

# **FAIRMILEHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday 4 October 2005, 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; Richard Hinton (Buckstone Association); Margaret Walker (Youth Project); PC Graham Harvey; Norman Tinlin; Daphne Sleigh; Norman McKenzie; Charles Whytock; Johanna Carrie; Andrew Cross; Sheila Bulmer; Bruce Beveridge; Joyce Beveridge; Peter Armstrong and 12 residents.

Part-time: Gary Patton (City Development, Strategic Services); Iona Beaumont (Environmental and Consumer Services) Cllr Mrs Elaine Aitken and Cllr Andrew Scobbie.

**Apologies:** Cllr Jason Rust, David McLetchie MSP

## **2. Report from Community Beat Officer, PC Graham Harvey**

PC Harvey reported a reduction of incidents during September. The YAT (Youth Action Team) had attended four breaches of the peace and five minor assaults. Following the successful pilot last year six extra officers will be on duty on 30/31 October at Halloween to discourage anti-social behaviour. A decision was awaited on whether the "egg" initiative could be rolled out to the whole of "A" Division and the meeting agreed the Community Council should endorse the proposal which has the support of both Councillors Aitken and Scobbie.

Referring to a question raised at the previous meeting relating to the misbehaviour of children towards bus drivers, he said he had contacted the Transport Liaison Officer, who said that as drivers do not report incidents, there are no records.

Residents asked about Neighbourhood Watch groups in the area and PC Harvey agreed to provide a list of the active groups. Cllr Scobbie, who is Chair of the West Edinburgh Safety Panel, spoke about the benefits of having active Neighbourhood Watch Groups which include a 15% discount on house insurance. An Officer will be invited to speak about Neighbourhood Watch at a future meeting.

### **3. Buckstone Youth Projects Update**

Margaret Walker, the Youth Worker who manages the projects, reported that the autumn activities were starting again. There are 55 enrolled in the Juniors (boys and girls aged 10-12 years), who meet on Monday evenings at Buckstone School. The Seniors (boys and girls aged 13- 15 years) meet on Thursday evenings at St Fillans Church. Margaret is assisted by a student on placement and local volunteers. Gracemount School has offered their facilities for football one hour a month. Cllr Scobbie suggested that a similar arrangement may be available at Firrhill School Sports Hall.

### **4. Revised proposal for AIP Scheme at junction of Pentland View and Pentland Terrace (Comiston Road)**

Gary Patton explained the background to the proposal for the revised AIP Scheme and said it would be self-enforcing with markings for cycle lanes. After lengthy discussion, and questions about the likely reduction in accidents that could be expected, residents were of the view that a 30 mph limit should be installed. The Chair, Dennis Williams thanked Gary for his presentation and said that Fairmilehead Community Council would write to City Development, Road Safety Team, with a summary of comments and views.

### **5. Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Mrs Elaine Aitken reported:

- a) that elections were taking place for members of Pentland School Board.
- b) she urged residents to write to Andrew McBride, with a copy to her, with their comments and views on the revised AIP Scheme. There was a consensus of opinion among residents that the speed limit should be reduced to 30 mph on the main road.
- c) that the Council has almost completed the responses to correspondence from residents about the 20 mph zone on Buckstone Estate, although no response had been received by Norman Tinlin, (FCC Transport Sub Committee). The Council was putting the work out to tender and hoped to have it completed before Christmas.
- d) the 20 mph zone plans for Pentland School should be available mid to late November.
- e) the plans for the pedestrian crossing options will be displayed on the Notice Board at Buckstone Shops.
- f) as a consequence of a petition Lothian Buses have agreed to consider extending the No 11 to Liberton Hospital and possibly further into town.

Cllr Andrew Scobbie reported:

- g) that the High Flats at Oxgangs were almost empty and would be cleared in the next 12 months.
- h) the Braid Burn Flood Prevention Scheme had started with £15 M funding from the Scottish Executive.
- i) Firrhill School Sports Hall is subsidised at weekends and he suggested that Margaret Walker should approach David Hall for facilities for the Buckstone Youth Project.
- j) the Council's recycling scheme would be providing blue and red boxes to households in the area in the near future.
- k) he was pleased police statistics were improving and supported Inspector Alan Grant (Oxgangs) in basing the cars locally again.
- l) in response to constituents who were concerned that the No 16 bus did not have wheelchair access he said he was taking it up with Cllr Andrew Burns.

