings and encourage members of the community to raise issues of concern to them.

Consideration was also given to whether the Community Council's website could be used to engage the public more.

12. Planning and Licensing

R Smart reported that a planning application to renew the conservatory on the front of a house on Corstorphine Road had been refused. The applicant was to appeal and had sought his support. A member of the public expressed concern about the Community Council's role in supporting or objecting to planning applications. The Chairman explained that, technically, the Community Council is elected and therefore represents the community. G Douglas explained that the planning convenor has to consider a large number of applications, to which responses are required within a specified time limit, and it is not always practical to consult with the other members of the Community Council without calling a special meeting or to consult more widely. It was agreed that the Community Council would not comment on the conservatory appeal and that its role in future planning cases would be discussed at the next meeting.

There were no licensing matters to be discussed.

13. Traffic and Transport

A member of the public raised 2 issues:-

13.1 Publicising the controlled parking consultation – Cllr Balfour confirmed that the City Council would publicise this process and that the MCC noticeboard, among other facilities, would be used.

13.2 Parking at the corner of Ravelston Dykes and Murrayfield Road – buses find it difficult to turn this corner when it is obstructed by parked cars believed to belong to members of Murrayfield Golf Club (“MGC”). The introduction of double yellow lines would solve this problem. R Smart stated his view that MGC members park there only when the Club is holding a Saturday “medal” and in most cases the parked cars belong to those involved in the building of the house on the bend of Ravelston Dykes Road. R Smart undertook to raise this issue with the Secretary of MGC.

14. Reports

The meeting confirmed W Spence as the MCC representative on the West Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnership (“WENP”), the Joint Housing, Building and Environment Group and the Police Safety Committee. W Spence stated that he would attend the next meeting of WENP on 24 May 2011.

15. Correspondence

E Robertson reported that she had received some leaflets and the April Police Report, copies of which were available at the meeting.

The Chairman provided the attached list of correspondence received since the last meeting and drew attention to the notice from the City Council of 1 April 2011 about the proposed introduction of double yellow lines on Coltbridge Terrace/Vale.

16. AOCB

G Douglas drew the meeting's attention to the notice which had been posted on the railings of the former Donaldson's Hospital of the application by CALA to the Lands Tribunal to terminate the feuing condition prohibiting building on the ground in front of the Hospital building. The West End Community Council had also been alerted to this notice and were meeting the same evening. There was a 21 day time limit for responses. G Douglas had been invited to the meeting of the Wester Coates Amenity Society ("WCAS") on 10 May when this issue would be discussed. It was agreed that MCC should object to the application irrespective of any decision by WCAS. **The Chairman undertook to co-ordinate objections.**

17. Questions from the Floor

A member of the public queried the reference in the Minutes of the last meeting to the use of environmental legislation to control dangerous parking by parents outside schools. The Chairman explained his understanding that idling car engines, rather than parked cars, fall foul of this legislation.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Date and venue of next meeting: Tuesday, 2 August 2011 at 8pm, Murrayfield Parish Church Centre, Upper Room, 2B Ormidale Terrace.  
Subsequent meetings: 14 September, 1 November and 14 December 2011.

Minutes approved at meeting of 2 August 2011.

Murrayfield Community Council Main Correspondence Received  
Since meeting of: 6 Apr 2011

14 Mar	CEC Planning enforcement	Re: shopfront advertisements Roseburn Terrace (no action)	
14 Mar	DAAA	Invitation to AGM and March 2011 Newsletter	
22 Mar	Sarah Boyack MSP	Reply to W Spence letter about Roseburn Terr. hoardings	
29 Mar	CEC CC Liaison	Invitation to Health and Social Care Dept 'Checkpoint Grp'	
29 Mar	WNT - Roads	Notice re: Riversdale Grove re-surfacing works	11 Apr
31 Mar →	Sustainable Gov	Various newsletters and updates	
1 Apr	CEC – Roads	Proposed double yellow lines Coltbridge Terr./Vale,	
4 Apr	Green Drying Project	Seeking space to alert the public to their project	
4 Apr	WENP via Walter Spence	Invitation to West Edinburgh severe weather planning	13 Apr
5 Apr	Portobello CC	Concern about model CC constitution's EGM rules	
8 Apr	CEC CC Liaison	Invitation to a waste management workshop	27 Apr
13 Apr	Anne Batty / Hunter	Raising safe crossings for pupils on Riversdale Cresc	
15 Apr	L&B Police Board	Newsletter 2011	
15 Apr	SNT	April police newsletter	
20 Apr	British Youth Council	Info. re: Local Councillor Shadowing Award	
20 Apr	Edinburgh Libraries	Online service for grant funding (edinburgh4 community)	
28 Apr	Joined Up for Jobs Partnp.	Working Capital magazine (issue 28)	
2 May	WENP	Poster for Drum Brae Family & Community Health Day	10 May

ASCC = Association of Scottish Community Councils  
 CC = Community Council  
 CEC = City of Edinburgh Council  
 DAAA = Donaldson Area Amenities Association  
 EACC = Edinburgh Association of Community Councils  
 SNT = Safer Neighbourhood Team at Lothian and Borders Police  
 WNT = West Neighbourhood Team at CEC  
 WENP = West Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnership