

Tollcross Community Council
Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 31 January 2018 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Centre, 117 Fountainbridge.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Andrew Brough (Chair and Secretary); Fiona Allen (taking minutes); Richard Allen; Liz Summerfield; Roger Colkett; Iain Black; Paul Beswick; Ann Wigglesworth; Andy Devenport.

Police: PC Clark and PC Coulther. **CEC Councillor:** None attended. **Public:** Callum Booth-Lewis; Sorsha Caldwell; Andreas Wilhelm. Apologies: Cllrs Doran, Miller, Mowat. David Liddle, Michael Lister, Chris McGregor.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year.

2. AOCB - None.

4. Declaration of interests – None.

5. Police Matters – PC Clark. This past month Edinburgh Division has been focussed on solving crimes of violence; hate crimes and protecting visitors and residents. This past month Police Scotland has been striving to work with fairness, integrity and respect.

The past 4 weeks there have been a spate of OLP MV which always happen on Friday nights in the Merchiston and Bruntsfield areas. One person was charged with 3 of the OLP's however there are 63 unsolved crime reports as there was insufficient to link him to the remainder of the crimes (different MO). We are waiting on the results from a blood lift which may identify a suspect for the rest. The CPT have been changing their shifts to do nightshifts at weekends to prevent/detect crimes. It is maybe worth re-iterating the importance of not having valuables on display within cars.

Road Safety Initiatives (Operation Heddle)

- 2 stalls held providing road safety advice at Westside Plaza and Fountain Park
- Patrols conducted at all schools in South West Edinburgh
- 4 static road checks conducted two alongside roads policing
- 19 speed checks
- Push bike patrols to give advice to cyclists and one warned re a light offence
- Regular parking and prohibited turn patrols
- Retail car park patrols to check if there were any valuables on show within vehicles.
- 25 people provided a security walkthrough or advice.
- 15 letters will be sent out to registered keepers giving advice -
- 7 inconsiderate parking notices issued
- 6 vehicles removed due to parking or tax offences (joint patrol with DVLA/parking attendants)
- 36 tickets issued -Three reports to PF (4 no seatbelt, 18 parking offences, 3 mobile

phone, 4 HORT1, 1 no insurance, 6 speeding and 3 other)

- 2 drink drivers
- 2 S.165 seizure (no insurance)

ASB/DRUGS Operation Screening

- 32 arrests relating to numerous offences of dishonesties, anti-social behaviour and drugs
- 5 warrant arrests
- 32 stop searches, 24 of those searches were positive
- 20 drug recoveries with an approximate value of £1200
- Approximately £1600 cash seized as involved with dishonesties
- 10 house/shop warrants executed alongside VRU, CID, firearms, dog handlers
- 99 further interventions

Operation Winter City

- Bike theft initiative – CP advice , posters – decoy bike – bike marking
- Party Safe - students
- Business crime prevention
- Community Talks and Crime prevention Stalls
- Licensed Premises visits
- Hi Viz and targeted hotspot patrols

6. Minutes and matters arising from meeting of 29 November 2017 –

Corrections: In section 4, item 5d should be removed. Agreed.

Matters arising:

- a) Air B'n'B. Efforts are continuing within Scottish Government to strengthen the legislation relating to this problem. **Andrew Brough** will ask Claire Miller to obtain Andy Wightman's briefing note on the matter.
- b) The "Living Wild" event will now be 24 February 2018.
- c) Bins. No further information has been forthcoming on any plans to clean the bins especially those for food waste. There are still considerable problems with public area lighting, the lane at Grindlay Street being particularly troublesome.
- d) Book Trust Book Week Sale. **Liz Summerfield** thanked Fiona Allen and David Liddle for their attendance and donations, other colleagues for their donations also, and Andy Devenport for his transport of unsold books to the Oxfam bookshop. The event itself raised £30.
- e) Concorde, Home Street late opening application. A resident has sent correspondence to the Council but not a formal objection. The hearing will be 06 February. Guidelines will be sought as to the hours permitted for vacating premises after closure.

The Minutes were then accepted as correct. This was proposed by **Richard Allen** and seconded by **Andrew Brough**.

