



TOLL CROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Agenda
Minutes
Reports**

**TOLLCROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MAY 2017
Tollcross Community Centre
Wednesday 31st May 2017, 19.00pm**

- 1 Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of AGM 2016
4. Matters rising
5. Election of Executive
6. Reports
7. Accounts
8. AOCB

Tollcross Community Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Wednesday 25 May 2016 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Education Centre, 117 Fountainbridge

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Andrew Brough (Secretary), Tim Puntis (Treasurer), Richard Allen, Roger Colkett, Andy Devenport, Michael Lister, Chris McGregor, Liz Summerfield, Ann Wigglesworth.

Police: PC Ponniah, (St Leonards); PC Pennycook (Oxgangs), PC Wotton (Oxgangs). **CEC Councillors:** Cllr Gavin Corbett, Cllr Melanie Main. **Members of the public:** Mary Nielson, Andreas Wilhelm. **Apologies:** Paul Beswick, Iain Black, Nick Munro, David Liddle; Cllrs Andrew Burns, Karen Doran, David Key, Joanna Mowat.

In the absence of the Chair, the Treasurer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of AGM of 13 May 2015 – acceptance and matters arising.

Andy Devenport moved to accept the minutes, with this being seconded by Chris McGregor. There were no matters arising.

3. Chair's Review of the year 2015-16 –

The review had been previously circulated with the AGM papers.

4. Election of Office Bearers –

Chair – Paul Beswick was nominated unopposed and was duly re-elected as Chair.

Treasurer – Tim Puntis was nominated unopposed and thus duly re-elected as Treasurer.

Secretary – Andrew Brough was nominated unopposed and thus duly re-elected as Secretary.

The following were elected to represent TXCC on the various bodies and groups listed below, and/or with particular remits:

Planning – Paul Beswick

MABLAG – Iain Black

Neighbourhood Partnerships (NP):

South West NP – Andy Devenport.

It was noted that the acoustic of St Aidan's where the meetings of the SWNP are held is atrociously poor to the point of being unacceptable.

ACTION: Cllr Corbett to raise this issue with the SWNP and CEC to find an alternative venue for these meetings.

City Centre NP – Roger Colkett

South Central NP – Andrew Brough

Neighbourhood Partnership Safer Neighbourhood Teams:

South West – Andy Devenport

South Central – Ann Wigglesworth

City Centre – Roger Colkett

Website – Andrew Brough
Communications Group – Tim Puntis
Media monitoring – Liz Summerfield
Health – Chris McGregor
Built Environment – Michael Lister (co-opted)
Fountainbridge Canal Initiative (FCI) – Richard Allen (co-opted)
Licensing – Roger Colkett (with Iain Black deputising)
Equality and Rights Network (EARN) – Tim Puntis
Edinburgh Association of Community Councils (EACC) – Roger Colkett and Andrew Brough
Tollcross Community Centre Association Management Committee – Ann Wigglesworth
Edinburgh Civic Forum – Roger Colkett
Fountainbridge Canalside Sounding Board – Ann Wigglesworth
Meadows’ Festival – Liz Summerfield
FOMBL – Andy Devenport
Canalside Festival – Richard Allen (co-opted)
Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust – Michael Lister (co-opted)
Licensing Forum – Roger Colkett to deputise for Old Town Community Council when required
Fountainbridge Steering Group – Richard Allen (co-opted)

5. Treasurer’s Report –

The Treasurer presented the accounts for 2015-16, previously circulated with the AGM papers. Because the lay-out of the accounts required to be slightly amended, it was decided to hold this item over until the June 2016 meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

**Date of next AGM: Wednesday 31 May 2017 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Centre.**

Tollcross Community Council Annual Review 2016 – 2017

As a small group, we have done a tremendous amount over the last year, and as Chairperson I want to thank everyone for their various meetings attending, letters written and questions asked across the last year.

It would be remiss of me if I didn't start this review by putting on record our wholesale thanks for the hard work of Dr. Paul Beswick, who stood down as Chair of the Community Council last September. Over the years, Paul has battled against developers with one of the largest developments at Fountainbridge in the City for many a year. He has cheerfully guided the Community Council through many issues, including the Meadows, bins, bins and more bins and the thorny issues surrounding planning in our area. We really are grateful for all the hard work over the years and his continuing assistance in planning and being our current Treasurer.

At the last AGM in September 2016 (due to a Community Council tri-annual Election) We elected a new Secretary in Liz Summerfield, Paul Beswick moved to take on the Treasurers role, and I took on the role of Chair.

