

Tollcross Community Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday 25 April 2018 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Education Centre, 117 Fountainbridge

1. Welcome and Apologies -

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

Police: PC John Pennycook

CEC Councillor: Cllr Joanna Mowat

Members of the public: Danny Aston; Andreas Wilhelm

Apologies: Cllr. Doran, Cllr. Miller, Cllr. Rankin, Chris McGregor, David Liddle.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for any additional items for the agenda.

2. Declaration of interests - Richard Allen and Andy Devenport, both Edinburgh Canal Festival; Liz Summerfield and Andy Devenport, both Meadows Festival.

3. Police matters - The Chair welcomed back PC John Pennycook who presented a brief report on crime in the immediate area. In the period, Police Scotland had received 82 calls, 5 of which were crime-related. In terms of the planned operations to tackle antisocial behaviour and drug-related issues in the Fountainbridge, Operation Eliminate [in partnership with Dunedin-Canmore Housing Association] continues to target repeat anti-social behaviour offenders; and at the Rosemount Buildings, one anti-social tenant has been given notice to quit. There had also been one house break-in reported at Rosemount Buildings.

In terms of shared space safety, work is ongoing at the Canal - Police engagement with the walking public and cyclists over space-sharing and user responsibility, and this is part of an education process. Operation Heddle 2 [20PMH] has now finished, and Operation Heddle 3 - working with cyclists on roads and tow-paths - is upcoming. The matter of signs and signage at the Canal has been an issue and has been raised with Scottish Canals.

Now that winter sleeping shelters have closed, Welfare patrols are out and about assisting rough sleepers with advice and information.

Traffic continues to go the wrong way along one-way Lauriston St, and signage is to be looked at. PC Pennycook also mentioned the car parking in front of the Hampton Hotel in the apparently designated parking spaces.

ACTION - PC Pennycook to look at signage [perhaps in conjunction with Cllr Mowat - see item 6].

4. Minutes of and matters arising from the meeting of 28 March 2018

Matters arising:

6. Councillor's Comments - Central Edinburgh/City Centre transformation working party - the Chair had received information from Cllr Miller about the Street Audit of the Royal Mile

8. Licensing - Roger Colkett asked for the following to be inserted into the minute "on reflection RC decided not to write to officials but to submit to the Scottish Government consultation on Licensing Regulations a recommendation that local councils should not only adhere to the requirement that the associated papers, or information as to where they can be found online, should accompany notification of a licensing application but should also state that they are obliged to do so." He also indicated that he would prepare a draft submission for the Scottish Government consultation for discussion at the 30 May meeting of TXCC.

Proposed by Andrew Brough and seconded by Richard Allen the minutes were then accepted as correct.

5. TXCC area matters -

a/ memorial for David Rintoul - Liz Summerfield reported on this matter and said that the memorial plaque would be unveiled on Friday 25 May at 6pm, followed by drinks at the Golf Tavern. She listed the names of groups and individuals to be invited and suggested some speakers. This information she was to circulate in a group email. The Community Council was very grateful to Mike Shields for all his assistance in this matter and duly wished to record its thanks to him formally.

b/ Meadows Festival and Edinburgh Canal Festival - it was decided not to staff a TXCC stand at the Meadows Festival, but to focus instead on the Edinburgh Canal Festival on Saturday 16 June. Ann Wigglesworth volunteered to draw up a rota for the day and to contact Merchiston CC. She would also think about what publicity materials could be used, with perhaps an information leaflet to be produced for the event.