7. Tollcross area matters –

- a) Street Assessment. The 220 page document appears to be a “wish list” covering 6 areas, but will be useful to refer to in future for potential improvement projects. **Paul Beswick** had raised an FOI question about the cost of the study; this had been reported at £47,000 but this figure did not include the “matched funding”. It was agreed that TXCC is broadly supportive of the document but disappointed not to have been consulted on taking part in the study.
- b) Sustrans are launching a consultation on the proposed cycleway from The Meadows to the canal. Work is proposed to start in 2019. TXCC broadly in favour.
- c) ATIK nightclub. **Claire Miller** is following up on the correspondence re. The bins; there is to be a site visit to prove or disprove the issues surrounding storage of the bins. It was also pointed out that since most of their contents will be empty bottles, the problem of unpleasant odours from indoor storage should not arise, as they are only open 3 nights a week.
- d) TXCC has been advised of new data protection rules, and that compliance is required by summer 2018. **Richard Allen** agreed to take on the initial stages.
- e) Commemorative tree and plaque. The wording accepted by TXCC is as follows;
“David Ian Rintoul - Mister Tollcross
1946-2017
Croupier, Golfer and tireless advocate for Tollcross Community
Rien ne va plus.”
Estimated costs are; £140, tree, £200, plaque. Offers of donations have been received from 3 organisations and some Councillors. **Liz Summerfield** is to steer this initiative, and establish a deadline for donation requests. Since the dedication ceremony will be held when the weather improves, April/May have been suggested. **Andy Devenport** will consult with **FOMBL** if the ceremony could be hosted along with a FOMBL meeting.

8. Councillor's Comments & Questions –

Councillor Rankin had been on the rota to attend, but did not do so. Any questions will therefore, with regret, be sent to his colleagues via email.

In the subsequent discussion, it was agreed that, since this was the last meeting on the current rota, **Andrew Brough** will write and ask Councillors to commit to each attending 2 meetings per year.

9. Planning –

Paul Beswick reported on the following matters:

- a) 22-24 Home Street. Change to hot food takeaway. REFUSED.
- b) 114 Dundee Street. GRANTED. Originally refused, overturned on appeal.
- c) 4-10 Lower Gilmore Place. WITHDRAWN. BUT PPP still in place.
- d) 142 Lothian Road. Erection of additional floor. Agreed to OBJECT.
- e) advertising drums in Castle Terrace Car Park 2 refused. Ditto 1 in Grassmarket. 7 in other sites. Approved.
- f) VASTINT. Comments due by 12 February. Concerns that housing is now “to follow”.
- g) 4-11 Lower Gilmore Place, complete demolition. WITHDRAWN.
- h) consultation on Developer Contributions; many and various tables, always referring back to trams.
- i) New PAN for Lower Gilmore Place on view 15.3-19.00 Thursday 01 February.

8. Licensing – Roger Colkett reported that there were no new applications. A situation has arisen in which GRBV will be questioning members of the Licensing Board to establish if they have always followed correct procedures.
[\[www.gov.scot/Topics/Government/Finance/spfm/BestValue\]](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Government/Finance/spfm/BestValue)

10. Licensing – Roger Colkett reported that there were no new applications.

11. South West Neighbourhood Partnership. –

Being dissolved, suggested “informal groups “may continue the work. Now being re-convened.

Discussion; there are 2 possibilities – a) create new localities or b) combine new localities with former Neighbourhood Partnerships, the latter acting in an advisory capacity, as they currently do with the Edinburgh Partnership. City of Edinburgh Council has until the end of March to make this political decision.

12. AOCB –

South West Neighbourhood Partnership. – Andy Devenport suggested being possibly dissolved, suggested “informal groups “may continue the work. Now being re-convened.

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Andy Devenport raised the point that current recycling actually involves material exported to China, which is not necessarily recycled there but frequently ends up as landfill. TXCC members are asked to contact MPs and MSPs for assurances that recycling practices will be improved, and particularly that the new recycling plant to be built (in a coastal location) will follow Danish best practice rather than British minimum legal requirements.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

**Date of next meeting Wednesday 28 February 2018 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Centre**