

# Tollcross Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 27 April 2016 at 7pm  
Tollcross Community Education Centre, 117 Fountainbridge

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

**Present:** Paul Beswick (Chair), Andrew Brough (Secretary), Tim Puntis (Treasurer), Richard Allen, Iain Black, Roger Colkett, Michael Lister, Liz Summerfield, Ann Wigglesworth. **Police:** PC Ponniah, PC Leslie (St Leonards); PC Rust (Wester Hailes). **CEC Councillor:** Cllr Andrew Burns. **Members of the public:** David Liddle, Andreas Wilhelm, and one other. **Apologies:** Andy Devenport, Chris McGregor, Nick Munro; Cllrs Gavin Corbett, Karen Doran, David Key, Melanie Main, Joanna Mowat; Sarah Boyack.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for additional items for the agenda. (See item 9).

## 2. Police Matters

PC Rust presented his report as follows: although the number of house break-ins has continued to see a rise of late, there is nevertheless something of a downward trend overall. He noted that the common theme here was access via windows, whether they were secured or not; there had been a small number of minor assaults, mostly involving alcohol and those involved had been identified and charged; Road Traffic offences included mobile phone use, driving with no insurance, and one drink-driving charge; thefts included 3 pedal cycles and 2 motor cycles; there were no hate crimes to report. In relation to rough sleepers at Harrison, this matter seemed to have been resolved, with the sleepers having been offered advice and support.

PC Ponniah reported that Operation RAC was still in force and making an impact, and continued to involve plain clothes officers and dog-handlers; that anti-social behaviour had seen a reduction, but mostly in the Bruntsfield area. There was a total of 163 reported crimes for February figures, which represented an increase of 20% for the same period in 2015. These included 1 crime of violence; 95 related to dishonesty offences, including 32 house break-ins (mostly via windows when occupiers were on holiday, and with the intention to steal cars); 15 car vehicle crimes, 6 of which were car thefts; 16 common thefts and shoplifting offences; 18 acts of vandalism; 1 act of fire-raising and 2 knife offences. Detection rates range from 100% to 7.6%, but PC Ponniah noted that those investigations of undetected crimes were not closed, but ongoing. In relation to house break-ins when occupiers were on holiday, he urged the public to be cautious about sharing their travel plans with for example, private hire firms.

Liz Summerfield enquired about any follow-up on the fire-starting at the Grove Community Garden, and there was a general discussion about security issues at the site, particularly at the Castle Mill Works (Edinburgh Printmakers). Some members asked if the Police had any advice to share with Edinburgh Printmakers about the physical security of the building.

**ACTION – PC Rust to contact Edinburgh Printmakers to advise on physical security matters relating to the property.**

Paul Beswick asked about crime prevention and security information and how this was disseminated to the public. In reply, PC Ponniah mentioned the Preventions, Interventions and Partnership teams and how the Police can carry out crime prevention surveys and offer specific advice to the public.

**ACTION – PC Ponniah to bring information leaflets to the next meeting for scanning in to the TXCC website.**

Roger Colkett asked about crime reports for the City Centre ward, but in the absence of a community officer for that area, there were no figures available.

**ACTION – AB to contact the local Inspector to find out who is the community officer for that area and to invite them to report at our meetings.**

### **3. Minutes and matter arising**

The minutes of the meeting of 30 March 2015 were accepted as correct, with one correction:

9. AOCB - Scottish Water – ‘Roger Colkett’ should read ‘Richard Allen’

Matters arising

4. Local matters – a. MABLAG – The Chair wished to record thanks to Chris Wigglesworth for the many years’ service he had given to the Tollcross Community Council through his work on MABLAG.

### **5. Councillors’ Comments**

**Cllr Andrew Burns** - Cllr Burns reported that some of the matters discussed at the March meeting requiring his involvement were ongoing.

**Correspondence** - in terms of correspondence, most matters continue to concern planning issues.

**Dundee St site** - in relation to the main EDI/CEC housing development at this site, Cllr Burns informed the meeting that there was a pre-planning application notice exhibition on 10 May at AKVA between 3-7pm and urged all members to attend.

