

MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting
held on Tuesday, 25 June 2019 at 7.30pm
in Murrayfield Parish Church Centre
Chair: J Yellowlees

Present: A Anderson, R Beavis, R Brown, J Forbes, P Gregson, S Holland,
N Macdonald, M Stevens, H Whaley, J Yellowlees,
Ex officio: Cllr Scott Douglas, Cllr Gillian Gloyer,
In attendance: 18 members of the public, PC Lesley-Anne Brown, Sgt Kennedy,
Daisy Narayanan, City of Edinburgh Council, Andrea Mackie, City
of Edinburgh Council,
Apologies: H Barbour, B Knowles, R Smart, D Whitelaw, Cllr Karen Doran,
Cllr Claire Miller, Cllr Jo Mowat, Cllr Alasdair Rankin, Cllr Frank
Ross, Jeremy Balfour, MSP, Miles Briggs, MSP, Ruth Davidson,
MSP, Kezia Dugdale, MSP, Neil Findlay, MSP, Alison Johnstone,
MSP, Gordon Lindhurst, MSP, Andy Wightman, MSP, Christine
Jardine, MP.

1. Welcome, apologies, youth engagement and elections

Apologies were received as above. R Brown intimated that the young person who was interested in joining MCC and had intended to attend that evening's meeting had tendered her apologies.

The Chairman suggested that the City Councillors might want to deal with some of the items on the Agenda earlier in the proceedings.

The Chairman referred to the review of Community Councils which is being undertaken by the Council and the fact that one of the proposals is to introduce a disciplinary procedure.

He also mentioned the Community Council elections which will take place in the autumn and encouraged interested members of the audience to stand, explaining that, if the number of those who stand exceeds the number of seats, there will be an election. In reply to a question from P Gregson R Brown confirmed that MCC has 12 seats for ordinary members and 6 for nominated representatives of local interest groups. 10 of the 12 ordinary seats are filled, but not all current members will necessarily stand for re-election.

Cllr Gloyer intimated that she will be the Returning Officer for the MCC election.

2. Community Policing Report

PC Lesley-Anne Brown reported as follows:-

2.1 In the period from 1 to 31 May 2019 there had been 29 reported crimes, 5 of which had been solved. They comprised 11 thefts, 3 house breakings, 2 assaults, 2 incidents of public disorder, 5 road traffic offences, one incident of vandalism and 5 miscellaneous crimes. There had been no hate crimes. The thefts included thefts of 2 bikes and 2 motorbikes, 2 incidents of shoplifting and 5 thefts from persons.

2.2 Following four break ins to properties in Roseburn Maltings and the theft of money and jewellery Police officers had paid a visit to the Maltings to advise on crime prevention.

2.3 Police had carried out road safety initiatives targeting uninsured vehicles and those with no MOT and drivers who failed to stop after an accident.

2.4 Action taken to tackle youth anti-social behaviour during the schools' exam leave had been successful.

2.5 No further investigation of the vandalism of the Rejuvenating Roseburn display boards was being undertaken.

2.6 The Superintendent in charge of the Spice Girls concert at BT Murrayfield on 8 June 2019 had reported that overall the crowd had been compliant; there had been no incidents before the concert; there had been some during the concert and afterwards Police officers on foot had been deployed to deal with the dispersal of the crowd, firstly at the Murrayfield tram stop and then further afield. No incidents had been reported on the evening of the concert, but some had been reported since then.

A number of members of the public spoke to the fact that there were insufficient toilets provided and that this had led to incidents of unacceptable behaviour. N Macdonald asked who is responsible for deciding on the siting of toilets and was told by Sgt Kennedy that within the stadium this is the responsibility of the SRU and outside it is decided in discussions between the SRU and the Council. He also confirmed that it is the Council's responsibility to remove the barriers which were used for the road closures.

