

FAIRMILEHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday 6 June 2006 in the Caiystane Room, Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls, Frogston Road West, Edinburgh

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present: Dennis Williams, Chair; Louise Maguire, Vice Chair, Norman Tinlin, Secretary; Alison Elfick, Treasurer; Johanna Carrie; Andrew Cross; PC Graham Harvey; Jane Hutcheon; Norman McKenzie; Catherine Macpherson; Sheena Robertson; Charles Whytock;

Apologies: Cllr Elaine Aitken; Richard Hinton; Dot Logan; Daphne Sleigh

2. Report from Community Beat Officer

PC Graham Harvey reported on the number of vandalisms, thefts etc for the month of May. There were 9 break-ins to motor vehicles and 6 with intent to steal. There were also 2 thefts of motor vehicles. It appeared there may be one person responsible for most of the car crime.

There were 11 vandalisms mainly on the Buckstone estate. There had been 2 minor assaults and 2 thefts.

Amongst the solved crimes were 2 Breach of the Peace, 2 assaults and theft of a motor vehicle along with numerous driving offences.

Constable Harvey said that the new Chief Inspector, John Hawkins, had an action plan for a Community Crime Reduction Strategy. This would deal with crimes of a high volume but low value in nature such as vandalism. The Youth Action Team would be dealing with a lot of the reports.

Discussion ensued regarding the sale of alcohol to youths which appeared to be the cause of a lot of the problems. Various suggestions were made and it was decided to invite CI Hawkins to the October meeting.

Norman Tinlin asked if it was legal for a speed camera van to park on a pavement in Frogston Road West. PC Harvey suggested that the Community Council complain to the Chief Constable. Louise Maguire commented on the increased police seen on the beat.

3. Minute of Meeting Held on 2 May and Matters Arising

The minute of the previous meeting were approved on the motion of Andrew Cross seconded by Alison Elphick.

Sheena Robertson informed the meeting that the house which was the subject of the gas explosion in Buckstone Grove was being demolished. There had been a power cut effecting 58 houses in the Grove and Dell. There had been a further cut the previous evening and residents were naturally concerned.

In relation to the HSE report on the Buckstone Grove explosion, Mr Whytock believed that the gas pressure in the area had been increased.

Louise Maguire gave a brief report on the SEPA workshop (Item 8 of previous minute).

4. Correspondence

- 1) Scottish Executive - Age and Experience Consultation – Circulated and on Agenda.
- 2) CEC - Involving Service Users in Housing Strategy – Retain FCC on mailing list.
- 3) CEC Press Release – Planning for Edinburgh's Future – Copies previously circulated.
- 4) Consultation on Edinburgh City Local Plan – Being circulated. For discussion later in meeting.
- 5) Lothian Structure Plan and Vision for Capital Growth – On agenda.
- 6) Health & Safety Executive Report on Buckstone Grove Explosion.
- 7) Planning Aid for Scotland – AGM 17 June 2006.
- 8) Charter 88 – Empowering Citizens and local Councils – Dennis Williams examining.
- 9) Postwatch Scotland – Spring/Summer Newsletter.
- 10) Link – Information on Planning Bill in Scottish Parliament.
- 11) Scottish Executive – Anti Social Behaviour Awards.
- 12) Edinburgh Core Paths – Previously circulated to Louise Maguire and Alison Elphick. Louise Maguire gave a brief explanation.
- 13) CEC Major Development Projects – Circulated
- 14) CEC – Community Councils and Community planning – Circulated

5. Councillor's Report

In the absence of Councillor Aitken there was no report.

6. Planning and Environment Sub Committee

Louise Maguire mentioned the forthcoming Treefest in Inverleith Park; the latest newsletter from Spokes and that the Environmental Wardens had produced a report for the recent Pentlands Local Development Committee meeting.

7. Transport Sub Committee

Norman Tinlin reported that at the recent Pentlands LDC the 20mph speed limit for the Buckstone Estate had been approved although he had argued against it. The pedestrian crossing for Buckstone Terrace near the Gardens had been approved at the same meeting and resurfacing work was ongoing at Fairmilehead crossroads.

8. Consultations

Norman Tinlin suggested that if anybody had any comments they wished to make regarding the Scottish Executive Age & Experience consultation they could e-mail them to him and he will collate and submit.

CEC Consultations a) Draft Edinburgh City Plan; b) Edinburgh & Lothian Structure Plan; c) A Vision for Capital Growth

A meeting on these 3 consultations was arranged for 5pm 19 June at Dennis William's house.

9. AOCB

Suggestions were requested for subject/speakers for the forthcoming session. Dennis Williams suggested the new Chief Inspector for the October meeting. Norman Tinlin suggested a speaker from Pentland Regional Park and next February or March somebody from the Council to explain the new voting system which would be in place for the local elections.

The Secretary raised the issue of retention of records and due to the recent change in Secretaries this appeared an ideal time to review the matter. He had been in touch with Eileen Hewitt but there were no guidelines, it being up to each Community Council to decide on their own procedures. He suggested that as minutes and any financial statements were sent to, and retained, by Eileen Hewitt on behalf of CEC, our master copy be retained for 18 months and then copied to CD after that time. A copy was also on the website. Other documents and correspondence could be dealt with in a similar fashion.

This procedure was agreed by the meeting.

Norman McKenzie queried whether anything could be done about the preponderance of telephone masts.

Sheena Robertson mentioned that plastic bottles and containers could be disposed of at the site in the car park at Tesco, Colinton.

The Chairman presented Sheena Roberston with a bouquet of flowers in appreciation of her services whilst Secretary.

10. Date of Next Meeting

This was arranged for Tuesday 5 September 2006 in the Caiystane room, Fairmilehead Parish Church.