

FAIRMILEHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of Annual General Meeting and Meeting held on Tuesday 2 May 2006 in the Caiystane Room, 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); Norman Tinlin; Johanna Carrie; Andrew Cross; Margaret Walker; Jennifer Munro; Audrey Ryan; Mike Brunsdon; Dot Logan; Cllr Mrs Elaine Aitken; Cllr Jason Rust; David McLetchie MSP and 24 residents.

Apologies: Catherine and Sandy Macpherson; Sheila Bulmer; Daphne Sleigh; Bruce Beveridge; Joyce Beveridge, Nigel Griffiths MP and PC Graham Harvey.

2. Reports from the Treasurer, Secretary and Chair

The Treasurer, Alison Elfick, distributed copies of the audited Accounts and Balance Sheet. She reported that the balance in the bank was £1381.31 at 1 April 2006.

The Secretary, Sheena Robertson, reported that there had been ten public meetings with an average attendance of 23 residents. The average number of pieces of correspondence was 17.6 and there had been six invited guest speakers during the past year.

Dennis Williams said that it had been another very successful year for Fairmilehead Community Council. This was due to the support, commitment and work done by the Office Bearers, Councillor Mrs Elaine Aitken, Councillor Jason Rust and the Sub Committees. He gave a Vote of Thanks to Sheena Robertson who had been Secretary since the Community Council started four years ago and thanked everyone for their regular attendance at the meetings.

3. Adoption of Accounts

Richard Hinton proposed the adoption of the Accounts, seconded by Alison Elfick and carried unanimously.

4. Appointment of Auditor

Mr Kenneth Millar was re-appointed as Auditor for the next financial year; proposed by Alison Elfick and seconded by Dennis Williams.

5. Election of Office Bearers: Chair; Vice Chair; Secretary and Treasurer

The Office Bearers and Councillors stood down and Cllr Elaine Aitken took the Chair as the Returning Officer for Fairmilehead Ward.

Nominations had been received for Dennis Williams, Louise Maguire, Alison Elfick, Sheena Robertson, Norman Tinlin, Johanna Carrie, Daphne Sleigh and Andrew Cross for elected nominees and Richard Hinton for the elected representative for Buckstone Association.

As no ballot was required all were duly elected.

Cllr Elaine Aitken thanked Dennis Williams for his involvement in the community and his commitment as Chair of the Community Council.

The following office bearers were then elected.

Office	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Chair	Dennis Williams	Cllr Elaine Aitken	Alison Elfick
Vice Chair	Louise Maguire	Cllr Elaine Aitken	Richard Hinton
Secretary	Norman Tinlin	Sheena Robertson	Alison Elfick
Treasurer	Alison Elfick	Cllr Elaine Aitken	Andrew Cross

Dennis Williams returned to the Chair and said that the Sub Committees would be appointed at the next meeting. Norman Tinlin said he would take over as Secretary at the next meeting on 6 June 2006.

6. Reports from the Community Beat Officer

PC Graham Harvey is on leave and had sent his apologies. Sheena Robertson read the salient information from his Report for April, which said there had been an increase in damage to vehicles and house break-ins. However, several youths had been apprehended. He warned residents to take care to protect gardening equipment in sheds.

7. Talk By Colin McClung On Proposed Golf Developments At Swanston

Colin McClung gave an illustrated talk which provided the background and reasoning behind the proposals for the land on the east side of the road leading to Swanston Farm. The planning applications had required consultation with a diverse range of bodies and he wanted to find solutions which would cause least concern to residents. He was aware of the objections which had been raised in relation to the potential increase in traffic volume, speeding and the safety of pedestrians. Efforts were being made to address these concerns.

Dennis Williams suggested that the Community Council could work through any issues which concern the community. This suggestion was welcomed by Colin McClung and it was agreed that Cllr Jason Rust would call a meeting to set up a Sub Group.

Many of those who attended the meeting asked pertinent questions and Colin McClung responded from both a personal and commercial perspective.

8. Buckstone Youth Project

Dennis Williams invited Margaret Walker to give an update on the position regarding funding for the Buckstone Youth Project for next September.

Margaret said she welcomed the plans to have golf facilities for children and young people at Swanston Golf Course.

She was pleased to confirm that funding had been obtained from the Community Safety Partnership for the senior Youth Project for next year.

9. Minute Of Meeting Held On 4 April And Matters Arising

Louise Maguire said that Camus Park was officially known as Fairmilehead Park and this name should be used to avoid any confusion. The sentence in Para. 7 should read, "that not a single child had died in the last three years" - which they accredited to lower speed limits."

The Minute having been circulated, and with the above changes, was signed as a correct record; proposed by Norman Tinlin and seconded by Cllr Elaine Aitken.

The matters arising would be dealt with on the Agenda.

