

LIBERTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27 August at Liberton Kirk Halls, 7:00 pm.

Present: Carina Dahlstrom-Mair, Graeme Forbes (Secretary/Treasurer), Jean Fowler (Member), Kathleen Hendry, Sandra Hendry (FoSKaP), Steven Hendry (GCP), Jim Henry (Member), Derek Jardine (SEECAT), Bill Krol (Chair), Bruce F. Mair, Su Millar (Member), Michael Rea (Member), Peter Schwarz (Associate), Ronnie Shaw (FoSAP), Councillor Stephanie Smith, Gordon Stuart.

1 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, including Ronnie Shaw, representing Friends of Seven Acre Park (FoSAP), the new nominated group on LDCC.

Three further items of business were added to agenda under Public Questions.

2 APOLOGIES

Tony Barry (Member), Councillor Lezley Cameron, Ian Murray MP, Amy Richards (Vice-Chair).

3 POLICE REPORT

No police report received.

4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the meeting on 25 June was proposed by Jim Henry, seconded by Jean Fowler.

The minutes of the meeting of 25 June were APPROVED.

5 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Newsletter

Further amendments to the Newsletter were suggested: the addition of an item on SESPlan and the removal of the list of contents.

ACTION: suggestions to be considered by the editor, the Vice-Chair.

The Chair responded to a question about distribution of the newsletter. Sectors within the LDCC area were targeted for each issue of the newsletter on account of the limited print run. Issues were also placed at the Gracemount Community Centre and at various retail outlets, as well as being available online on the LDCC website.

The information was NOTED.

5.2 LDCC Notice Boards

The Chair announced that a further LDCC notice board was to be placed on Lasswade Road.

The information was NOTED.

5.3 Addition of Seat to Bus Stop at Malbet Park

The Chair reported that Lothian Buses were not responsible for the bus shelters. The ownership of the bus shelters was not clear.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to establish ownership and submit request to owner.

UNAPPROVED

5.4 Liberton Park Court

The Chair reported that the faulty street lamp had now been repaired.

The information was NOTED.

There were complaints that the weeds had not yet been cleared from the property.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to raise the issue with The Parks, Greenspace and Cemeteries service and/or Street Cleansing Service.

5.5 Traffic on Lasswade Road

The Chair reported no response from Police Scotland to his request for speed checks.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to escalate the request.

5.6 Liberton Brae/Mayfield road junction:

No Update received.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to follow up on this with Councillor Cameron.

5.7 Aircraft noise

No Update received.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to follow up on this with Councillor Cameron.

5.8 Liberton High School

No Update received.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to follow up on this with Councillor Cameron.

5.9 Margiotta's bus stop and parking

No Update received.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to follow up on this with Councillor Cameron.

5.10 GDPR

The Secretary stated that content would be provided for the LDCC web site prior to the September LDCC meeting

ACTION: Secretary to provide GDPR content for LDCC website.

5.11 Schedule of meetings:

The Secretary outlined the revised order of meetings: September, November, January and bi-monthly thereafter. The new arrangements, including the revised meeting time of 90 minutes to be reviewed after one year. Jim Henry wished his opposition to the changes to be recorded.

The information was NOTED.

6 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

6.1 Mayfield Road Development

The Chair invited Jim Henry to outline LDCC's responses to the proposed development of around 200 student flats on the sites of the Braidburn Inn, garage and houses at the foot of Mayfield Road. Jim stated that LDCC was not against the development in principle but had expressed objections based on (1) the conduct of the planning process – the revised application for the Braidburn Inn site had not appeared on the weekly lists, (2) the lack of parking space for resident car owners, or for pick-up and drop-off, (3) insufficient information about waste disposal from the properties. There were also concerns about the height of the building which was not accurately rendered on the plans, the apparent lack of cooking facilities within the properties, and the proximity of the development to a busy junction.

