

Tollcross Community Council

Meeting 11th June 2014 7.15pm

Tollcross Community Education Centre, 117 Fountainbridge

Minutes

1. Present: Paul Beswick (Chair), Andrew Brough, Andrew Devenport, Roger Colkett, Heather Goodare, Angela Hull, Chris McGregor, Nick Munro, Tim Puntis (Treasurer), Ann Wigglesworth (Sec), Mary Neilson, Liz Summerfield ; PCs Robertson, Anderson , Morano; Cllrs Melanie Main, Joanne Mowat. **Public** Iain Black, Andreas Wilhelm, David Liddle, Michael Lister, Shirley Sime. **Apologies:** Chris Wigglesworth, Harold Nicolson. Cllrs: Rankin, Corbett, Burns, Key, Godzik, Sarah Boyack MSP.

2. Minutes. There were two corrections: #8. AB reported there were now 200 hits a month on the TXCC website. AD said his apologies for non-attendance were not recorded.

3 Police Matters.

PC Grant Robertson (Oxgangs): reported there had been 203 calls to the Police from Tollcross in May, resulting in 56 recorded crimes, 18 of which have been solved so far. Typical of crimes in the area are that 7 pedal cycles have been reported stolen. Again he suggested we should take a picture of our bike and note the frame number. This will help police if the bike is stolen. There were also crimes of vandalism (Farmfoods window), shoplifting, assault, housebreaking, misuse of drugs, etc. PB asked how Police Scotland would be reducing Stop & Search given the bad media press in England. PC Robertson said that they had not received any changed advice from management

PC Ryan Anderson (Morningside, Grange, The Braids). He reported on attempted/ actual house raids, motorbike thefts, and shoplifting in his area. In Lochrin Tce a young vandal had smashed a restaurant window. He said that the majority of solved crimes are helped by neighbour's raising the alarm. PC Morano asked the meeting to call 101 for non-emergency calls (charged a flat rate 15p fee), and 999 for emergencies (break-ins, etc). He said we can get feedback on crimes by going on the Police Scotland website and clicking on Community Policing, where you can email an enquiry.

4. Licensing

RC 's letter to the Licensing Forum had been circulated in advance to TXCC members and a few alterations made. The meeting agreed that it should be sent to Licensing Forum, all councillors on the Licensing Board, all CEC councillors, The Evening News, The Scotsman, Secretary of the EACC and to be placed on TXCC website. RC said there were no licence applications to report.

5. Meadows & Bruntsfield Links

HG has revised the Friends of the Meadows petition on the basis of comments received at the last TXCC. They gained 80 signatures from visitors to the Meadows Festival supporting the petition arguing that the Meadows/ Bruntsfield Links should not host events on the grass that last for more than 15 days. It will be presented on 26th August to the Transport & Environment Committee.

6. Councillors' Comments & Questions

Cllr Main reported that Kathy Evans had said that it was council policy that bins should not be on the main roads but on the side residential streets. TXCC voted for bins to remain on Home Street until the council has sorted out the bin collection services.

Cllr Mowat reported that the Council is piloting a different approach to bins (in the Old Town), which if effective, will be rolled out more widely next year

7. Planning

PB reported on the following applications:

- Vacant Brewery site application for temporary car park and charging point – Refused.
- Guest house annexe at 56 Lochrin Buildings refused/enforced and now an appeal is pending.
- Craighouse (3rd) now out for consultation. Over 200 docs. Friends of Craighouse will guide us in our objection.
- Open air market on 4 days a year in Lister Square – granted.
- Class 4 to 2 (Financial) at 3 Lady Lawson St.

8. Reports

Meadows Festival: PB congratulated AD and LS for all their work in organising this.

Canal Festival 21/6; AD asked for volunteers to help set up the Festival on the day. Volunteers also needed for TXCC stall. Contact Ann Wigglesworth if you can help.

Brandfield St: LS had circulated a report of the meeting residents had with Alan Moonie (CEC Planning). He reported that the Council's lawyers had informed Planning that they are unlikely to win an appeal case if they asked StayCity to apply for a retrospective change of use. There would be difficult to enforce this. This position contradicts the assurances given by the Chair of Planning - Ian Perry. **PB agreed to contact Cllr Perry to find out the true position.** LS reported that the behaviour of StayCity clients is still causing problems for residents – noise, blocking waste chutes and bins in street and other unsocial behaviour. No sign of Stay city staff monitoring the behaviour of their clients.

**Next Meeting of TXCC
Wednesday August 13th 2014 at 6.45pm
Tollcross Community Centre, Fountainbridge**

NB. no meeting in July

Please send your apologies to Ann Wigglesworth 228 6335
e-mail: annwigglesworth@btinternet.com