## **6. Waste Action Grant Programme**

Dennis Williams welcomed Iona Beaumont who gave a presentation on the Waste Action Grant Programme and explained that grants up to £2,500 were available for activities that will engage householders in waste reduction, reuse and refurbishment, and recycling, provided they are used for sustainable projects. She left copies of the Waste Aware toolkit and after questions and discussion the Chair thanked her for a most interesting talk saying that the Community Council intended to consider suitable projects over the next few months.

## **7. Minute Of Meeting Held On 6 September And Matters Arising**

The Minute, with corrections to typing errors, having been circulated, was accepted as a correct record, proposed by Norman Tinlin and seconded by Louise Maguire and signed by the Chair, Dennis Williams.

The Secretary reported that a joint response to the Scottish Planning Policy 21, Green Belts had been made with Morningside Community Council. A questionnaire from the Scottish Green Belts Alliance will be completed before 28 October and sent to the Scottish Executive.

## **8. Correspondence**

- 1) Eileen Hewitt, CC Liaison and Development Officer
  - a) Young People's Fund
  - b) HMOs July
  - c) Edinburgh Partnership meeting 28 September
  - d) Edinburgh Partnership News
  - e) National Standards for Community Engagement
- 2) Transport Edinburgh

- 3) Getclued.com website
- 4) Traveltime Tramline Newsletter September 2005
- 5) FCC Letter to City Development – Objections 20 mph zone
- 6) Postwatch Scotland
- 7) Joint Fairmilehead CC and Morningside CC reponse to White Paper - Modernising the Planning System
- 8) Harlequin proposed site share on Dreghorn Mast. *Louise Maguire to respond on behalf of FCC - proceed - in agreement.*
- 9) BAA Scotland runway maintenance 1 – 11 October 2005
- 10) Disability Awareness Training
- 11) HMOs August
- 12) CEC Traffic Control Manager – Prohibition of Double Parking. *Norman Tinlin to respond on behalf of FCC*
- 13) Scottish Green Belts Alliance. *Dennis Williams to convene meeting to prepare FCC response.*

## **9. Planning and Environment Sub Committee**

Louise Maguire has displayed a series of photographs which showed the flora and fauna in the vicinity of the pond at Camus Park. She said they would be on display again at the next meeting in November.

## **10. Transport Sub Committee**

Norman Tinlin drew the meeting's attention to a proposal in a SESTRAN report for a Park and Ride Scheme for 350 vehicles on the Green Belt to the east of the A702 at Lothianburn. He said he would prepare a summary for the next meeting.

He had sent a letter on behalf of the Fairmilehead Community Council to the Public Transport Manager, Transport Planning, with comments and objections to proposed Bus Stop Clearways on Buckstone Terrace, in response to notices displayed at the bus stops. He had requested details of any surveys that had been conducted.

## **11. Revised AIP Scheme**

The Chair asked those who were still present at the meeting to consider the Community Council's response to the proposal for the revised AIP Scheme at the junction of Pentland View and Pentland Terrace.

Several residents who live in the vicinity of the junction had come to the meeting to express their concerns about the extent to which the Scheme would be effective in reducing accidents. They preferred, instead, to have the speed limit reduced from 40 mph to 30 mph and for it to be enforced. However, other residents commented that the revised proposal should be implemented, if only as an interim measure, to help slow the traffic.

After some discussion it was agreed that there were some merits to the proposal in that it could be installed before Christmas and that if the traffic did slow down as a result, this would strengthen our campaign to have the speed limit reduced in line with Council Policy, at a later date. The Chair asked individuals to write directly to the Council, if they disagreed or wished to add anything further.

## **12. AOCB**

Mr Whytock asked for a response to his question, raised at the September meeting, about the inconsistency in the parking restrictions on the west and east sides of the A702 at Buckstone Terrace. The Secretary said the Cllr Aitken was looking into it.

## **13. Date Of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 1 November at 7.00 pm in the Caiystane Room, Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls, Frogston Road West.