2.7 The Chairman asked what arrangements would be made for the Liverpool FC v SSC Napoli football match at BT Murrayfield on 28 July 2019 and was told by Sgt Kennedy that a similar approach to the Spice Girls concert would be taken, but it was not expected that there would be the same problem with spectators queueing before the match. A capacity crowd was expected, there would be no segregation of fans inside the stadium and there would be a significant Police presence. **Sgt Kennedy undertook to raise the question of toilet provision with the Police commander in charge, Bob Harris.**

R Beavis thanked the Police for their response to the break ins at Roseburn Maltings. PC Heather Clark, a specialist in home security, had given a presentation at the last residents' meeting which had been reassuring. He thought that the Police literature on home security was excellent.

In response to a question from S Holland about whether there was a link between the incidents at the Maltings PC Brown said that she was not aware of one but that the perpetrator might be the same.

A member of the public alerted the meeting to a door-to-door scammer who had carried out inferior work for a number of residents in Ormidale Terrace. She had reported him by email to the Community Policing Team. N Macdonald mentioned that a resident of Ormidale Terrace had alerted her to a business trading as "Crown Paving, Landscaping and Tree Work", but the member of the public said that this was not the business which she had reported.

Sgt Kennedy advised the meeting that shoddy work is the responsibility of Trading Standards and scamming the responsibility of the Police. He mentioned the possibility of setting up a "No cold calls" zone.

Since the MCC meeting the Community Team have advised that the contact at Trading Standards is Clive Johnston - Clive.Johnston@edinburgh.gov.uk. Useful information can be found at <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/tradingstandards>.

3. Councillors' Reports, including Neighbourhood Networks
Cllr Gloyer reported as follows:-

3.1 The way in which the new Neighbourhood Networks will operate remains unclear. The allocation of Community Grants, which used to work well when administered by the Neighbourhood Partnerships, has yet to be decided and in the meantime is to be handled by a virtual panel.

The Chairman confirmed that he had attended the inaugural meeting of the Western Neighbourhood Network at which representatives of about a dozen community organisations had been present. They had all been invited to nominate one person to the Community Planning Partnership and nominations to the virtual funding panel were also invited. **The Chairman undertook to respond to the latter invitation by the deadline of 8 July.** The Chairman feared that the Neighbourhood Network would prove unwieldy.

Cllr Gloyer shared his reservations and P Gregson's doubts about the efficacy of the virtual panel.

3.2 The Council has approved the issue of one year extendable contracts for catering vans in parks. Cllr Gloyer had tried to get a commitment that MCC and the Friends of Roseburn Park ("FoRP") would be consulted before a contract for Roseburn Park was awarded. She felt that a proper process was required if long term contracts were to be awarded. She confirmed that the vans were to provide a daily service and healthy food was to be served. A Anderson raised the issue of the disposal of rubbish. In reply to a question from P Gregson Cllr Gloyer suggested that FoRP make representations to David Jamieson, the head of the Parks and Greenspaces team.

R Beavis said that a van at Harlaw Reservoir, which operates only at peak times, provides a high quality service. A member of the public thought that the cost of renting a pitch would affect the quality of the food and drink on offer.

3.3 Cllr Gloyer urged participation in the Council's consultation on the Low Emission Zone which runs until 21 July 2019.

3.4 The Murrayfield Bar is to re-open imminently and will undergo a major refurbishment early in 2020. The emphasis will be on the provision of food. Under the new licence the time limit for playing amplified music (which includes karaoke) is 11pm (not 10pm, as mentioned at the meeting).

Cllr Douglas reported on several of the issues under Items 6 and 8 as follows:-

3.5 33 Pinkhill – The developer has submitted a new planning application which contains significant amendments to the original application, but neighbouring proprietors are still concerned that they will be overlooked. 86 objections have been lodged.

3.6 37 Corstorphine Road – The Planning Officer has recommended the grant of planning approval in spite of the fact that SEPA have said that the site is not suitable for development. The Development Management Sub Committee ("DMSC") were to carry out a site visit the following day and he hoped that they would visit the neighbouring gardens. Photographs had been taken of the level of the Water of Leith after the recent torrential rain.

In reply to a question from J Forbes Cllr Douglas confirmed that there would be no opportunity for MCC or others to make further representations to the planners. If the application is referred to the Scottish Ministers, MCC could lobby them.