The Chair provided a geographic breakdown of those who provided comments on the CEC planning portal. Of 120 comments approximately 79 were from within the LDCC area, and a further ten within an approximate half kilometer radius of the area. Some of the remaining comments were from quite far outside the area.

The information was NOTED.

6.2 Landfill and separation of waste

Concern was expressed by a local resident from reports that separation of waste by householders was rendered redundant by household and garden waste and recycling all being dumped into landfill sites.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to establish the facts.

6.3 Gracemount Mansion

Steven Hendry spoke about the deteriorating condition of the property, and the lack of response from South East Locality Office about costs despite masons and ceilings reports having been received. The meeting recognized the urgency of the repairs required to the building in the short term, as well as longer term requirements.

ACTION: Councillor Smith agreed to progress the request for action with the SE Locality Office.

6.4 Transport

Following Mike Rea's enquiry about bus timetabling during the Festival period, a number of infrastructural problems exacerbated during the Festival were discussed, including road works, increased travel times, the increase of private hire vehicles in bus lanes, illegal parking, and litter. The introduction of a tourist tax, practiced widely in Europe was supported.

The information was NOTED.

Concern was expressed by a local resident that access to and from Liberton Park Court was hampered by queuing traffic as a result of the temporary traffic lights. A number of suggestions were made to alleviate the problem, but since the temporary arrangements would end within two weeks no action was deemed appropriate.

The information was NOTED.

7 WALKABOUTS WITH SOUTH EAST LOCALITIES OFFICERS

Several members raised issues about cars parked close to junctions with major road, suggesting that double yellow lines should be extended to improve sight lines and improve access. Councillor Smith suggested that a list of junctions be supplied to her for investigation.

ACTION: members to contact the Secretary with junctions where action is required.

ACTION: Secretary to convey list to Councillor Smith.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to investigate potential action.

Su Millar suggested that a street close to St Katharine's Park required widening and re-surfacing.

The information was NOTED.

There were no further suggestions to locations for the walkabout.

ACTION: The chair to convene a meeting to determine the route of the walkabout and the issues for discussion.

8 REPORTS & UPDATES

8.1 LDCC Planning sub-group

Jim Henry reported that SESPlan 2 had been examined by the Reporter and had been sent for approval to the Scottish Government. The documents can be accessed via the LDCC website.

The information was NOTED.

UNAPPROVED

8.2 **Edinburgh Partnership Review**

The Chair reported a consultation by CEC on Localities with a closing date of 9 September. A link is available on the LDCC website.

The information was NOTED.

8.3 **South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together (SEECAT)**

Derek Jardine gave notice of upcoming event in September: Messy in the Park, on the site of the former Kaimes Lockhart Memorial Church.

The information was NOTED.

8.4 **Friends of St Katharine's Park (FoSKaP)**

Sandra Hendry reported that the Park gates had been painted, the litter pick on 18 August had been well attended and that the Park was being assessed for an award from Keep Scotland Beautiful. Sandra also gave notice of a tree crowning event on 15 September.

The information was NOTED.

Complaints were received about the overflowing litter bins at the entrances to the park. It was suggested that more frequent emptying, or larger bins would address the problem.

ACTION: Councillor Smith to raise the issue with CEC.

8.5 **Gracemount Community Project (GCP)**

See above at 6.3.

8.6 **Liberton Association**

No report received.

8.7 **Friends of Seven Acre Park (FoSAP)**

Ronnie Shaw reported recent activities at the Park including the installation of a table-tennis table, a litter-pick, fence painting, addition of new sculptures and the re-varnishing of the wooden animals. Ronnie also reported that fruit from the Park orchard is ripe for picking.

The information was NOTED.

9 **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

9.1 **Litter Picks**

The Chair asked for suggestions for future picks. Glenvarloch was suggested.

The suggestion was NOTED.

The meeting CLOSED at 8.43pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 24 September 2018 in Liberton Kirk Halls, 7.00pm.