

MURRAYFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of Ordinary Meeting
held on Tuesday 9 August 2016 at 7.30pm
in Murrayfield Parish Church Centre

Co-chaired by S Holland and J Yellowlees (who took the minutes)

Present : S Holland, J Forbes, E Robertson, R Smart, K Hannon, J Yellowlees

In attendance: 14 members of the public, PC M Dixon

Apologies: Cllr Balfour, Cllr Edie, Cllr Ross, W Amcotts, N Macdonald, R Brown, P Sizeland, Miles Briggs MSP, Ruth Davidson MSP, Kezia Dugdale MSP, Neil Findlay MSP, Alison Johnstone MSP, Gordon Lindhurst MSP, Andy Wightman MSP, M Thomson MP.

1. Welcome & Apologies : this meeting had been deferred from 19 July owing to the large number of people then on holiday. The Saughtonhall Community Association was represented by Kate Hannon. There was no representative of the Donaldson Area Amenity Association.
2. Order of Business : Calum Gubby, Youth Ambassador to Corstorphine Community Council had hoped to attend but was unwell.
3. Community Policing Report : PC Dixon reported that last month had seen two housebreakings plus one attempted break-in, also several to sheds. Two assaults had occurred but no road safety issues. There had been ten thefts in one premises which had been reported to the Fiscal and some attempts to steal motor cycles, and two thefts had occurred of lead on rooves. Operation Rigoletto was working towards a more focused response on community policing, and he again urged participation in Your View Counts. He told a member of the public that the outcome of crime reports to 101 should be traceable by quoting the incident number, and agreed to **make enquiries into police policy on non-offensive graffiti** including a suggestion that the perpetrators were coming from the ice-rink.
4. Councillors' Reports, including hoardings and Roseburn Street parking restrictions : in the absence of the three City Councillors it was noted that work on the hoardings was understood to have restarted, then stopped again. Cllr Balfour had sought a meeting with lead officer Peter Keggie about the effect on the other streets in the surrounding area of the proposed parking restrictions on Roseburn Street.
5. Boundary Commission proposed changes to ward boundaries : Scottish Ministers' consultation had ended on 7 July.
6. Community Council elections : Cllr Ross was to be the Returning Officer for MCC at the Community Council elections due to take place in October and would issue nomination forms at the start of the process in September. He had reminded the last meeting that recognised local organisations can nominate a representative to serve on MCC. Members of the public were again urged to stand. There was discussion about publicity, with the Community Council's three noticeboards available to display any announcement, and it was understood that the City Council would be putting something on its website.
7. Approval of Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held on 31 May 2016 and Matters Arising : approval moved by JF seconded by RS. It was noted that the glass bin had still not been relocated.
8. Proposed dedicated cycle-track : attendance at the 2 August meeting had far exceeded the 120 seats laid out, with 9 City Councillors in the audience. Papers for the 30 August meeting of the Transport Committee would be posted on the City Council's website a week beforehand, and delegations could give notice of their desire to speak, with ward councillors also able to do so. PGregson had been advised that the Roseburn Vision posed traffic issues so its costing could not be progressed, and he was concerned about the wisdom of realigning Roseburn Street so as to give priority to Russell Road. A member of the public commended provision of safer routes

to schools, and H Whaley for the Roseburn Cycle Action Group urged that cyclists be viewed not as traffic flows but as people. He asked P Gregson what evidence there was for the Roseburn Vision's presumptions, and was advised that these came from the traders' concern about loss of income and about increased difficulty in unloading.

9. Murrayfield Wanderers proposal for Roseburn Park : a public meeting hosted by the Friends of Roseburn Park on 22 June had allowed Murrayfield Wanderers to present plans which included a two-storey building replacing the present toilets that would contain a cafe, gym and licensed bar. The Friends would know on 24 August if they had been successful in their application for a neighbourhood grant to work up their alternative vision on which Cllr Ross had urged more discussion with the Wanderers.
10. Flood prevention progress : The Friends of Roseburn Park had encountered opposition from a City Council to their suggestion of wiring for climbing plants on the new walls. The contractor had obtained agreement to extend working at weekends conditional on there being no pile-driving or deliveries. A member of the public H Whaley reported that Riversdale Crescent had been closed to expedite progress, and while Cllr Ross had requested shuffling of the barriers to allow cyclists through, these had been subsequently put back to block the route.
11. Planning application for the former Capability Scotland site : J Forbes reported that the application had been granted in the face of 12 letters on the Council website, 11 of which had been objections. Issues had been the large number of flats proposed, the height of buildings within a conservation area and the associated traffic problems. The Community Council deserved an explanation as to why the application could go ahead with no attention paid to the objectors. R Smart recalled that MCC's letter had objected that no attention had been paid to conservation. There was a lack of transparency since bodies like MCC and the Cockburn Association had been invited to comment yet no heed was given to their views. He wondered if City Councillors believed that the planning process was sufficiently democratic and transparent.
12. Other Planning & Licensing issues :
 - 12.1 The application for student housing at 36 Russell Road was not in MCC's area but with as many as 250 bedrooms might pose all-year traffic implications if it was let in vacations to tourists.
 - 12.2 There was no further information about the HMO proposal for Murrayfield Park.
 - 12.3 J Forbes had accompanied the Planning Committee on its visit to 33 Ellersly Road, and circulated a brief summary of the community feedback that he had conveyed during the tour which he was invited to **send to the Planning Department**.
 - 12.4 J Forbes said that neighbour notification for a telecoms mast at Corstorphine Road had excluded those whose properties did not directly face the tennis courts. R Smart noted that objections to such masts were problematical since radioactivity was not an eligible ground, and the planning permission had already been granted. S Holland understood that the flowershop might be relocating next month from Murrayfield Place to Roseburn Terrace. It was noted that any plan to convert the police-box into a coffee-shop would require consent to change of use.
13. Traffic & Transport : The first 20 mph zones had commenced operation in West Edinburgh on 31 July.
14. Outcome of WENP meeting on 8 June : this meeting held at Murrayfield Church had been well-attended and had included a presentation on the new railway station at Edinburgh Gateway, also the outcome of a survey on satisfaction with the Council and an update on locality transformation. The next WENP meeting would be on Wednesday 24 August at 7 pm in Corstorphine Kirk Loan Hall. R Smart was continuing work on an application for £5k funds for a project to reconstitute stonework on the front of eight houses or hotels along Wester Coates. He would be visiting the

properties in question to seek support and funds, and thus disputed a suggestion from a member of the public that the proposal would be supporting private ownership with public money since by providing professional advice to owners such an approach had proved an essential prelude to the successful restoration of the Edinburgh New Town.

15. AOCB : There was no update from M Laing on the Roseburn Action Plan since progress had been held up by consideration of the proposed cycle-track.

16. Questions from the Floor : there were none.

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