

FAIRMILEHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday 7 June 2005, in Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls, 1 Frogston Road West, Edinburgh

In the absence of the Chair, and Vice Chair, Sheena Robertson, Secretary, started the meeting.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: Dennis Williams, Chair; Sheena Robertson, Secretary, Alison Elfick, Treasurer; Richard Hinton (Buckstone Association), Norman Tinlin, Len Brown, Dorothy Melville, Johanna Carrie, C J Whytock, Councillor Mrs Elaine Aitken and PC Graham Harvey.

Apologies: Louise Maguire, Catherine Macpherson, Jennifer Munro, Sheila Bulmer, Cllr Jason Rust, Bruce Beveridge, Joyce Beveridge and Daphne Sleigh.

2. Report from Community Beat Officer

PC Graham Harvey introduced himself and advised the meeting that there had been significant changes to policing in all areas of the City. He is one of 58 officers who have volunteered for the role of full time, dedicated Community Beat Officers which will cover the Council Wards. He is responsible for the Fairmilehead area and has worked from Oxbgangs Police Station in various capacities for over 12 years.

Incidents reported during the month of May included: three thefts from motor vehicles and three thefts of motor vehicles; four vandalisms, three housebreak-ins; one public indecency; two drunk drivers and one disqualified driver.

Child Safety Day, which will involve all the Primary Schools, will be held on Thursday 23 June. PC Harvey has given talks at Buckstone Primary on Safety and is working with Margaret Walker on the Youth Project on Self Defence.

3. Minute Of The AGM And Meeting Held On 3 May And Matters Arising

The minute, having been circulated, was accepted as a correct record. It was signed later by the Chair, Dennis Williams.

Matters arising:

Cllr Aitken advised the meeting that the plans for the car park at Lothianburn Golf Club had been lodged with the City of Edinburgh Council, but were not yet validated.

The application for a travellers' short term facility had been lodged with Midlothian Council which has asked the City of Edinburgh Council Planning Department for their comments.

Cllr Aitken reported that the Officers from City Development Road Safety Section would be asked to attend the FCC meeting on Tuesday 6 September, to provide an update on their proposals for Pentland View, which will take account of the public response expressed at the meeting held on 3 May 2005.

The amalgamation of the primary schools, Comiston and Hunters Tryst, had now been completed and the Pentland Primary will be operational after the summer break.

It is understood that the Esso Garage at Firrhill is being sold for residential development and the site of the Esso Garage at Meggetland will be a retail development.

4. Correspondence

- 1) Planning Aid Scotland – subscription renewal (Treasurer to pay)
- 2) Review of CC Scheme. Consultation period 9 May to 4 July 2005
- 3) Pentlands Regional Park – inaugural meeting 20 June
- 4) Pentlands LDC Wednesday 18 May – proposed LCPPs.
- 5) Planning Aid Scotland AGM 11 June, Dundee
- 6) Community Council Joint Meeting – Monday 20 June 7.00 pm City Chambers – names to Eileen Hewitt
- 7) Waste Action – email from Johanna Carrie – forwarded to FCC members
- 8) Association of Scottish Community Councils
 - a) Newsletter
 - b) Global Warming
 - c) Guidance for CCs involvement in Community Planning
 - d) National Study of CC's involvement in community planning 2004/5 recommendations for a model process
- 9) Letter sent to Planning re 106a Bigger Road – 9 May 2005
- 10) Letter sent with FCC response to Edinburgh Civic Code proposals
- 11) Email from Norman Tinlin re TRO in Scotsman (20 mph zone)
- 12) EACC Meeting Saturday 4 June
- 13) Transport Edinburgh Newsletter
- 14) Pentlands LDC 14 September 2005
- 15) Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland – representations by 25 August (Meeting agreed that the proposals should be held until the Local Government Wards with “clusters” had been decided/agreed) Norman Tinlin will set up a link on the website.
- 16) Dates for 2005/06 diary for hall booking request.
- 17) Invoice for Fairmilehead Parish Church for use of hall. (Treasurer to pay)
- 18) Kompan Playground equipment
- 19) Working Capital newsletter
- 20) Letter to Nigel Griffiths MP asking for email address
- 21) Email from John Griffiths with email address fro Nigel Griffiths
- 22) CC Liaison and Development Officer Agenda for Joint meeting on 20 June – topic Children and Families.