The proprietor of 37 Corstorphine Road told the meeting that he believed the SEPA objection is standard practice. The applicant in the planning application had carried out modelling of the entire area in the light of current climate change conditions

and the Council's flood officer was satisfied that the site met current requirements. He said that notifying the Scottish Ministers is also standard practice.

3.7 City Councillors had been given a presentation on the study carried out by the Council into the effect of the CCWEL on air pollution on Roseburn Terrace and MCC had been invited to a similar presentation on 17 July 2019. The Chairman encouraged his colleagues to attend.

J Forbes referred to the failure of the appeal by the developer against the refusal of planning consent for the redevelopment of the former Tor nursing home at 30 Corstorphine Road. The combined efforts of MCC, local residents led by Neil McKerrow and the local Councillors had achieved a good result. Neil McKerrow thanked MCC and the Councillors for their support. J Forbes anticipated that a new planning application by the same or another developer would be lodged and said that MCC is in favour of development, provided that it is appropriate to the West Murrayfield Conservation Area and does not adversely affect neighbouring properties.

In answer to a question from J Forbes Cllr Douglas said that the Pinkhill Residents' Association and Corstorphine Community Council are minded to object to the new planning application for 33 Pinkhill.

Cllr Gloyer stated that the Council's Peter Keggie is on extended leave and she could not provide an update on the redesign of Ellersly Road. J Forbes urged that efforts continue to obtain an update prior to the next MCC meeting on 13 August.

Cllr Douglas reported that the proposal for "Ben's crossing" at the junction of Ellersly Road and Murrayfield Road is awaiting assessment but is not regarded as a priority. Cllr Gloyer suggested tying it in with the Ellersly Road project.

J Forbes reported that the Council was the first local authority to sign the Charter for Trees, Woods and People. He asked whether this might influence future planning decisions. Cllr Douglas was not optimistic but agreed that it could be referred to regularly in representations to the planners.

4. Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 14 May 2019 and Matters Arising

4.1 The Minutes were approved. Prop: S Holland, Sec: M Stevens.

4.2 P Gregson reported that the consultation on the Roseburn Park Armoury mural had revealed a desire for murals on all the walls. All three walls will have an image in shades of green. The main mural (west wall) will depict an Air Raid Protection warden and a squaddie on a bike with an Edinburgh cityscape and roads radiating from Roseburn. The south wall will have a silhouette of a tree. The east wall will have the ARP lettering in a 1940s font.

5. City Centre Transformation presentation, including Low Emission Zone

5.1 Daisy Narayanan introduced herself as a Sustrans member of staff on secondment to the Council to help to deliver the City Centre Transformation project. She explained that the project had come about (1) because it was felt that there were a large number of piecemeal proposals which needed a holistic umbrella and (2) as a response to the fatality which had occurred on the tram tracks in Princes Street.

The project is viewed as an opportunity to test a "place based" approach and is structured collaboratively both internally and externally. In April and May 2018 300 stakeholders were consulted about city centre transformation including a Low Emission Zone ("LEZ") and the overall Transport Plan. In late 2018 there was a public consultation on 15 big ideas which elicited about 4,200 responses. 51% of

the respondents were in favour of a radical rethink, 37% wanted targeted investment to bring about significant change and 12% thought that no change was required. Between November 2018 and January 2019 three scenarios were developed and taken back to Committee in February. In May final proposals were submitted to Committee. The principal proposals are as follows:-

1. Return to a walkable city centre – an increase in the number of streets restricted to pedestrians and cyclists only, restricted access for cars and commercial vehicles and extension of the pedestrianised areas in the Old Town.
2. A pedestrian priority zone to which cars would have limited access,
3. Four lifts, primarily for residents, to deal with the challenges presented by steep hills and flights of steps.
4. A free city centre “hopper” bus to connect communities.
5. Extension of the tramline to Quarter Mile and a spur connecting Nicolson Square and Haymarket.
6. The removal of parking from Victoria Street, George Street and Waverley Bridge.
7. A new walking and cycling bridge between Leith Street and Jeffrey Street.

D Narayanan acknowledged that these changes will require significant investment and in order to deal with the climate emergency cultural change is also required. While the Council can lead, businesses, communities and schools can also help and individuals can make difficult choices.