This year we have invited to our meetings the Police, local Councillors, Council Officers and a certain leader of Her Majesties Official Opposition at Holyrood. They came and listened to our concerns for the local area and helped with us to make Tollcross a better place, to live, work and play in.

For the first time, ever we successfully applied for and got money from the Neighbourhood Environment Programme - Roads Capital. So early in 2017 the Council put in new footpaths – on Lower Gilmore Place, to accommodate buggies going along to the Pregnancy and Parents Centre. Now parents can walk along in safety with their children and buggies on a safe and wide pavement.

A couple of years back we undertook with the charity Living Streets an audit in Tollcross to tackle street clutter. This year Tollcross lobbied SCNP and others to finally get the Council to look at street clutter and A-boards in a city-wide solution, which will be beginning its work soon.

Another first for Tollcross Community Council was to hold local hustings for the 2017 Council Elections. We had between 40/50 people attend and it was a great night that allowed locals to ask questions of those standing in the City Centre Ward which now due to boundary changes covers 95% of Tollcross.

Unfortunately, we have lost the battle in a few places in the last year - including the fight to keep the Museum of Fire in Lauriston open. We have also fought and lost various planning decisions, and many a cheap student resident halls will be seen in and around our area. Oh, and new hotels too. But this is more or less par for the course over the last few years in the City Centre.

To finish on a happier note, 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.

I think a pat on the back for all Community Councillors is warranted and hope that we can keep up the good work in the year ahead.

Andrew Brough
Chair, TXCC May 2017

**TOLLCROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
AGENDA
Wednesday 31st May 2017, 19.30pm
Tollcross Community Centre**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Declaration of interests
4. Police report & questions – Sgt Bob Mason, City Centre
5. Minutes of last meeting
6. Matters arising
7. Reports
 - IB - FoMBL
 - ES – Spring Fling
 - ES – Meadows Festival
8. Memorial to David Rintoul, first chair of TXCC

Tollcross Community Council
Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 26 April 2017 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Centre, 117 Fountainbridge

1. Welcome and Apologies –

Present: Andrew Brough (Chair); Fiona Allen, Richard Allen, Iain Black, Roger Colkett, Michael Lister, Chris McGregor, Katie McGhee, Ann Wigglesworth. **CEC Councillor:** Cllr Andrew Burns. **Police:** none. **Members of the public:** Claire Miller, Andreas Wilhelm, Anne Wimberley. **Visitor:** Marie McArthur (Old Town Community Council). **Apologies:** Paul Beswick, Andy Devenport, Liz Summerfield; Cllr Corbett, Cllr Doran, Cllr Key, Cllr Main, Cllr Mowat, Cllr Rankin.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the April meeting and apologised for the last-minute change of venue which was clearly not satisfactory.

ACTION – As a member of the Tollcross Community Education Centre Management Committee, Richard Allen was asked to try and out why we had been displaced.

2. Declaration of interests – none

3. Police Matters – there were no police present

4. Presentation on Shared Repairs – the manager of the Edinburgh Shared Repairs Service of CEC introduced herself and her case-officer colleagues and spoke to the background and purpose of this pilot scheme that works with private property homeowners.

The scheme has the following three objectives: a/ to help maintain the fabric of the city by supporting, encouraging and enabling owners to take responsibility for planning and organising repairs and maintenance; b/ to intervene when public health and safety is at risk due to unsafe buildings; c/ to intervene when owners have exhausted all the other reasonable means of agreeing and undertaking a repair. The scheme also provides four services: emergency repairs; advice and information; intervention; and enforcement. The team gave an overview of the processes involved in the service, which is based on the tenement management scheme that forms part of the Tenement (Scotland) Act, 2004, and referred to an 'evidence' pack for owner-occupiers needing to progress repairs to common area and which can be obtained from the Council website. For further information visit www.edinburgh.gov.uk/sharedrepairs or telephone 031 529 6778 or email at esrs@edinburgh.gov.uk. The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland also has a website - www.underoneroof.scot - which provides 'impartial advice on repairs and maintenance for flat owners in Scotland.'

5. Minutes and matters arising from meeting of 29 March 2017 –

Corrections – the draft minutes, circulated earlier, correctly recorded the meeting as having taken place at 'Lock25, 85-87 Fountainbridge', which appeared incorrectly in the final document as 'Tollcross Community Centre, 117 Fountainbridge'; the draft minutes correctly recorded the date of the meeting as '29 March' but in the final document this appeared incorrectly as '25 January.'

