

Tollcross Community Council
Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 29 March 2017 at 7pm
Lock25, 85-87 Fountainbridge

Because the Tollcross Community Centre was closed on account of drain problems and no-one had prior notice of this closure, of necessity it was decided to hold our meeting at Lock25, to whom we are grateful. The minutes of this meeting are therefore fairly minimal.

1. Welcome and Apologies –

Present: Andrew Brough (Chair), Paul Beswick (Treasurer), Liz Summerfield (Secretary); Richard Allen, Iain Black, Roger Colkett, Andy Devenport, Michael Lister, Chris McGregor, Ann Wigglesworth. **CEC Councillors:** Cllr Andrew Burns, Cllr Joanna Mowat. **Police:** none. **Members of the public:** Claire Miller, Anne Wimberley. **Apologies:** Fiona Allen, Katie McGhee, David Liddle; Cllr Corbett, Cllr Doran, Cllr Key, Cllr Main, Cllr Rankin.

The Chair opened by thanking everyone for agreeing to hold the meeting at Lock25, and added several items to the agenda.

2. Declaration of interests – none

3. Police Matters – none in attendance

4. Presentation on Shared Repairs – held over until April meeting

**5. Minutes and matters arising from meeting of 22 February 2017 –
Correction – Item 7 – Licensing – ‘1st March’ should read ‘27 February’**

Matters arising –

Planning Consultation of the Scottish Government – after some discussion about the merits and otherwise of making a representation to the Consultation, it was agreed that Roger Colkett should make a submission to the Consultation on behalf of TXCC.

ACTION – Roger Colkett

6. Local matters –

a. A-boards – Andrew Brough reported that while the SCNP put on hold a report on A-boards in the neighbourhood partnership area, as CEC had commissioned a city-wide report to be undertaken. Cllr Joanna Mowat gave some further background to the matter and suggested that the policy resulting from the current report ought to be city-wide and unequivocal.

b. Appointment of Auditor – it was proposed by Paul Beswick, and seconded by Andrew Brough, to appoint Prof Nick Christofi as auditor of the accounts for the current year. This was agreed unanimously.

c. Laptop for Secretary – following a discussion about the desirability to provide the Secretary with a laptop, it was decided that Liz Summerfield should find out prices and make a grant application to the CCNP for the purchase of equipment.

ACTION – Liz Summerfield

d. Hustings – the Chair reminded the meeting that the hustings would take place on Wednesday 12 April at 7pm at the Lauriston Halls, Lauriston St, with doors opening at 6.30pm. He asked for volunteers to assist with the event. The following volunteered to assist: Richard Allen, Paul Beswick,

Iain Black, Roger Colkett, Michael Lister, Ann Wigglesworth, whom the Chair would contact in advance. Also discussed, was the question of publicity further afield and further of the TXCC area. The general feeling was that the hustings were already well-advertised.

ACTION – Andrew Brough

7. Councillors' Comments –

Cllr Burns reported that roadworks and construction at the new Boroughmuir High School continue to dominate his mailbag.

Cllr Mowat reported on the recent Corporate Policy and Strategy meeting at which was discussed the matter of 'short-stay commercial visitor accommodation' and that the CEC was seeking powers from the Scottish Government to register and licence these lets. She also discussed the desire of CEC to incorporate aspects of the local management plan into the Management Plan for the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site, so bringing the two together to allow day-to-day matters to be addressed more easily.

On the question of rogue landlords, and the seeming helplessness of CEC and Police Scotland to intervene in the matter, Cllr Mowat offered to pursue this matter with CEC and would report back at the following meeting. Some local residents had recently had a meeting with their MSP who advised them to go to the press and also to work through Andy Wightman, the Green MSP. It was sincerely hoped that following the election of the new CEC there will be all-party support to address and resolve this dreadful situation which is resulting in people in our area living in a state of alarm.

ACTION – Joanna Mowat

Cllr Corbett sent his apologies and a report which the Chair read:

'The big issue over the last month has been the plan to make Lochrin basin lane a through road from Lochrin Place to Lower Gilmore Place; and to make it an access to the underground car park in the new flats on the Arnold Clark site. This is a ludicrous plan, in my view, and I have met with residents in 1 and 2 Lochrin Basin Lane, plus a drop in session at Tollcross Community Centre. I have submitted my objection to the draft road construction consent and given residents advice about how best to frame their own submissions. I'm reasonably confident that common sense will prevail.

2. I helped secure some money from Sustrans for Scottish Canals to commission a feasibility study into improvements to the canal towpath which would manage the competing pressures of cycling and walking better than at present. The first of two 'walkshops' has taken place.

FOLLOW UP TO LAST MEETING –

3. I passed on comments from the headteacher at Tollcross PS on the issue with signage that was raised at the last meeting. It seems fine to me.

4. As reported elsewhere in the papers I had follow up conversations with Police Scotland after discussion on policing and rough sleeping at the last meeting.

5. I'll pass on the papers from EDI on cultural quarter workshop as soon as I get them myself!

There were two general questions that followed from Cllr Corbett's report: Ann Wigglesworth asked about an update on the 'allotments' on the Meadows and Andy Devenport asked about the plans of Scottish Canals to make adjustments to the cycle path to improve matters for walkers and cyclists alike. To the former question, the Chair replied that he has drafted a letter to FoMBL; to the latter, it was suggested that Andy Devenport might wish to try to find out more information about these plans and report back to the next meeting. [See also item 2 in Cllr Corbett's report.]

ACTION – Andy Devenport

8. Planning – Paul Beswick reported on the following:

1. **17/00855/FUL** – proposed change of use from Sauna/Leisure to Backpackers Hostel at 91 Lothian Road. No objections were raised.

2. **17/01014/PAN** – new application for India Buildings.

Paul Beswick would circulate dates of the exhibition once they were available.

3. **PAN – further development at Edinburgh Quay** – 18/19 May.

Again, Paul Beswick would circulate more information about this, once it was available.

4. **Dewar Place development** – Paul Beswick reported that an application for PPP (Planning Permission in Principle) would be submitted in the next few weeks and that he would wait until then before making any comments on the application.

ACTION – Paul Beswick

9. **Licensing** – Roger Colkett reported jubilantly that the objection to the application of No.1 Show Bar (formerly Hooters) to vary the terms of their licence regarding amplified music requiring amplified music had been successful, with the Licensing Board having voted 5 – 3 against the application.

Bruno's Diner, 103 High Riggs – an application to extend the licence to 10pm weekdays and to 3pm at week-ends had been submitted, along with an application for a music extension. Neither was considered to be in the interest of residents at High Riggs/Lauriston Place. Roger Colkett would submit an objection on behalf of TXCC and contact Dunedin-Canmore Housing Association (enquiries@dunedincanmore.org.uk) to seek support.

ACTION – Roger Colkett

10. Reports other than those written – none

11. **AOCB** – Ann Wigglesworth enquired about the demolition of parts of the wall at the foot of Chalmers Street. It appears that part of the wall has been demolished to allow access, with a new entrance being made a little further east, and the rest of the wall repaired.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 26 April 2017 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Centre**