The project team will go back to Committee in November 2019 with a fully costed scheme and delivery strategy.

The Chairman urged participation in the **public consultation on the City Centre Transformation** by the deadline of 28 June, now **extended to 7 July 2019**.

A member of the public wondered how it would be possible to remove all vehicles from Waverley Bridge given the number of taxis and LRT, tour and airport buses which currently use it. D Narayanan replied that the Waverley masterplan is to move all vehicles to the rear of the station.

5.2 Andrea Mackie was introduced by D Narayanan as the lead Council officer for the LEZ project. A Mackie told the meeting that the four main Scottish cities are all planning to introduce LEZs. Edinburgh has six Air Quality Management Areas. There are major air quality problems in the city centre and, while some progress has been made in meeting legal standards, more is required. In autumn 2018 a public consultation showed 75% support for some form of LEZ. Air quality modelling, traffic modelling and impact assessments on businesses and traffic in different areas have been carried out and a **proposal for a two part LEZ is currently out for public consultation until 21 July 2019**.

A Mackie explained that the proposal involves (1) a city centre LEZ which will apply to all vehicles types. Diesel vehicles which do not comply with EU6 regulations and other vehicles which do not comply with EU5 regulations will not be permitted; and (2) a city wide LEZ, the boundary of which will be the city bypass, and which will apply to only commercial vehicles. The periods of grace for each LEZ vary. For the city centre zone commercial vehicles will have until the end of 2021 to comply and cars until the end of 2024 (residents' cars will have until the end of 2025). For the city wide zone commercial vehicles will have until the end of 2023.

Respondents to the public consultation are asked to consider whether the boundaries of the LEZs, the grace periods and the types of vehicle affected are correct.

The Chairman referred to an emerging concern that the strictest controls apply to the city centre only, but many residents feel that they should apply to the whole of the A8 corridor. A Mackie replied that significant improvements have been made in reducing pollution and most buses are now EU6 compliant. There are regulations to make private hire cars compliant.

R Beavis asked about Lothian Buses' fleet and the Council's bin lorries. A Mackie replied that Lothian Buses have Transport Scotland funding to retro fit some of their vehicles and the Council does have a programme for making its vehicles compliant. The Council is trialling electric bin lorries and other vehicles which could be dual purpose, being used for one purpose during the day and another at night.

R Beavis said that the timing of bin uplifts is crucial. He referred to the fact that some cities, such as Bologna, ban commercial vehicles from the city centre at certain times and others, such as Aix en Provence, run "hop on, hop off" buses.

The Chairman referred to Edinburgh's trial of monthly car free days and D Narayanan confirmed that the next car free day in the Old Town will be Sunday, 7 July 2019.

P Gregson asked how the problem of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) pollution can be addressed. He asked whether vehicle compliance with EU5 or EU6 made any difference to air pollution. He suggested that the Council's main aim should be to reduce the volume of traffic and expressed the view that a congestion charge, free bus travel, an increase in electric charging points and bike racks on buses would be more effective than the proposed LEZs. A Mackie replied that the LEZ framework is being set nationally by the Scottish Government. She agreed that traffic reduction measures will be required in addition to the LEZs and said that, if a minimum 30% reduction in traffic is not achieved, a congestion charge will be considered.

H Whaley agreed that traffic levels have to be tackled and that difficult decisions will have to be made. 80% of traffic is single occupancy vehicles. He pointed out that if parking in the city centre is reduced, people will have to make difficult decisions to leave their cars at home.

In answer to a question from a member of the public A Mackie confirmed that LRT's new larger buses are EU6 compliant.

6. CCWEL TRO, RSO, air pollution and Rejuvenating Roseburn consultation including outcome on viewing platform

The Chairman read out the following report from CCWEL Project Officer, Rurighd Ahluwalia-McMeddes :-

6.1 CCWEL TRO and RSO - All relevant objectors have been invited to attend the public hearing which will take place no earlier than the end of August. No date has yet been set.

6.2 Air Quality in Roseburn – MCC has been invited to an information briefing in the City Chambers on Wednesday, 17 July 2019.

