



TOLLCROSS
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Tollcross Community Council
7.00pm AGM Agenda.
7.30pm Regular Business Meeting
Agenda & meeting papers.**

May 25th 2016
7pm Tollcross Community centre
Room 4

Contact Tollcross Community Council via:
<http://www.tollcrosscc.org.uk/> | [@TollcrossCC](https://twitter.com/TollcrossCC) | sec@tollcrosscc.org.uk

Tollcross Community Council

AGM - 25th May 2016 7.00pm – 7.30pm

Tollcross Community Education Centre 117 Fountainbridge

1. **Tollcross Community Council AGM and Agenda – 7pm – 7.30pm.**
 - a. **Welcome & apologies.**
 - b. **Minutes of 2015 AGM – 13th May 2015 - Acceptance & Matters arising.**
 - c. **Chairs Review of the Year - 2015 - 2016.**
 - d. **Election of Officer Bearers.**
 - e. **Treasurers Report – TXCC Finance statement for 2015/2016. See Spreadsheet.**
2. **AOCB**

Date of next AGM: Wednesday 31st May 2017 at 7pm,

Tollcross Community Centre

Tollcross Community Council

**AGM Minute of Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Education Centre, 117 Fountainbridge**

1. Welcome by Chair: Paul Beswick

2. Present & apologies for absence: Present: Paul Beswick (chair), Andrew Brough, Andy Devenport, Iain Black, Chris McGregor, Mary Neilson, Roger Colkett, Heather Goodare, Tim Puntis (Treasurer), Liz Summerfield, Ann Wigglesworth (Sec.), Michael Lister. Public: Richard Allen, Andreas Wilhelm, Jane Grey, Kit Russell, Apologies: Nick Munro.

3. Minutes of the AGM 11.6.2014. Acceptance & Matters arising The minutes were accepted as correct with the change from almond to cherry trees (item 5). The meeting notes that the donation for replacement Cherry Trees was not needed as these had been replaced together with 120+ trees of various species.

4. Chair's Survey 2014 – 2015 (attached) Paul Beswick presented a record of the TXCC involvements for the last year. He noted that we had worked on many Planning issues but it was hard to have any effect on the Plans for large Developments, as the Fountainbridge Brewery site, when they had the approval of the CEC Planning Department. He thanked all Community Councillors for having worked hard to oppose certain planning proposals which were passed in spite of being against the CEC's own development guide lines. He also thanked Roger Colkett for bringing Licence Applications before TXCC for discussion and lodging any objections at the due time.

5. Treasurer's Report & Accounts 2014G15: Tim Puntis issued the spreadsheet for Income & Expenditure 23.5.14 – 2.4.15. Balance 2.4.15 £2850.56 It was agreed that the account would be formally written up, presented to Richard Allen for Inspection and returned to TXCC June meeting for discussion & acceptance.

6. Election of Office Bearers: Current Office bearers resigned as required by the Constitution. Tim Puntis took the chair for the election of the Chair.

Chair: Paul Beswick agreed to stand again; proposed by Andy Devenport; seconded by Mary Neilson. No other nominations. Paul Beswick re-elected unanimously

Secretary: Ann Wigglesworth said she had wished to resign. There was 1 nomination. Andrew Brough proposed by Michael Lister, seconded by Andy Devenport: elected unanimously

Treasurer: Tim Puntis agreed to stand again: proposed by Ann Wigglesworth; seconded by Chris McGregor. No other Nominations. Tim Puntis elected unanimously.

7. Representatives of Local Interest Groups: Richard Allen was co-opted to represent Fountainbridge Canal Initiative at TXCC. Some groups were willing to be associated with TXCC but do not wish to have a representative e.g. Barclay Viewforth Church, Central Hall, Lister Housing, Brandfield Residents Association.

8. Special Responsibilities: Planning: Paul Beswick, Nick Munro Licensing: Roger Colkett Webmaster: Andrew Brough Media: Liz Summerfield

TXCC reps on other bodies:

- Neighbourhood Partnerships
 - CCNP Mary Neilson, Roger Colkett,
 - SCNP Ann Wigglesworth
 - SWNP Liz Summerfield, Andy Devenport
- MABLAG Chris Wigglesworth
- Canal Steering group Paul Beswick
- Safer Neighbourhood Teams:
 - SC Community Action Group: Ann Wigglesworth, Heather Goodare.
 - CC Safer Neighbourhood Team: Mary Neilson, Roger Colkett
 - SW Safer Neighbourhood Team: Liz Summerfield, Andy Devenport.
- Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC): Andrew Brough; Roger Colkett
- Interest groups: Active Living Action Group: Heather Goodare, Michael Lister
- HMOs: Paul Beswick, Chris McGregor
- Friends of the Meadows & Bruntsfield links: Heather Goodare & 6 other members
- Fountainbridge Canal Initiative: Liz Summerfield, Andy Devenport & others.