5. Councillor's Report

Cllr Aitken reported that there has been another accident at the junction of Braid Hills Road and Braid Road and Cllr Aitken has asked the Council to bring the plans forward to address traffic movement in this area.

A response has been received from the Chief Executive of the new ERI, Lothian Health Board, to say that there is no money for a supported bus service. Cllr Aitken will continue to press for support for the No18 bus.

Residents in Camus Avenue opposite the Braids Medical Practice are having problems getting in and out of their driveways because of vehicles which are parking on the Practice side of the carriageway. The Council bin lorry was also unable to gain access. The Community Council had previously agreed with Officers from City Development that a further TRO was required to “complete” the parking restrictions in Camus Avenue. However, it was understood that the additional measures had been refused. It was agreed that Cllr Aitken would request another site visit and in the meantime PC Graham Harvey would visit the residents.

Mr Whytock asked why there is an inconsistency in parking restrictions at the junctions of the roads leading to Comiston Road from the east and from the Buckstone Estate on the west side. He also commented on the nuisance caused by delivery lorries which park on the pavement outside the Majestic Wine Shop making it impossible for wheelchairs to pass and also referred to the poor infill job done by the Gas Board.

Cllr Aitken spoke about the 20 mph Zone around Buckstone Primary School. This is a Scottish Executive initiative which has provided funding for 20 mph limits for all primary schools. Plans for the area were examined and the meeting agreed that FCC should write to the Council expressing concern and dismay at the manner in which this had been handled and that there had been no contact or consultation with Fairmilehead Community Council. It is understood that information will be distributed to every household on the Buckstone Estate and there will be exhibition set up in Buckstone Primary School on Monday 20 June from 6.30 – 8.00 pm to allow residents to discuss the plans with council officials and view more detailed plans. A copy of the plans will be put on the Notice board.

The consultation period is due to end in August and Cllr Aitken will request that it is extended beyond 6 September, the date of the next Community Council meeting. Council officials will be asked to attend that meeting so that residents and members of the public can express their views and ask questions.

6. Planning and Environment Sub Committee

There was no report as Louise Maguire was unable to attend.

7. Transport Sub Committee

Issues relating to the 20 mph Zone had already been discussed and it was agreed that Norman Tinlin would write to the Council expressing FCC's concerns.

8. Waste Initiative - Proposals

Louise Maguire and Johanna Carrie had produced a list of topics and possible speakers for consideration by FCC which had been emailed to members. It was agreed that a bulb planting day in Fairmilehead Park should be organised. Saturday 23 July was proposed as a "clean –up day". It will need only six people.

Johanna gave a brief resume of the topics which cover various aspects of waste reduction, recycling and awareness. It was agreed that Iona Beaumont, Waste Aware Edinburgh, should be invited to speak to the meeting on Tuesday 4 October. Other speakers will be invited during the coming year. Dennis Williams thanked Johanna for preparing the list and suggested that we have two related topics at a time, e.g. Green Belt Trust and Pentlands Regional Park.

9. Hall Booking for 2005/2006

It was agreed that the Caiystane Room should be booked for the first Tuesday of every month and that the Secretary will confirm.

10. AOCB

Len Brown and Dorothy Melville, who have been regular members of Fairmilehead Community Council, announced that they are leaving Buckstone, and as a measure of their thanks for the good work done by everyone associated with the Community Council, they presented the Chair with a hand-crafted gavel. Dennis Williams thanked them for their active participation and wished them well in the new home.

Mr Whytock commented on various aspects of the access to buses for wheelchair users and was given the names of the officials to contact or raise them at the LDC.

Cllr Aitken offered to ask Buckstone and Pentlands PTAs to nominate representatives to FCC. It is important that as wide a spectrum of views as possible is heard when the Community Council is responding on behalf of all residents.

11. Date Of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 September at 7.00 pm in the Caiystane Room, Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls, and 1 Frogston Road West, Edinburgh

NB: There Are No Meetings during July and August