ACTION - Ann Wigglesworth

c/ New Secretary - the Chair & Secretary having a heavy workload invited members to consider assuming some of his secretarial responsibilities. Fiona Allen offered to take on the website and the twitter feed (with some training from the Chair); and Iain Black and Michael Lister offered to take on preparing the meeting papers.

d/ Code of Conduct for Community Councillors - the Chair circulated a code of conduct based largely on the Code of Conduct for local authority councillors and relevant public bodies as provided for in the Ethical Standards in Public Life, etc (Scotland) Act 2000. There followed a positive discussion about the new Google Group which it was hoped would help provide clearer lines of communication once it had bedded in.

e/ Public information regarding Community Councillors - following some discussion, it was decided to remove the telephone numbers and email addresses of community councillors from the sign-in sheet. Those members of the public attending meetings would be invited to leave contact details if they so wished, but that this was not obligatory.

f/ Position papers for website - it was thought useful to have some information about the position of TXCC on some issues available on the website. To this end the following offered to write short papers on:

1. Planning - Paul Beswick
2. Licensing - Roger Colkett
3. Meadows - Iain Black

4. Canalside - Richard Allen
5. Community engagement - Andrew Brough

It was suggested that draft papers could be posted on the Google Group to give fellow members the opportunity to comment on them.

ACTION - all contributors to write draft papers by the end of July

6. Councillor's Comments and Questions -

Cllr Mowat referred to the outstanding action (see Item 3 above, signage at Lauriston St) which she said she would endeavour to chase up.

Cllr Mowat reported on the first substantive meeting of the S-E locality committee on 23 April. While it is one of the smaller geographic localities it has a high population. Given that the committee is still to find its feet, and is a work in progress, Cllr Mowat hopes that its emphasis will be on scrutinising how services are offered locally and that the creation of sub-groups of ward councillors to take up business with community councils on a ward basis will help it in its work. Cllr Mowat reported on the working group on short-term lets, which meets every 2-3 weeks and was positive about the progress it was making. She also talked about the City Centre transformation working party and was hopeful that its report would be presented to the Council within the next eleven months.

Questions were asked about the following: the £25 garden-waste charge and how this would operate in tenements. It was felt that this charge had not been thought through thoroughly and that it would be difficult to administer; cars parked in Gilmore Place outside the Balmore B & B, so reducing the pavement width to less than 1metre; and the continuing work of the Neighbourhood Partnership, given the introduction of localities. Cllr Mowat felt that what was needed was a mechanism to make sure that the issues of the City Centre, given its particular nature, were not swamped by the wider locality. A question was asked about the proposed cycle routes and how this would fit in with the street audits that had been undertaken by Living Streets. Cllr Mowat asked to be reminded of the dates when the Tollcross Street Audit had taken place and when the report had been sent to the Council, and said that the cycle routes are postponed in the meantime.

ACTION - Iain Black to send details and photographs of parked cars at Gilmore Place to Cllr Mowat

ACTION - Michael Lister to send Street Audit information to Cllr Mowat

7. Planning -

Paul Beswick reported that he had received from the Chair a copy of a Soft Market Testing document for the developments at Fountainbridge and had been invited to submit the views of Tollcross Community Council about this. He also reported on the following applications:

1. **Ref 18/01088/FUL** - improvements to surfacing/entry and grassed area and erection of a golfing starter's hut (Golf Tavern) - **OBJECTION**
2. **Ref 18/01349/AMC** (Additional Material Consideration) - land adjacent to 194 Fountainbridge (Moda Living) - **OBJECTION**
3. **Ref 18/00804/FUL** - change of use from commercial into a restaurant - 8 Morningside Road (Holy Corner)

4. Ref 18/01492/FUL - demolition of existing and erection of 3-bed student accommodation, 8 Middle Meadow Lane

5. Ref 18/0655/FUL - partial division of restaurant unit and change of use to office at 2 Lister Square.

8. Licensing -

Roger Colkett reported that there were no new applications strictly in the area in the period, but there was one from Saboteur at Teviot Place to adopt the new amplified music policy. He will confer with colleagues on the Old Town Community Council about this.

AOCB -

Iain Black announced that a meeting is to be held on Friday 27 April at the Pavilion Café at 6.30pm about Barbecues on the Meadows. All Welcome.

The meeting ended at 8.57pm

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 30 May at 7pm
Tollcross Community Education Centre