We also welcome new Community Councillor Iain Black. Michael Lister was co-opted to represent health for TXCC, both of them elected earlier in the year.

10. Monthly meetings: Location, Time & Frequency: No suitable alternatives in the area. Fire station Board room could only be in day time. The meeting undertook to look at changing the meeting to the last Wednesday of the month at the June meeting, but for now Agreed to continue with the Second Wednesday of the month, except for July, 7th 9pm at the Tollcross Community Centre 117 Fountainbridge.

11. AOCB none taken.

12. Report from the Chair,

TXCC 2014 - 2015 The year at a glance. PB 13.05.15

We should be proud of what we have managed in 11 months since the last AGM with the small group that we are. As chairman, I would like to thank all our members for their hard work. I won't give the details but just summarise some of our activities.

1. Representing Tollcross on; SCNP, SWNP, CCNP Health and Wellbeing (SCNP sub group) Edinburgh Health Forum Alcohol Focus Scotland Meadows & Bruntsfield Links Advisory Group (MABLAG) Safer Neighbourhood Teams HMO subgroup (SCNP sub group) TX Community Centre Management Committee EACC Planning Democracy meetings Short let properties; incl party flats. Meetings on local economy.

2. We have also been involved in consultations on the Strategic Development Plan, The City Centre Southern Arc Area Development Framework, New Council Planning Guidance, cycling routes, meadows activities, Public Toilets, 20mph, police priorities, planning management, CEC budget consultation, Overprovision and zoning of licensed premises, Student residences in the city, Fountainbridge Green, PANs on Bingo Hall, Quartermile, New flats at Springside, Canal developmentsd EDI., Skyparks.

3. We have engaged with the Police, Environmental wardens, our Councillors, CEC on: Road Repairs; especially potholes; Trade Waste Bins; Street Lighting; the Neighbourhood Partnership Teams, EUSA, Gardner's Crescent Residents Association, Brandfield St. Residents, West Tollcross Residents, Developers, local churches, Fountainbridge Canalside Initiative, various concerned members of the public.
4. We organised the Christmas Tree Lights Event, and had an input to the Canal and Meadows Festivals
5. Planning and Licensing: We have been active in Planning and Licensing matters, seeing the new planning regime introduced and making representations on planning applications – some large, like the master plan, Boroughmuir School, Student Flats, Lothian House, Wetherspoons, and some small, like more hot food shops. We have seen some lively debates on licensing issues.
6. Some of the issues that have exercised us have been short stay flats/hen nights graffiti, barbecues, HMOs, TX retail, the Thornybauk Recycling site, trees, recycling, statutory repairs, road & pavement repairs, street cleaning, Long Events on the Meadows, Licensing and Planning covered in 5 & 6.
7. We identified a need for greater public recognition of & involvement with TXCC and we now have a successful website and twitter account and will soon have our own notice board.
8. Our finances are on a sound footing.

Tollcross Community Council 2015 - 2016 - The year at a glance.

As a small group, we should be proud of what we have managed to achieve in twelve months since the last AGM. As chairman, I would like to thank all our members for their hard work.

We have changed our meeting date to the last Wednesday of the month. We have seen changes in personnel with Ann Wigglesworth standing down as secretary after many hard working years. Mary Neilson and Heather Goodare have also stood down as community councillors after being long time major contributors and Nick Munro is leaving our area and will be missed.