10. Correspondence

- 1) Lothian and Borders Police - receipt for donation
- 2) Letter to Alastair McClung – cistern rebuilding
- 3) Card sent to Ronnie and Morag Maguire, Postmaster, Buckstone Post Office, on retirement after 17 years
- 4) Calor Gas Awards 2006
- 5) HMOs Report (none in Fairmilehead Ward)
- 6) Scottish Water – Investment in Edinburgh's Water Supply
- 7) Inside Letting Newsletter
- 8) SEPA Workshop on Sat 20 May 10-3 PM Napier University
- 9) Scottish Natural Heritage - public consultation comments by 30 June 2006.
Louise Maguire to respond on behalf of FCC
- 10) City's Housing Strategy - comments by 9 June 2006. Meeting to be arranged to discuss FCC comments
- 11) Waste Not Want Not Competition - *Johanna Carrie to take forward*
- 12) Edinburgh Local Plan consultation comments by 30 June. Presentation at Pentlands LDC Wednesday 31 May. *Meeting to be arranged to discuss FCC response/comments*
- 13) Scottish Executive
 - a) Draft Planning Policy 21- Green Belts
 - b) Town and Country Planning (Notification of Applications) Scotland Green Belts SPP 21. *Louise Maguire to examine and retain for FCC*
- 14) Community Councils and the Planning Process Revised March 2006
- 15) Letter to Alan Henderson Head of Planning and Strategy City Development Department re planning decisions

11. Councillor's Report

Cllr Mrs Elaine Aitken reported that:

- 1) She would attend the meeting to discuss the draft Edinburgh City Local Plan as it is important that Fairmilehead CC makes representations.
- 2) All of the teachers and nursery staff at Pentland Primary School had attended a "Critical Skills" course in their own time.
- 3) She had met with the new Chief Inspector of Lothian and Borders Police, John Hawkins. It was agreed that he should be invited to come along to a meeting.
- 4) Construction work is due to start at Pentland Primary and on the Flood Prevention Scheme. There are concerns, which are being addressed, about how it may affect children going to and from school.

Dennis Williams invited David McLetchie MSP to speak about the Health and Safety Executive Enquiry Report which had been published on the Gas Explosion at 16 Buckstone Grove on 30 November 2005.

Mr McLetchie said that the Inquiry had found that there was no general deterioration in the gas mains pipes in the Buckstone Estate and the explosion had been caused by a particular set of circumstances in the Grove.

The Inquiry concluded that the source of gas was from a circumferential fracture of the 4" cast iron gas main which had failed in sagging mode. A water toby is likely to have contributed to the pipe failure. However the most likely scenario is that the fracture of the weakened main resulted from ground instability.

In addition, he reported that the Tram applications had been passed by the Scottish Parliament for an abbreviated line from Ocean Terminal to Haymarket. The Entitlement Card for concessionary travel throughout Scotland, by bus, had been introduced. He was concerned that the free personal care legislation was not being implemented and he was dealing with constituents who were entitled to have free meal preparation since the legislation was passed in 2002.

12. Planning and Environment Sub Committee

Louise Maguire said that there was nothing to report. Johanna Carrie said she would make arrangements for the Waste Not Want Not competition to be promoted in the Fairmilehead Directory. Over the past year she had produced flyers which had been put up in the Notice Board with suggestions for recycling and reusing and she questioned if it was worth continuing in light of the Council's increased kerbside collection service. A resident asked why the Council did not collect plastic or used batteries. Cllr Aitken replied that the Council needs to have a third party who will take the materials off their hands and there was an intention to include plastic in the future. In the meantime residents were encouraged to recycle using the local supermarket bins.

13. Transport Sub Committee

Norman Tinlin advised the meeting that Neil Renilson and Bill Campbell will be the speakers at the Edinburgh Traffic Forum meeting on 16 May.

Dennis Williams referred the meeting to the letter of objection, which had been submitted by Fairmilehead Community Council in respect of The City of Edinburgh Council (Roads adjacent to schools, Edinburgh) (20 MPH Speed Limit) (Consolidation) (Variation No Order 200 – TRO /05/51).

Following discussion the meeting agreed that the objection to the proposed Order should not be withdrawn. Norman Tinlin will contact Caroline Burwell.

14. AOCB

Pentland Regional Park Rangers are creating a new Visitor Centre at Flotterstone.

Several members of Fairmilehead Community Council had taken part, on Saturday 6 April, in a promotion for the Community Council by the Notice Board at Buckstone Shops. It was suggested that different venues within the Ward should be covered to increase residents' awareness of the FCC.

15. Date Of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 June in the Caiystane Room, Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls, Frogston Road West, Edinburgh.

There will be no meetings in July or August 2006. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 5 September 2006.