

# Fairmilehead Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 6 November 2007 in Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls.

**Present:** Dennis Williams (Chair); Louise Maguire (Vice-Chair); Norman Tinlin (Secretary); Alison Elfick (Treasurer); Councillor Elaine Aitken; Johanna Carrie; Richard Hinton (Buckstone Association); Sheena Robertson; PC Kenny Welsh; Ian Elfick; Bryan Fisher; Colin Manson; Norman McKenzie; John Strathdee; Margaret Walker

**In Attendance;** Christine Doherty, CEC – Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership

**Apologies:** Robin Harper MSP; Dr Ian McKee MSP; Councillor Jason Rust; Daphne Sleight; Joyce and Bruce Beveridge; Mike Brunsdon

## 1. Police Report

Pc Kenny Welsh gave his report for October. There had been 22 crimes including 6 road traffic offences of which 5 occurred on the bypass. There were 4 thefts one of which related to a handbag left in a taxi and another where a vehicle excise disc was stolen from an unlocked vehicle. There had been 7 vandalisms one of which had been solved, 2 breaches of the peace (1 solved) and 1 crime of violence which had been solved.

There had been a distraction theft at Morrison's where a purse had been stolen. There had been 5 similar crimes in 2 days in the west of the City.

Regarding the previous month and the stolen number plates in the Swanston Area he had 6 back and fingerprints had been found on 5 of them. Enquiries were continuing.

After the mention last month regarding Scottish Water employees visiting premises in the area he drew attention to a leaflet – **How To Beat The Bogus Caller** – which gave relevant information. It is available on the Home Office website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/boguscallers.pdf?view=Binary>

PC Welsh also informed the meeting regarding a possible postal scam where a card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 661 1911 (a premium rate number). **DO NOT** call this number, as this is a mail scam originating from Belize.

If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call. If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 0207 239 6655 or ICSTIS (the premium rate service regulator) at [www.icstis.org.uk](http://www.icstis.org.uk)

Members raised the following issues: Fireworks, increase in use of mobile phones whilst driving; number of people in University areas riding cycles without lights and the Evening news article relating to alleged youth disorder at Oxgangs.

Councillor Aitken drew attention to the problems in Buckstone at Halloween when eggs had been thrown at properties and persons. The Chairman said that 1000-1500 people had attended the organised fireworks display at Oxgangs with no problems encountered.

## **2. Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership**

Christine Doherty, Partnership and Information Manager gave a brief talk on Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership on which the Community Council had a member. The partners were the City Council, Councillors, Community Council and other community representatives, NHS Lothian and the Police. The Chair for the Pentlands NP was Councillor Jason Rust.

The first meeting had been on 13 August 2007 and she described the area covered and services provided. It would be able to respond to local community needs with the partners working together in a more intelligent way. The Partnership had a strategic planning role but a sub-structure would be developed to take this role forward. The Council had the lead on Community Planning. The Neighbourhood Manager, Graham Kitching, was responsible for service delivery which would be local to the community.

A local neighbourhood plan was in the process of being drawn up and from this the structures, outcomes and priorities would emerge. There would be short and long term goals. Some groups such as health; children and early years, youth and children and families were already working together.

Some of the concerns of the community were a clean physical environment; community safety; facilities – lack of and state of; support for older people, concerns around youth services/activities; policing; health provision and employment training and access. Because the NP extended from Ratho all the way round to Fairmilehead concerns in one area were not necessarily concerns in another.

Funding was scattered over several bodies. The Neighbourhood Improvement Grants were being reviewed whilst other grants available to community bodies with a maximum of £5000 which were subject to an assessment. The conditions criteria were currently being reviewed. There was also Community Council grants up to £500 available through the NP Manager.

Communication would be a two way affair – feedback to and getting information from the community. A website was being developed and information would be displayed in libraries and other local facilities.

## **3. Minute Of Meeting Held On 2 October 2007 And Matters Arising.**

The minutes of the meeting on 2 October 2007 were approved on the motion of PC Kenny Welsh and seconded by Councillor Elaine Aitken.