**Fountainbridge Food Fridays** – Cllr Burns welcomed the appearance of this attraction and hoped that all would support it.

**Schools** – Cllr Burns gave an update on the construction issues affecting 17 of the City’s 121 schools and intimated that the CEC would issue a full update by the end of this week. He did stress that while most of the schools affected would be fully re-open within a matter of a few weeks, two or three would require more substantial remedial work.

**Cllr Gavin Corbett** – in the absence of Cllr Corbett, Andrew Brough read a short report:

**Fountainbridge Food Fridays** – along with Andrew Burns, Cllr Corbett had attended the opening and was enthusiastic for this initiative.

**Fountainbridge Green** –Cllr Corbett noted that with lighter evenings, this facility is being well used.

**Recycling Bins** – on behalf of residents at Rosebank/Rosemount/Gardeners’ Crescent, he is pursuing having additional bins.

**Re-Union** – the petition on giving Re-Union a permanent canalside home has been heard at the Economy Cttee and Cllr Corbett would be pressing for both CEC and Scottish Canals to be much more pro-active in securing a place.

#### **4. Local matters**

**a. CCTV Resolution** – David Liddle gave a presentation on the question of the extension of CCTV in the City and the many related issues that this involves. It was moved that this subject required further discussion.

**ACTION – David Liddle to write formally to Cllr Burns to raise his concerns with him and to report back to the meeting.**

**b. Report Editing** – following a discussion, it was agreed that the Secretary would be allowed to edit reports prior to publication, in conjunction with those who had written them. On a related matter, the question of producing an inventory of TXCC property was discussed.

**ACTION – the Executive to discuss producing an inventory of TXCC property at its next meeting.**

**c. Thornybauk** – Ann Wigglesworth spoke to the matter of the Thornybauk Triangle and the various related issues, including outdoor gym equipment for the Meadows.

**ACTION – Ann Wigglesworth to pursue these two matters with Mike Shields and to report back to the meeting.**

**d. Action Points – Bins, etc.** – there was a very mixed response from Community Council members about the recent introduction of the new recycling bins and refuse collection. Problems still exist in Gillespie Place and Brougham Place and it was not clear what ‘exemptions’, for example glass, meant, and whether bins at business premises were required to display a collection time.

**ACTION – Iain Black to contact CEC to follow up and establish what exemptions exist.**

**e. South Centre Decides** – Andrew Brough reminded the meeting that this participatory budget event takes place on Saturday 30 April at the Methodist Church Hall, Nicolson Square, 11am – 3pm.

#### **6. Planning**

Paul Beswick reported on four matters:

**a. 8 Lister Square** – permission from change of use from restaurant to public house granted.

**b. Dewar Place** – pre-application notification: this new application supersedes the previous one, with the new development now extending to a larger area.

**PAN exhibitions 16 June, EICC, 4-8pm and 22 September, EICC, 4-8pm.**

**c. Cycle link between Roseburn Path and Union Canal** –  
**PAN 24 May, St Bride’s Community Centre, 3-7pm.**

**d. LoveCrumbs, West Port** – planning permission granted.

#### **7. Licensing**

Roger Colkett reported that there were no new applications in the period. There followed a short discussion about the Licensing Board, areas of overprovision/areas of special serious

concern, and the recent communication received via Cllr Mowat about amplified music in licensed premises.

**ACTION – any member who has views on the subject of amplified music in licensed premises to contact either Roger Colkett or Paul Beswick who will make a response to the Licensing Board Policy Consultation before the consultation period closes on 22 July 2016.**

**8. Reports in addition to those written – none**

**9. AOCB**

Because the meeting over-ran, the Treasurer's additional item concerning the signatories to the TXCC bank account was referred to the May meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.04pm.

**Date of next meeting and AGM: Wednesday 25 May 2016 at 7pm, Tollcross Community Centre**

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