Item 9 – Licensing - Roger Colkett asked for the hyperbolic 'jubilantly' to be removed.

The Minutes were then proposed by Andrew Brough as being correct, with Richard Allen seconding this.

6. Local matters

1. AirBNB – the Chair intimated that TXCC and Southside CC would jointly be hosting a public meeting with Andy Wightman, MSP following the May Council elections, with a view to introducing legislation through the Scottish Parliament. It was suggested by Marie McArthur (OTCC) that other Community Councils affected by AirBNB might be interested in taking part in this initiative and that

the Old Town CC would be in touch with Andy Wightman to be involved. Clair Miller also suggested that Leith Central CC might be interested.

2. Feedback on Hustings – the general response to the Hustings was positive, and it was felt that, notwithstanding the lack of amplification, it could be judged a success. As one of the candidates, Claire Miller thanked TXCC for hosting the Hustings. Thanks were expressed to Tim Puntis for chairing the event, and to Andrew Brough, Roger Colkett and Liz Summerfield for organising the event. Anent running a General Election Hustings, it was felt that the time-frame was very tight and that there would be cost implications, but that TXCC would be happy to promote and support other Hustings that might be taking place in the area.

3.a. Meadows Festival – after some discussion about the usefulness of having a presence and a stall at the Meadows Festival 2017, when this has now become a city-wide event, there was agreement not to have a presence at the Meadows Festival, and instead to focus in participating at the Edinburgh Canal Festival on 17 June, which is a more local event. It was also agreed that because of budgetary constraints, it would not be possible to make a donation to the Meadows Festival as had been done in previous years.

3.b. Spring Fling – at the 22 February meeting, Liz Summerfield had suggested that TXCC share a stall with the Meadows' Festival at this event on 6 May and was looking for volunteers to staff the stall. It was agreed to take a stall, provided that sufficient people could staff this. The following had previously expressed an interest in helping out – Roger Colkett, David Liddle, Chris McGregor.

ACTION – Chris McGregor to contact Liz Summerfield about this event.

4. Allotment at Meadows – the Chair updated the meeting about the matter, saying that the use of this space had wider future implications for common good land as a whole, and that it was not acceptable for decisions to be made about alternative land use without wide public consultation. As a consequence, answers to these questions were still being pursued. Some members expressed concern about a 'land-grab' and the gradual extension of the wild flower garden; the misunderstanding of the powers of council officers of the procedures involved in public consultation; and the fact that TXCC does not currently have corporate membership of FoMBL. After further discussion it was proposed to progress the matter of corporate membership which had been previously been agreed at the November 2016 meeting.

ACTION – Iain Black

5. Spittal Street Clinic – a resident of Grindlay Street has expressed their concern about drug-users from the Spittal Street Clinic forcing their way in and onto stairs in tenements in the surrounding area to shoot up, leaving used needles. The resident has been in contact with the Clinic, but found that they were very unhelpful. The resident is looking to Tollcross Community Council for advice about what best to do next – Police, CEC, MSP, MP, NHS Lothian or whoever is appropriate. The resident did say that they would welcome the creation of a 'shooting gallery' to take drug use off the streets and stairs and into a supervised facility in the area.

It was advised that the resident contact Police Scotland in the first instance.

7. Councillors' Comments and Questions – Cllr Burns intimated that this would be his final meeting of TXCC and his final meeting of any of the CCs in his ward. He reported on the ongoing building works at the new Boroughmuir High School and the associated road works, which continued to generate much debate, and that officers in the South West Neighbourhood Partnership continued to work particularly closely with the contractors, with a view to completion by January 2018. More positively, Cllr Burns was able to report on the proposed application for student flats at 160 Dundee Street, which planning officials had recommended to be refused and had indeed been refused by the Planning Committee. (See 8.8 below.)

As this was Cllr Burns's final meeting, the Chair wished to record our heart-felt thanks to him for his help, support and encouragement, for all his hard work as Council Leader and as one of our ward Councillors, and for so conscientiously attending our meetings.

There was one question about air-quality and pollution and whether there was a CEC policy on advising mothers and toddlers to use non-main roads where possible, given the heavy traffic and exhaust levels. Cllr Burns replied saying that there are parts of the city where air-quality is poor and falls below agreed standards, and that there is a need for the creation of low-emission zones, particularly in the city centre, and that this would be a matter for the new Council after the 5 May elections.