I won't give all the details of our year but just summarise some of our activities. We have Represented Tollcross on;

- SCNP, SWNP, CCNP
- Health and Wellbeing (SCNP sub group)
- Edinburgh Health Forum
- Alcohol Focus Scotland
- Environmental Forum (now joined with Town Centre Group)
- Meadows & Bruntsfield Links Advisory Group (MBLAG)
- Safer Neighbourhood Teams
- HMO subgroup (SCNP sub group)
- TX Community Centre Management Committee
- Fountainbridge Canal side Sounding Board
- Fountainbridge Canal Initiative
- EACC
- Planning Democracy meetings
- Edinburgh Equality and Rights Network

We have also engaged with the Police, Environmental wardens, our Councillors, the Neighbourhood Partnership Teams, EUSA, Brandfield St. Residents, West Tollcross Residents, Developers, local churches, Fountainbridge Canalside Initiative, TCAN and various concerned members of the public.

CCs have attended a large number of meetings which helps us make an input locally and keeps us informed. A small sample include meetings on land use, licensing, the canal, planning and health issues.

Some of the issues that have exercised us have been the Fire Museum, overprovision of student accommodation, managing the Meadows, Street audits and their follow ups, pavement ownership, publicity, street lighting, public toilets, CCTV, short stay flats/hen nights, graffiti, barbecues, HMOs, TX retail, the Thornybauk recycling site, trees, recycling, road & pavement repairs, street cleaning, long events on the Meadows, Licensing and Planning, NKS.

We have been involved in many consultations but have been unable to take part in all the consultations offered. Some examples include the Strategic Development Plan, Government review of planning, Planning for Student Housing, New Council Planning Guidance, cycling routes, meadows activities, public toilets, 20mph limits, police priorities, planning management, CEC budget consultation, overprovision and zoning of licensed premises, Fountainbridge Green, PANs on Bingo Hall, Quartermile, New flats at Springside, Canal developments- EDI., Skyparks.

We organised the Winter Festival, a Community Christmas event with TXCC, FCI and the Grove and had a presence at the Canal and Meadows Festivals and the Spring Fling.

Planning: We have been active in Planning matters. We are possibly the area with the largest proportion of development in Edinburgh. We have made representations on planning applications – some large, like the master plan, Boroughmuir School, New Springside Development, King's Stable Road Development, Student Flats, Lothian House, Skyparks Development, and some small, like more hot food shops and canal berths.

Licensing: We have maintained our position on there being an over-provision of liqueur licenses in our area and submitted representations on alcohol licenses – from Weatherspoon's to local off licenses. The year has seen us invite a range of interesting speakers; from the Minister for Local Government and Community Empowerment, Marco Biagi, to a representative of Living Streets, David Hunter.

We are still working on being more visible to the public and increasing our co-operation with other community councils. We need to do more on these issues and will continue our efforts. We have a successful website and twitter account and our finances are on a sound footing.

I think a pat on the back for all community councillors is warranted and hope that we can keep up the good work.

PB 01.05.16

INCOME		EXPENDITURE										Bank Balance				
Date	From	Project	Grants	Other	Interest	Payee	For	Cheque no.	Secretarial	Events	Accomm.	Publicity	Misc.	Donation	To Petty cash	Bank Balance
BANK																
02/04/2015	Bank				0.23											2850.33
13/04/2015	CEC		372.89		0.28	Bacay Church	Carol Sheets (Late presentation)	100081		20.00						2850.96
05/05/2015	Bank				0.30	Meadows Festival		100096		200.00						3223.45
29/05/2015	Bank				0.18	Richard Allen	Accountant	100151	30.00							3203.71
03/07/2015	Bank		690.92			Chris Mcgreggor	Presentation (A.W.)	100099					61.55			3203.71
06/08/2015	CEC		150.00			Timothy Purvis	For drinks for presentation	100100					19.46			3004.01
28/08/2015	CEC					Meadows Festival tent hire (2014)	Tent hire 2014 (Replacement chq)	100097		90.00						3004.19
02/08/2015						Michael Lister	Minutes (Fee)	100154	90.00							3603.96
16/10/2015						Andrew Brough	Software	100153	119.95							3753.96
30/09/2015						Ann Wigglesworth	Events	100152	69.92							3794.10
30/09/2015						Lucy Monro	Flag design	100155								3554.10
06/12/2015						Canalside Initiative	Christmas Event	100156		250.00						3304.23
28/10/2015						Michael Lister	Minutes (Fee)	100159	90.00	500.00						3114.23
22/01/2016						A. Devenport	Lighting for Christmas event	100157	90.00							2814.23
22/01/2016						Timothy Purvis	For food at AKVA (event)	100158		105.00						2524.23
28/04/2016						Michael Lister	Minutes (Fee)	100161	90.00							2389.23
13/05/2016						Treacrose Print	For two flag banners	100163		336.00						2279.23
	Bank interest															1943.23
Totals			0.00	1213.81	0.00				539.87	1501.00	0.00	0.00	81.01	0.00	0.00	

