

Tollcross Community Council

Meeting 9th October 2013 6.45pm

Tollcross Community Education Centre 117 Fountainbridge

Minutes:

Present: Returning Officer Cllr Sandy Howat, Chair Paul Beswick, Ann Wigglesworth, Angela Hull (Sec), Andrew Brough, Roger Colkett, Andy Devonport, Heather Goodare, Chris McGregor, Nick Munro, Mary Neilson, Liz Summerfield, Chris Wigglesworth, Andreas Wilhelm;

Cllrs: Melanie Main; **Public:** Iain Black, Tom Coverey, Philippa Faulkner, Michael Lister,

Apologies: Cllrs Burns, Rankin, Key & Corbett, Sarah Boyack MSP; Andrew Stephenson, Tim Puntis, David Liddle, Harold Nicholson, Gina Cameron, Carol Finlay.

1. Inauguration of the new Tollcross Community Council . New TXCC listed at end.

Cllr Howat chaired this item. **Paul Beswick was nominated for Chair.** He accepted and took over the chairing of the meeting. The following officers were appointed: **Vice Chair and minutes:** Angela Hull; **Secretary:** Ann Wigglesworth; **Vice Sec:** Chris McGregor; **Treasurer:** Tim Puntis; **IT and website:** Andrew Brough; **Media:** Liz Summerfield; **Licensing:** Roger Colkett; **Planning:** Paul Beswick & Nick Munro (deputy); **Health and Well-being:** Heather Goodare; **Meadows and Bruntfied Links MBL AG:** Chris Wigglesworth (co-opted); **S. Central NP:** Andrew Brough, Ann Wigglesworth; **S. West NP:** Andy Devonport, Liz Summerfield; **City Centre NP:** Mary Nielson, Roger Colkett.

2. Minutes 12.6.13: Accepted as a true record. Matters Arising to come on Agenda

3. Police Matters: a police representative was not in attendance

AW reported that the opening hours of the West End police station will be reduced. Cllr Main explained that the staff now at the station are admin staff. There will be more police on the beat, which will increase from 25% to 40% of staff.

4. Planning: PB reported that:

- The PAN notice for the demolition on the corner of Semple St. with new retail, offices and parking (including Farmfoods, part of Poundland, underground storage area) has been approved. Exhibition to be held on **20th/ 21st November at Exchange Place, 1 Semple St.**,
- There has been an Application for 50 market stalls in the Grassmarket. No objection
- PB has objected on behalf of TXCC to 62 West Port change of use from retail to class 3 food
- PB has objected on behalf of TXCC to the application to remove the community use from the Napier University flats.
- AH reported on the CEC Fountainbridge Masterplan event. This second event was well attended. The topics dealt with were the need for waterspace and sustainability. Cllr Howat explained the Council's position on wanting to see an integrated development on the site. The draft masterplan will be presented on **Nov 2nd at Central Hall starting at 10.30am.**

PB reported on the HMO meeting, chaired by Cllr Ian Perry. Party flats will require retrospective planning permission. **AW agreed to remind the Brandfield flats group** about the need to make representations now. PB reported that CEC are giving exemptions from requiring carpets on the floor above flats. An HMO licence is given for only one year. The HMO meeting considered the overprovision of HMOs but no action was agreed. CEC is, however, going to produce a Private Rental Service Charter so that tenants, landlords and letting agents are clear what their responsibilities are.

Shared Repairs: ML asked how letting agents can be made to pay their share of common repairs? Cllr Main mentioned that failure to pay their share may be a deciding factor in losing their licence. The Council are looking at how to make owners pay their share of common repairs.

5.Licensing

RC led a discussion on the Review of the Licensing Policy Statement which was announced in May. Responses are required by 21st October. The City Centre Partnership submission to this consultation was given to all. RC explained that the 2005 Act allows councils to identify areas of overprovision and that CEC had identified the Grassmarket and Cowgate and streets leading off those thoroughfares as areas of overprovision, which is supported by police & NHS figures. The problem is that TX is adjacent to the designated area of overprovision ; Statistic sheet (distributed) indicated that Tollcross ranks high as an area of overprovision when compared with most areas of the city.

RC made two recommendations:

1. **Off-licences:** CEC should consider all areas with alcohol related incidents higher than the Edinburgh average as problematic areas. Areas with 50% more alcohol related hospital admissions should have a reduction in retail off-licences since one of the objectives of the 2005 Act is improving public health.
2. **On-licences:** the overprovision is a city centre problem. Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership recommends that the 7 most problematic areas of the city with high rates of licensed premises, alcohol related hospital admissions and alcohol related crimes should be declared as areas of overprovision and on sales should be refused unless the applicant can demonstrate that the licence would not lead to overprovision. These areas are Tollcross, Dalry and Fountainbridge, Southside and Canongate, Old Town and Leith St., S Leith, Leith Docks and Portobello.

RC said that the Board is also asking for comments on the “duty to trade” provision. This states that where a licensee has applied for certain hours they should be required to open those hours. The meeting decided that insisting on compliance with these hours could lead to more premises being open.

6. Councillors comments. Cllr Main announced that CEC has set up a working group to look at the issue of street traders and markets.

7. AOB: AD reported that CEC is going to provide **secure on street cycle parking** which will be piloted in several streets including **Lonsdale Tce**. There will be a charge of £5-10 per month for each small parking shed. PF asked about the consultation on **CEC budget:** CEC are only asking where they should make savings. AW raised the issue of **Road repairs at Kings Theatre junction & Cameo bus stop**. MN asked Cllrs to get action on the removal of the **Independent Socialist posters**. AW reminded TXCC of the **Tree Light Switch on December 3rd at 6pm**. Volunteers needed for stewarding. PB announced that **the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service** are preparing a local plan and would like to get community feedback. Cllr Main said that the contentious issue is that they are thinking of removing their control room from TX.

Next meeting: **November 13th 6.45pm Tollcross Community Centre**

Apologies to Secretary: annwigglesworth@btinternet.com tel. 228 6335

Tollcross Community Councillors : October 2013 - 17

Paul Beswick

Chris McGregor

Andrew Brough

Mary Neilson

Roger Colkett

Nick Munro

Andy Devenport

Tim Puntis

Heather Goodare

Liz Summerfield

Angela Hull

Ann Wigglesworth

12 Voting members