

FAIRMILEHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday 1 February 2005 at 7.00 pm in Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls, 1 Frogston Road West, Edinburgh

1. Attendance And Apologies

Present: Dennis Williams, Chair; Louise Maguire, Vice Chair; Sheena Robertson, Secretary; Alison Elfick, Treasurer; Catherine Macpherson, Norman Tinlin; Daphne Sleigh; Sheila Bulmer; Jennifer Munro; Len Brown; Dot Melville; Cllr Mrs Elaine Aitken; Sandy Macpherson; Norman Mackenzie and Derek McGowan (Trading Standards Officer) part-time.

Apologies: Richard Hinton (Buckstone Association); Bruce and Joyce Beveridge; Johanna Carrie; Margaret Walker; PC Brian Lothian and Cllr Andrew Scobbie.

2. Report from Community Police

PC Brian Lothian had sent his apologies. The report will appear in the monthly update on the FCC website. Issue 5 - January 2005

3. Derek McGowan, Trading Standards Officer

Derek gave an overview of the work of the Trading Standards officers and then answered questions on a variety of topics including the pilot scheme involving the sale of fireworks to people under 18; the drop in injuries since the introduction of tighter regulations; the telephone and computer scams, and the need for standardisation of colours for fire extinguishers. Derek wanted to know how TS could work with the community, what level of service is needed and what the problems are. He encouraged everyone to contact the Helpline (0131 529 3030) if they needed advice. The Chairman spoke about the Open Day in May and invited representatives from Trading Standards to participate.

4. Minute Of Meeting Held On 11 January 2005 And Matters Arising

The minute, having been circulated, was signed as a correct record by the Chairman; proposed by Norman Tinlin and seconded by Alison Elfick. Matters arising were covered on the Agenda.

5. Correspondence

- 1) Nigel Griffiths – Energy Awareness event - 21 January 2005
- 2) Scottish Water – Capital Maintenance Programme - information to be put on Notice board
- 3) Colinton Amenity Association December 2004 Newsletter
- 4) Dates for visit to Scottish Parliament - 9 or 22 March preferred.
Sheena Robertson to contact Lindsay Walls, to confirm date (Tuesday 22 March at 6.30 pm) and liaise with Morningside Community Council. Final numbers and details will be agreed at next meeting on 1 March)
- 5) CC Liaison and Development Officer
 - (a) CC Joint Meeting 15 December 2004 minute
 - (b) CC Boundaries and LCPPs
 - (c) CC Office bearers' list update
- 6) HMO Applications 26 January 2005
- 7) Head of Planning - Application for 226 Braid Road withdrawn
- 8) Post Watch Services re: closure of PO at Gyle
- 9) Leith Harbour CC calendar

6. Councillor's Report

Cllr Mrs Elaine Aitken informed the meeting that the Head Teacher had been selected for the amalgamated schools. Ann Mackay will attend the School Board meetings prior to taking up her appointment in August. Decisions still to be taken on the uniform, colours and name. Cllr Aitken has proposed that the Education Department provide a sweatshirt for every pupil.

Cllr Aitken said that the proposals for a pedestrian/traffic lights on Comiston Road were being re-examined by City Development. Sheila Bulmer was concerned about the parked cars on the junction of Biggar Road and Swanston Avenue which block the sightline for drivers. Cllr Aitken agreed to investigate further.

Work has commenced to reduce speed on Braid Road with red markings and SLOW on the carriageway. Vertical signs will also be provided.

The cut-back in the No.18 bus service is still under discussion and the Chair of the Scrutiny Panel, on Cllr Aitken's suggestion, has written to the Chief Executive of the ERI at Little France to ask if he would be willing to make a contribution towards subsidising the service. LRT have indicated that the timetabling will be re-examined. However, there does need to be increased passenger usage of the No 18 bus and Cllr Aitken will cover this in her next IN FOCUS newsletter.

The Flood Prevention Scheme for Braidburn Valley Park will proceed. There have been problems with water escaping from the Comiston Cistern.

7. Planning and Environment Sub-Committee

Louise Maguire distributed leaflets from SPOKES.

8. Transport Sub-Committee

Norman Tinlin had attended the public debate on the Council's Transport Strategy, chaired by Lesley Riddock and he reported back on the issues raised.

He said that some of the activities by the YES campaign were considered to be unlawful and there was concern that public money was being used to support it. Others agreed that those who people who were against the proposal for the congestion charging had no access to public funds.

9. Open Day

The Chairman, Dennis Williams asked for names for a sub-committee to work on the arrangements for the Open Day. The meeting suggested either the 14 or 28 May as possible dates and Cllr Aitken agreed to contact the Culture and Leisure Department (Parks) to obtain permission to use Fairmilehead Park and check if the dates clash with any other activities, such as the school Fairs or local fund raising organisations. Cllr Aitken, Daphne Sleigh, Louise Maguire and Dennis Williams will form a sub-committee and will meet to discuss the Open Day.

10. AOCB

In response to a question raised previously by Sandy Macpherson, Cllr Aitken agreed to look into an arrangement which had made by the Edinburgh District Council with the residents of Swanston Avenue at the time of the building of the Bypass.

Catherine Macpherson spoke about milk being stolen and damage to property in the Swanston area.

Louise Maguire advised the meeting that Morningside Community Council Photography Exhibition will be open on 11 and 12 March.

Norman Mackenzie asked when the Fire Service Scheme for checking/replacing smoke alarms was expected to be implemented.

11. Date Of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 March at 7.00 pm