Tollcross Community Council
Meeting Agenda - 25th May 2016 7.30pm – 9.00pm
Tollcross Community Education Centre 117 Fountainbridge

1. **Welcome & apologies.**
2. **Police matters** – With local community officers.
3. **Minutes 27th April 2016** – Acceptance & Matters arising.
4. **Local Matters.**
 - a. **Banking declaration** – See text in Reports. **TP.**
 - b. **Green Doors Project** - Cllr Melanie Main.
 - c. **Meadows Festival** – **AB.**
 - d. **Thornybauk greening improvements & Outdoor Gym** on the Meadows. - **AW**
5. **Councillors' Comments & Questions.**
6. **Planning** – **PB.**
7. **Licensing** – **RC.**
 - a. **Consultation on late hours catering.**
8. **Reports in addition to those written.**
9. **AOCB**

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 29th June 2016 at 7pm,
Tollcross Community Centre

Tollcross Community Council

**Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 27th 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 Central 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

Banking Resolution – Text required to be passed

This resolution is required to be passed by TXCC in order for the bank to change our account signatories. Italicized explanations added by me (TP).

It was resolved that:

- The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. (“the Bank”) shall continue as our bankers in accordance with our original application
- the Bank shall be authorised to accept instructions (including written instructions sent by facsimile and electronic instructions through the use of digital signatures and/or identification numbers or passwords) from us in connection with the account(s) and the service, provided that the instructions are given and/or signed in accordance with the signing authority listed in the account signatories Section 4b. (*Original signatories*) Instructions shall mean: cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes or other orders for payment drawn, made or accepted on our behalf (even if the payments cause the account(s) to be overdrawn) and requests or instructions in writing concerning the account(s), our affairs or property (including the opening of the new account(s), the arranging of facilities and creation of security)
- the Bank shall be authorised to honour all cheques and all other documents made or accepted on our behalf even if such payment causes any accounts to be overdrawn or increase any existing overdraft, provided that such documents are signed in accordance with the specimen signatures shown in the account signatories Section 4b
- the Bank shall act on all specimen signatures in accordance with instruction, notice, request or other document in writing concerning our account (including the opening of new accounts), affairs or property, as shown in the account signatories Section 4b
- the Bank shall be sent a copy of any future resolutions which affect the terms of these resolutions
- the Bank shall be sent a copy of any changes in our Memorandum and Articles of Association/Regulations, constitution, rulebook or byelaws
- the Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of Directors, Trustees, Members or Officials, where applicable some charities are also registered as Ltd, so will need to include full list
- the Bank shall be notified in writing of any change of official authorised to sign on our behalf
- the Bank shall otherwise continue to operate our account(s) in accordance with the business account mandate
- the Bank shall be notified in writing of any overall change of control in the organisation
- all signatories to the account are aged 18 or over

- in the case of joint account holders, we agree that on application by one of us for an overdraft on the account the Bank may provide oral pre-contractual information to one of us only prior to the overdraft being agreed. In this case any overdraft terms will be sent to multiple account holders after the overdraft is agreed and available to use.

Authority for additional signatories to draw on account

I/We[†] authorise and request that until you receive written notice from me/us[†] to the contrary to treat and consider additional signatories listed in Section 3b (*New signatories*) as fully empowered by me/us and on my/our[†] behalf:

- to draw, sign and endorse cheques and other orders for payment on my/our account(s) with you
- to draw, sign, accept and endorse bills of exchange and promissory notices on my/our account(s) with you
- to receive cheques, statements and other vouchers relating to my/our account(s) with you
- to withdraw all or any of my/our securities, documents, or other property or anything else held by you by way of security or for safe custody collection or any other purpose whatsoever on my/our account(s)
- to arrange terms with you for the negotiation or discount of any documents
- to negotiate with you for and take advances whether by way of loan, overdraft discount or otherwise with or without security
- to charge, pledge and deposit with you any of my/our property upon such terms as you may require to secure the payment or discharge to you on demand of all monies and liabilities which shall for the time being (and whether on or at time after such demand) be due owing or incurred to you by me/us whether actually or contingently and whether solely or jointly with any other person and whether as principal or surety including interest discount commission and other banking charges
- generally to act on my/our behalf in all transactions and matters of business with you and to comply fully with any account terms and conditions and security requirements you may operate in connection with my/our account(s) with you now or in the future
- to act on the above instructions and in particular to pay and honour all such cheques, orders, bills, notes or requests as above mentioned notwithstanding that any such payment may cause my/our said account(s) to be overdrawn or may increase any existing overdraft.