6.3 Rejuvenating Roseburn – The Council's designers are continuing to work on detailed designs as per the results of the consultation – the viewing platform has been removed. The project team is planning to present the designs to the Edinburgh Urban Design Panel, a body which includes representatives from various relevant organisations such as Edinburgh World Heritage and the Cockburn Association, within the coming months.

6.4 Business Support - Eileen Hewitt is leading on the Business Support Package for the Roseburn and Haymarket traders and will look to meet with business representatives within the next few weeks.

P Gregson provided two further updates :- (1) the Roseburn traders, Cllr Douglas and former SEPA expert, John Lamb, had met Ruth Davidson, MSP, who had undertaken to write to the Council about the issue of air pollution on Roseburn Terrace; and (2) the Council had accepted the petition calling for an independent assessment of the effect of the CCWEL on air pollution on Roseburn Terrace. The petition is open for signature until 10 July 2019. The next meeting of the Transport and Environment Committee is on 8 August 2019.

J Lamb made the point that in answer to a question from Cllr Gloyer about what air quality studies had been carried out, the Council, via Euan Kennedy, had said that modelling had been done. A Freedom of Information request had disclosed that traffic modelling had been done and assumptions made about air quality based on that.

The Chairman asked G Rendell to provide the expert evidence which he has to MCC before the briefing on 17 July.

7. Other Traffic and Transport issues

7.1 There was a general consensus that the SGN works on Roseburn Terrace and to the west and east had been progressing better than expected. In answer to queries from members of the public **the Chairman undertook to ask SGN** whether their barriers could occupy less space on the Old Coltbridge and whether, if Ormidale Terrace is closed at the foot, the Council could temporarily remove the prohibition on turning right into Murrayfield Gardens.

7.2 R Beavis reported that there had been no improvement in the noise and air pollution from stationary diesel engines at Haymarket Depot, but the situation might improve with the advent of the shore supply on 29 June 2019.

8. Other Planning and Licensing issues

8.1 BT Murrayfield illuminated sign - The Chairman noted that the local resident who had raised an issue after the last MCC meeting was not present and the matter could not be pursued.

8.2 Osborne House – M Stevens reported that the Reporter dealing with the original planning application had paid a site visit on 23 May 2019. The Council had not sent a representative and there had been no news since then. The new planning application was awaiting assessment.

J Forbes reported as follows:-

8.2 9 Kinellan Road – This planning application is also awaiting assessment. He had submitted further observations on the developer's tree survey on behalf of MCC, but they had not been added to the planning portal. **J Forbes undertook to follow this up with the Planning Officer.**

8.4 2 Belmont Drive – It had been agreed that, as this was a domestic planning application, MCC would not make a submission. A next door neighbour was very upset about the proposed granny flat/lodge, but J Forbes thought it would not be as bad as she feared.

8.5 9 and 11 Corstorphine Road – This was also a domestic planning application for the demolition of two cottages behind one of the houses on the main road and the erection of a three or four storey block of flats. The application had been refused and the applicant had appealed. There was evidence that the application had been “stuffed” with about 60 basic letters of support from all over Scotland. J Forbes felt that, as the cottages were rare Victorian examples, there was an argument for

MCC to intervene from a community and conservation standpoint. It was agreed that MCC should intervene and **J Forbes undertook to draft a submission.**

9. Any Other Competent Business

9.1 The Chairman intimated that following Kezia Dugdale's resignation as an MSP Sarah Boyack, as the next person on the Lothians regional list, was likely to succeed to her seat.

9.2 The Chairman read out the following statement to all Community Councils from the Scottish Ambulance Service:-

"The Scottish Ambulance Service's new clinical response model prioritises patients at most risk of dying over others who may experience a slower response perhaps because their medical issues can be resolved by ambulance service professionals without a visit to hospital. The chances of survival among cardiac arrest sufferers increase when two crews arrive on the scene, and the new model has delivered a 100% increase in this."

10. Questions from the Floor

There were no further questions from the floor.

11. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 13 August 2019

Subsequent meetings: 24 September, 5 November and 10 December 2019.

Minutes approved at meeting of 13 August 2019.