8. Planning – Paul Beswick, who was absent, had submitted a report:

1. Reference: 17/01109/PAN – mixed use development offices, hotel/aparthotel, residential (flats) and other commercial uses including classes 1, 2, 3, 11 and public house all with associated access roads, landscaping public realm and car parking at site at former 159 Fountainbridge (East of EDI site up to Edinburgh Quay).

PAN Exhibitions: 18th May 2pm-5pm Fountainbridge Library; 19th May, Central Hall 4pm-7pm

2. Reference: 17/01150/FUL – new single storey building to provide common room facilities associated with adjacent student halls of residence at 1-15 Riego Street, EH3 9BL

NO OBJECTION

3. Reference: 17/01535/FUL – change of use of former Lothian and Borders Fire Service headquarters (Class 4 Business and Class 10 Non Residential Institutions) to Higher Education facility (Class 10 Non Residential Institutions) at 76-8 Lauriston Place, EH3 9DE

NO OBJECTION

4. Reference: 16/05400/LBC – enabling works for restoration and re-use of the building as an education facility by the University of Edinburgh at the former Royal Infirmary Site, 1 Lauriston Place, EH3 9EF

5. Reference: 17/01527/LBC – works in relation to creating a facility for the University of Edinburgh, including demolition of gatehouse at the former Royal Infirmary Site, 1 Lauriston Place, EH3 9EF

Note – 17/01527/LBC was approved on 21 April 2017 (TXCC and Historic Environment Scotland and others objected).

6. Reference: 17/01616/LBC – works in relation to restoration + re-use of the Surgical Hospital of former Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, 1 Lauriston Place, EH3 9EF

7. Reference: 17/01524/FUL – change of use + restoration to create a facility for the University of Edinburgh at the former Royal Infirmary Site, 1 Lauriston Place, EH3 9EF

Note – 17/01524/FUL is the full planning application – items 4, 5, 6 are Listed Building Consents.

8. Reference: 15/05422/FUL – full Planning Permission for change of use from office to purpose-built student accommodation, etc at Site 56 Metres West of 160 Dundee Street.

This application was refused

9. Reference: 17/01572/FUL – change of use from class 2 'financial services' to *sui generis* 'bar' at 50 Lothian Road.

10. The development at the old Boroughmuir High School was refused on 26 April (6 to 5) despite recommendation to approve.

11. The following are currently asking for consultation this month:

Old and New Towns of Edinburgh WHS Management Plan - draft for public consultation
Review of Edinburgh Design Guidance Consultation
Reviewing our Supplementary Guidance for Gorgie/Dalry, Corstorphine and Tollcross Town Centres.
Nicolson Street/Clerk Street Town Centre Draft Supplementary Guidance
Quiet Routes preliminary design consultation
Underbelly on Meadows - engagement meetings with local community groups
Planning Guidance for Householders Consultation

In relation to the decision to allow permission to demolish the Gatehouse at 1 Lauriston Place, Tollcross Community Council wishes to record its displeasure and disappointment, and asks the CEC for a full explanation of exactly what are the 'public benefit' reasons advanced in support of the decision (Reference: 17/01527/LBC or 16/05400/LBC?)

ACTION – Paul Beswick to write to CEC deploring the decision to allow demolition and to ask for a full explanation of exactly what are the 'public benefit' reasons advanced in support of the decision. Reference: 17/01527/LBC (Or Reference: 16/05400/LBC?)

ACTION – Paul Beswick to object to change of use from class 2 'financial services' to *sui generis* 'bar' at 50 Lothian Road, Edinburgh. Reference: 17/01572/FUL.

9. Licensing –

1. Second-hand dealers' licences – Roger Colkett reported on two applications for licences at Flat 1, 77 Gilmore Place and at 1 Brougham Place.

NO OBJECTION

2. Consultation on Late Hours' Catering Licences – it was decided to make a submission to this consultation and to object to any extension.

ACTION – Roger Colkett

3. Variation application for amplified music, Bruno's Diner, 103 High Riggs – Roger Colkett reported that despite an objection from TXCC, permission had been granted. He had approached Dunedin-Canmore Housing Association to ask if they would also submit an objection, but it transpired that they were not interested in doing so.