Tim Puntis

Meeting of Meadows and Bruntsfield Links Advisory Group (MABLAG) Monday 16th May

The ongoing problem of barbecue use on the Meadows was discussed at length, particularly with regard to damage caused by scorching the grass and litter not being properly disposed of. The idea of a total ban, while mooted, was recognised as impractical but discussion of how to minimise the problems included continuing to circulate the FOMBL advice leaflets and asking local shops selling barbecues to display these. Information about mats to place beneath instant barbecues is now available. It was suggested that events such as the Meadows Festival should be used to circulate this information as widely as possible. Also to be investigated is the smoke nuisance caused by multiple barbecue use. The figures for Fire Brigade callouts are to be monitored over the season.

There was unhappiness expressed that the Underbelly contract had been extended by a further two days for this year without notification but it was felt that the more serious matter was the breach of the agreed ring-fencing of £42K from Underbelly for use in the Meadows by the Council and this is being investigated. In relation to this site it was explained that to minimise the damage to the grass during the Festival the ground is thoroughly prepared before use then remedial treatments are begun immediately to hasten the recovery of the surface.

FOMBL have two new Volunteer Co-ordinators and it is hoped that the volunteer work will now be able to be expanded as a result.

Discussed was the naming of the new path in the East Meadows and one suggestion has been to call it after William Burnes the father of Robert Burns who worked on the draining of this area but other ideas are welcome.

The latest news for the installation of the refurbished Jawbones is that the final preparation of the site is due to take place during July with the bones to be in place by the end of that month. There are plans to have an unveiling ceremony but these are contingent on the work progressing as scheduled. A list of future events on the Meadows was provided.

The revised Management Plan for MABLAG has been delayed but it will be emailed to interested parties (TXCC naturally!) so that everyone may discuss what is proposed in time for the next meeting.

Iain Black

OPEN SPACE STRATEGY REVIEW 18 May 2016 Edinburgh City Council Chambers

This well attended review (over 40 people) was designed to look at the council open space policy as set out in 2010 in particular regarding:

- small green space
- large green space
- Graveyards as green space
- Play areas
- The following were found as priorities
- large green areas:
- community control / a base for community
- existing vs new communities

- health safety security
- small green/ graveyards areas
- design and use
- what is their designation
- some of the graveyards are still in use /visited by relatives etc
- others are historic sites of national importance
- Play areas
- Variety availability for everyone

Overall there was considerable concern that certain common factors need to be addressed were:

- signage and direction
- access for all
- nature and eco conservation and preservation
- management and maintenance

Also there was no mention of: The Patrick Geddes gardens/trail or the John Muir way - much seems to depend on the right contractor/designer/architect and a benevolent developer. The Frogstone development was also offered as a "way forward" but as little or no consultation had been forthcoming it was another designers dream.

Richard Allen

Museum of Fire Deputation

Mr Chairman and members of the Committee I would like to thank you for allowing our group, Friends of the Fire Museum to present our case in the campaign to save the Museum of Fire being moved from its current location in the Central Fire Station at Lauriston Place by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. I would like to give a short piece on our historical claim whilst my other two colleagues will cover the ownership and hopefully the future.

As far back as 1703 the City Fathers recognised the dangers from fire and laid the Edinburgh Act which was responsible for forming a company for the quenching of fires as well as requiring fire prevention measures to address the ever increasing in size and density of the city's buildings.

It was finally in 1824 that again the City Fathers took the momentous decision to replace the existing Insurance fire companies and replace them with the first Municipal Fire Brigade in the UK. Their main reason for this was the need for a fire service that would be free to the citizens of Edinburgh.

James Braidwood was appointed the first Firemaster aged only 24 and he formed the Edinburgh Fire Engine Establishment. He was a man of great practical knowledge and applied this in the way fires were tackled and he produced the first manual of Construction of Fire Engines and Apparatus in 1830 and this was to be used by other Fire brigades throughout the UK and he has been attributed to being the 'Father of the Fire Service'.