Matters Arising:

- a) Alison Elfick informed the meeting that the Swanston water tank had been sold. The land surrounding the tank belonged to the farmer and access to tank would be by foot only as any other access had lapsed on the sale.
- b) The Secretary reported that he had submitted a response on behalf of the FCC to the Scottish Government consultation entitled Better Health:Better Care. He has circulated a copy to members and placed it on the website.

## **4. Correspondence**

- 1) CEC Licensing Board – Applications for Licensing Board on 29 October. There were 2 in our area. Regular extensions at Swanston Golf Club and the Pavilion.
- 2) Scottish Water – Latest e-letter re Drinking Water Project (*Circulated by e-mail and on website.*)

- 3) Merchiston Community Council – Notice of meeting on Draft Licensing Policy with Sheriff Principal G Nicholson – 16 October. (*On noticeboard and Secretary had attended*).
- 4) CEC – City Development – Draft Tram and Transport Developer Contribution Guidelines.
- 5) Eileen Hewitt – CEC Liaison Officer – Weblog Traing (*Circulated by e-mail.*)
- 6) Eileen Hewitt – CEC Liaison Officer – Greenspace Training Course (*Circulated by e-mail.*)
- 7) Fairmilehead Parish Church – Increase in hall let fees.
- 8) Friends of the Earth – Training Course.
- 9) Scottish Landscape Forum – Annual Report.
- 10) Environmental Resources Management – Environmental Scoping Report for Glencorse Water Treatment Works.
- 11) Planning Aid for Scotland – Autumn Newsletter
- 12) Blythbank Action Group – Talla Main Egg Farm Proposals
- 13) CEC, Planning Department – Draft Proposals for Development in the Green Belt (*circulated by e-mail.*)
- 14) Edinburgh Association of Community Councils – Schedule of meetings
- 15) E-mail re state of roundabouts at Lothianburn junctions (*Forwarded to Councillor Aitken*).
- 16) Pedal (Portobello Transition Town) – Information re meeting on climate change and peak oil.

## **5. Councillor's Report**

Councillor Aitken reported that the meeting with Susan Brown and the Planning Department regarding Pentland Primary had still to go ahead as at present the school was subject to an HMI Inspection. The closing date for Hunters Tryst had passed and the Councillors were to meet with the officials once the bid list was drawn up.

Traffic calming in the area of the school had started and there were complaints about traffic in Oxgangs Bank. Regarding the parking in Buckstone Road/Avenue and Gardens she had received a brief report from City Development which stated that there did not appear to be any problems. The report detailed date for the survey but no times. As it was felt that there was in fact a problem she was asking for further information.

The Community Safety Team were going to inspect the Fairmile Inn and she was now Chair of the Pentlands Community Safety Panel and could bring any relevant issues in front of them.

## **6. Planning and Environment**

Louise Maguire reported that the final cut for the season had been undertaken in Fairmilehead Park and that more bulbs had been planted. She also had copies of the latest Spokes magazine for distribution.

## **7. Transport Sub-Committee**

Nothing to report

## **8. AOCB**

Margaret Walker informed the meeting of the forthcoming Christmas Fayre at St Fillans. She also gave a brief update on the Youth Project.

Louise Maguire produced information about the sites and times for the mobile library. It visits Camus Avenue (No 22) between 2 and 2.30pm on a Thursday and Buckstone Circle (No 30-32) between 2.15 and 2.45pm on a Friday.

## **9. Date Of Next Meeting**

This was arranged for Tuesday 4 December 2007 in Fairmilehead Parish Church Halls followed by Cheese and Wine.

### **Forthcoming Meetings:**

Tuesday 8 January 2008

Tuesday 5 February 2008

Tuesday 4 March 2008

Tuesday 1 April 2008

Tuesday 6 May 2008

Tuesday 3 June 2008

### **Contacts:**

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