

**Tollcross Community Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 31 May 2017 at 7.30pm**  
**Tollcross Community Centre, 117 Fountainbridge**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

**Present:** Andrew Brough (Chair and Secretary), Richard Allen, Iain Black, Roger Colkett, Michael Lister, Chris McGregor, Liz Summerfield, Ann Wigglesworth. **Police:** PS Bob Mason, PC Chris Green (both West End). **CEC Councillors:** Claire Miller, Joanna Mowat. **Members of the public:** David Liddle, Jim Roberston, Andreas Wilhelm, Simon Zisman. **Apologies:** Fiona Allen, Paul Beswick, Andy Devenport, Katie McGhee; Cllr Doran, Cllr Rankin.

The newly re-elected Chair welcomed everyone to the May ordinary meeting.

**2. Declaration of interests – Liz Summerfield (Meadows Festival)**

**3. Police Matters –**

The Chair welcomed PS Bob Mason and PC Green to the meeting. Sgt Mason is to be the main contact and will supply the Chair with his email address. He explained that in future he would report on themes and trends rather than raw figures, although PC Green did provide some information on recent crime incidents in the area, mostly thefts of pedal cycles and cars. In the general discussion that followed, it was noted that reported crime rates in the Lothian Road area had fallen, and this was related partly to the work done at weekends by Operation Nightguard and Street Assist. It was also noted that the new Wetherspoons appeared to take a well-managed approach to door security and related matters.

**4. Minutes and matters arising from meeting of 26 April 2017 –  
Matters arising and correction –**

Richard Allen reported that the last-minute change of venue for the April meeting came as a result of poor communication between Community Centre administration and management, and confirmed that the TXCC has a long-term booking for the regular venue.

**3a. Meadows Festival –**

Following a heated discussion about the decision taken at the April meeting to discontinue having a presence at the Meadows Festival and to no longer make a donation to the event, it was agreed to amend the minutes by removing the term 'city-wide event' that had been used to describe the Meadows Festival; to revisit the question of having a presence at the event in future years; and to make a donation of £50 towards the 2017 event.

**5. Local matters –**

**Memorial to David Rintoul, first Chair of TXCC –** Liz Summerfield spoke to the work that the late David Rintoul had done in and for Tollcross, and it was agreed to plant a tree in his memory.

**ACTION – Liz Summerfield**

**6. Councillors' Comments and Questions –**

Cllr Mowat gave an update on what is and what is not happening at the Council until such time as an administration is formed. A Lord Provost has been elected, and the quasi-judicial committees have been appointed pro tem. Currently all power sits with the full council, which is not to meet again until 29 June, although some change is expected following the results of the General Election on 8 June, with *inter alia* the introduction of 'streamlined committees'. In the meantime, points of contact in the council officers remain unchanged. Neighbourhood partnerships are possibly disappearing and a review into locality area committees will take place over the summer. Any grant applications are being handled by council officers with delegated authority in the meantime.

Cllr Mowat also reported on the application to demolish the gatehouse to the old Royal Infirmary (Reference 17/01572/LBC), the decision on which has been 'continued', and referred to the matter of what would constitute 'public benefit' advanced in support of the application. (See item 11, Minutes of TXCC Meeting, 26 April 2017.) Joanna added that the developers would most likely come back with new proposals.

**ACTION – Cllr Mowat to organise a rota for CEC City Centre Councillors' attendance at Community Council meetings.**

Cllr Miller did not have a report to make, but in relation to points of contact at the Council, she would supply the Chair with a copy of the new South East locality directory listing.

**ACTION – Cllr Miller**

There were questions about the Licensing Board, street-cleaning and traffic wardens, and the abuse of public footways for private purposes. On this last matter, it was noted that, in general, many developers encroach on public footways beyond the normally permitted space required at 1.4m. It was explained that as road occupation decisions are made by delegated authority, suspected breach of road occupation permits should be reported to the Council's Roads Team.

**ACTION – Roger Colkett**

**7. Licensing** – Roger Colkett announced that there was very little to report in the period, save for a recent application for a licensed restaurant in Teviot Place, just outside the TXCC area.

**8. Planning** – in the absence of Paul Beswick, the Chair referred to a brief report supplied to him.

**Ref 17/01109/PAN – Edinburgh Quay** – in relation to the recent PAN exhibition for major development at the top of Edinburgh Quay, after some discussion about the merits of submitting objections at this stage, it was agreed to submit early objections.

**ACTION – Richard Allen to submit an objection on behalf of TXCC.**

**Ref 17/0503/PAN – 4-22 Lower Gilmore Place** – PAN exhibition to take place on 14 June, venue yet to be announced.

Application for change to exterior door and installation of illuminated signage at 2 West Tollcross (Central Hall, Dunbar St). **No objection**

**9. Reports other than those written –**

**FoMBL** – the 2017 FoMBL AGM is to take place on 23 June. Iain Black said that he would report back on this at the TXCC June meeting.

**Spring Fling** – Liz Summerfield wished to record thanks to Chris McGregor, Roger Colkett and David Liddle for assisting at this event. From feedback that she had received about what issues local community councils should address, she reported that there was much concern about planning decisions, litter, and trees sprouting up on buildings and pavements.

**Meadows Festival** – Liz Summerfield reminded the meeting that this event, which represented the biggest outdoor market in Scotland, would take place on Saturday 3 June, from 10am to 7.30pm, and on Sunday 4 June, from 11am to 6pm.

**10. AOCB** – Ann Wigglesworth read two brief reports on 1/ the allotment project on East Meadows; 2/ the Funfair on West Meadows, copies of which she had circulated.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

**Date of next meeting Wednesday 28 June 2017 at 7pm**

**Tollcross Community Centre**