10. Reports other than those written – none

11. AOCB – none

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

**Date of next meeting and AGM 2017: Wednesday 31 May 2017 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Centre**

DRAFT minutes of exMABLAG meeting at 2 pm on 15 May 2017 in Heather's house

Attendance: Iain Black TXCC, Robin Morris FOMBL Treasurer, Alec Mann FOMBL Memb. Sec., Sarah Tolley FOMBL Sec.; J.E Robertson Bruntsfield Short Hole Golf Club, Joan Carter SSCC, Kaaren Porter SSCC, Heather Goodare FOMBL Convenor.

Apologies: Neil Roger FOMBL, Alison Service MMCC. No reply: Edinburgh Leisure. Chaired by Heather

The community councillors present were welcomed and congratulated, and everyone introduced themselves. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and amended; the date was corrected to 20 Feb 2017 and the spelling of Jimmy Robertson's name amended.

Matters arising: 1. Funding from Events on Meadows

Robin objects to the lack of information about how the Council (Mike Shields) has spent £10,000 of the ca. £17,000 allocated to FOMBL. Only £7,800 has been received by FOMBL. David Jamieson's reply to the FOMBL Convenor's letter about continuing this allocation of funds is deemed unsatisfactory.

Heather to pressure the new Council to be more forthcoming.

Robin and Heather to meet Ben Fulton to address the Council's procedure.

2. Letter to Council re provision of Toilets on Meadows

Andrew Burns's and Cameron Rose SSCC's support were discussed. It was decided to write and urge implementation of a feasibility study. Robin proposed including this cost in the letter to the Council about funding.

A list of proposed expenditure to be drawn up by Robin and others

John Findlay provided a costing for a toilet trailer, which we will ask him to send again, as we can't find his message

Sarah to contact John Findlay

Agenda

Quartermile issues: Karen -- There is no contractual agreement with Quartermile for financing the provision of community benefits; no plans to improve the toilets at the top of Middle Meadow Walk.

Iain -- Quartermile's plans to extend shopping units near the Meadows are not clear as yet. The Council is responsible for the provision of public toilets during sporting events, public events etc.

Karen -- Proposes sending FOMBL's forthcoming letter to relevant MSPs and MPs.

Kaaren will phone Tommy Sheppard about the toilet issue

Memorial to the Royal Infirmary: The FOMBL design for a memorial is nearly complete; Sarah approached the Quartermile Marketing Manager about this and it was suggested contacting the University.

Joan will write to Moira, a local university contact about plans for the memorial.

Meadows Events: 15 days are the usual period for events in other parks, and what we have been asking for in the Meadows, but the Underbelly has been granted 33 days this year, 2017. Sarah Murphy has responded to FOMBL's letter of complaint, and Heather will attend a Council meeting with Charlie Wood on 23 May. It was noted that he requested this extension last year, as he needs to cover the entire period of the Festival. Also, he needs to allow time for setting up and taking down, as the weather can impede this process.

Kaaren expressed the meeting's annoyance that the views of local people that were solicited at a Public Consultation Workshop in 2016 have been disregarded.

Jimmy advised informing the SCNP that their recommendations are not being implemented.

Joan reported that cars were parked all over the verges of the Meadows along Melville Drive and alongside Meadow Walk during the Fun Run last weekend. Was Mike Shields aware of this?

Joan to contact Mike about this

Robin to raise the issue of other events, and the Council's tendering process, during the meeting with Ben Fulton

The Funding from Meadows Events: How is it calculated?

Robin – The money for FOMBL is calculated from the excess days. This is not in the original agreement.

Jimmy -- The extra days is a ploy to put pressure on FOMBL!

Kaaren – Re the grass cover, Mike Shields could consider other grass varieties, including clover, for the affected site on the Meadows. As CCs, we have oversight of the Meadows and Events, and should be consulted by the Council about its policy.

Golf Tavern: Iain asked if the Golf Tavern has plans to put tables and chairs outside, but Robin advised that this would require a licence from the Council.

Jimmy advised that the Tavern Management new Golf Tavern owner, G1 Group, is very supportive and has offered to help FOMBL of the Links, in return for neighbourly cooperation."

Date of Next Meeting Monday 24 July at 2 pm

Site Inspection: The meeting then walked over to the affected site, and inspected damage to the grass and surface. Mike Shields's new grass mix is growing well, considering the long dry spell. There are patchy areas, and the lines of the drains and cables are susceptible to holes. Some scarring is from the Underbelly structure, others form part of the infrastructure that Council has introduced to accommodate the Circus Structure.

The whole area is degraded.

Damage by BBQs is visible in many areas, including the cricket field, raising the prospect of banning them.