He later went on to take over and reorganise the London Fire Brigade where sadly he gave his life at the great fire of Tooley Street in 1861 and his funeral was one of the biggest in London's history which reflects the high esteem of this person.

The fire station in the High Street became inadequate towards the end of the 19th century and so a state of the art new fire station was located and built in Lauriston Place in 1900 under the direction of Firemaster Pordage. The ornate Victorian architectural qualities of this building and its historical connections have resulted in it being listed as a Grade A building and forms part of the Edinburgh World heritage status.

Through the ages Edinburgh has been recognised as one of the largest innovators of the development of Fire Engineering. One of the most recent examples would be that of Firemaster Frank Rushbrook who wrote the first manual on Marine Firefighting and went on to set up the seat of Fire Engineering at Edinburgh University which celebrated its 40th anniversary.

I would now like to pass onto Elaine who will talk about the current situation.

Mr /Madam Chairperson, I would also like to thank you for allowing us to present our case to you today. The current situation is, with no advertising, café or commercial shop we have still been able to make the museum attractive to over 11,000 visitors over the last two years. And we the volunteers think this could be so much more. We already have a huge advantage in that we are located on the major Edinburgh tour bus route.

Lots of our visitors are from the worldwide firefighting community, who recognise and appreciate the significance of Edinburgh being the birthplace of Fire Engineering.

We feel that if we were allowed to publicise the museum we could have many more visitors. School trips used to be made to the museum as part of the curriculum and we still have facilities which if these were reintroduced could be accommodated.

Over 6000 people have taken the time to sign our petition to date.

Thank you for listening. And I will now pass over to Richard who will talk about the potential future of the museum.

You have heard about Edinburgh's proud history. I find it quite amazing that Braidwood appears to have created a culture of constant development within the Edinburgh's firefighting community. A culture of constant improvement which was to be passed on through the generations to the present day. It is also amazing that Edinburgh still has in its possession, fire engines from the very first and on through the ages. This legacy has clearly been cherished since 1824. These artefacts and the Lauriston Place building are our link with the past. Each guardian of this is a link in a chain and a chain is only as strong as the weakest link. I would suggest that we are now an extremely weak link.

The Lauriston Place building is about to be disposed of by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. With the impending loss of this unique museum building the collections survival is extremely precarious. Despite SFRS assurances that the museum will be retained, no credible plans or actions have been offered to allay our groups deep concerns.

Our group are of the opinion that the museum's prospects of survival are to be had by Lauriston being retained as a museum and developed as a commercial enterprise. A fine example is that of a ship destined for the breakers yard. Bids to save and display her were sought and Edinburgh won. Britannia is now one of the most visited attractions in Britain and self-funding.

The fascination of fire engines is universal and we have an amazing story to tell. Coupled with Edinburgh's visitor numbers and a central location, this should be an enterprise grasped with both hands.

Why has this not been explored before now you will be asking. I can only excuse my fellow officers of the past by pleading that they cherished their proud heritage but were in the business of keeping Edinburgh safe and not exploiting it as a commercial visitor attraction.

This is the nub of this dilemma Scottish Fire and Rescue Service do not have the money to keep the museum or its exhibits. The Scottish Government are leaving the Service to maintain the museum but without funding from them. As in the past the Service has no desire or ability to put the Museum on a sound financial footing.

The former Strathclyde Fire Service were canny enough to separate their museum before Nationalisation and now enjoy a healthy independent future. I think the present Chief officer should consider retrospectively creating a similar setup here in Edinburgh.

This is an Edinburgh issue but not in Edinburgh's control. As an asset once in Edinburgh's ownership I suggest that if the SFRS are not able to fulfil their promises that the Council assists us with a community take-over or buy out.

We have recently been included in the book 'Edinburgh's Hidden Gems', which is a tragedy because we should be a jewel in Edinburgh's Crown.

That is all from the Friends of the Fire Museum and we would like to thank the Committee for allowing us the opportunity to bring to the elected officials and the people of Edinburgh present here and watching on line the campaign to retain the Museum of Fire in its rightful home at Lauriston Place.

Liz Summerfield.



South Central Neighbourhood Partnership. June Meeting

Meeting of the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership

When: 13/06/2016 at 18:00 Meeting Ends:13/06/2016 at 20:00. Where: City Chambers

ON-STREET SHORT-TERM PARKING

Edinburgh has so far installed around 3000 public bike parking places (a standard Sheffield rack counts as 2 spaces) and many hundreds more are planned, with a first phase this May, and 3 further phases over the next 12 months.

Phase 1 brings 444 new spaces, at 81 locations across the city. Areas getting multiple sets of racks include Bruntsfield Pl, Fountainbridge, Market St, Nicolson St and Portobello Prom. Phase 2, expected in July/August includes long-awaited Princes Street, with 10 locations.

Find Out More

There's an online map of existing council onstreet bike parking at edinburgh.gov.uk. Search for bike parking then follow the links to the map. Then, in the legend, click the '4' beside Transport, then Cycle Facilities, then tick the Cycle Parking box. Now move the map around as you wish, and use the slider at the top left to zoom in.

The map also includes masses more information on cycle facilities and many other useful topics.

Suggest Locations

The Council is keen to get suggestions for other useful locations, onstreet and offstreet. Send your ideas to cycling@edinburgh.gov.uk, saying why it's a good place for yourself or others. Also - suggest whether Sheffield racks, pole hoops, or other types of parking.

Tweet by Spokes CycleCampaign @SpokesLothian

#bikeparking plans by @Edinburgh_CC. From next Spokes bulletin!! #Portobello #Bruntsfield #Southside #Fountainbridge pic.twitter.com/YkcTPnPsmF

Scotland's best community event returns to the Meadows with a weekend full of activities for all ages!

- Red Dog Music Stage
- Totally Sound Features Stage
- Family and Kids area
- Market
- Performance area
- Forest Cafe area
- Dog Show & competition
- Community area
- Summerhall cafe and art area
- And much more!

FREE FESTIVAL MEADOWS 4 & 5TH JUNE 2016

www.meadowsfestival.org

Special thanks to Red Dog Music, Access Trainers Association, Lady Stair, Knapton, Bawbee Library, Red South Media, OSS (The Edinburgh Dog and Cat Home, Kibbing Burn and Access Community Council)

Meadows Festival

Edinburgh's free volunteer-run music & community festival, 4th & 5th June 2016

Tollcross Community Council Councillors: Paul Beswick, Iain Black, Andrew Brough, Roger Colkett, Andrew Devenport, Chris McGregor, Nick Munro, Tim Puntis, Liz Summerfield, Ann Wigglesworth.

Tollcross Community Council Office Bearers: Paul Beswick **Chair/Planning**, Iain Black **MABLAG**, Andrew Brough **Secretary/EACC**, Roger Colkett **Licensing/EACC/CCNP**, Andrew Davenport **SWNP**, Nick Munro **Planning**, Tim Puntis **Treasurer/EARN**, Liz Summerfield **SWNP/Media Monitoring**, Ann Wigglesworth **SCNP**.

Co-Opted Members: Richard Allen **FCI**, Michael Lister **EHF**.

Tollcross Councillors: **Ward 9 Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart** Andrew Burns (Lab) Gavin Corbett (Green) David Key (SNP) **Ward 10 Meadows/Morningside** Paul Godzik (Lab) Sandy Howat (SNP) Mark Mcinnes (Con) Melanie Main (Green) **Ward 11 City Centre** Karen Doren (Lab) Jonna Mowat (Con) Alasdair Rankin (SNP).

Tollcross MSP's: **Edinburgh Central** Ruth Davidson (Con).

Lothian Regional List Jeremy Balfour (Con), Miles Briggs (Con), Kezia Dugdale (Lab), Neil Findlay (Lab), Alison Johnstone (Green), Gordon Lindhurst (Con), Andy Wightman (Green).

Tollcross MP's: **Edinburgh East** Tommy Sheppard (SNP) **Edinburgh South West** Joanna Cherry (SNP).

Abbreviations: **CCNP** – City Centre Neighbourhood Partnership. **EACC** – Edinburgh Association of Community Councils. **EHF** – Edinburgh Health Forum **EARN** – Equality and Rights Network **FCI** – Fountainbridge Canal Initiative. **MABLAG** – Meadows and Bruntsfield Links Advisory Group. **MP** – Member of Parliament **MSP** – Member of the Scottish Parliament **SCNP** – South Central Neighbourhood Partnership. **SWNP** – South West Neighbourhood Partnership.

Contact Tollcross Community Council via:
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