



Tollcross Community Council Annual General Meeting 2018

Agenda Minutes Reports

27 June 2018

Tollcross Community Education
Centre

Room 4

7pm

Members of the public who live in the Tollcross Community Council area are very welcome to attend our meetings.

Contact Tollcross Community Council via:

<http://www.tollcrosscc.org.uk/>

**Tollcross Community Council
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 31 May 2017 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Education Centre
117 Fountainbridge**

A G E N D A

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Minutes of AGM 2017**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Election of Executive**
- 6. Reports**
- 7. Accounts**
- 8. A O C B**

Tollcross Community Council
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Wednesday 31 May 2017 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Education Centre
117 Fountainbridge

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Richard Allen, Iain Black, Andrew Brough, 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 Robertson, Andreas Wilhelm, Simon Zisman.

Apologies: Fiona Allen, Paul Beswick, Andy Devenport, Katie McGhee; Cllr Doran, Cllr Rankin.

This being the AGM for the election of office-bearers, Cllr Joanna Mowat took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of AGM of 25 May 2016 – acceptance and matters arising

Andrew Brough moved to adopt the minutes, with this being seconded by Richard Allen. The minutes were then duly adopted. There were no matters arising.

3. Chair's Review of the year 2016-17

The review had been previously circulated with the AGM papers.

4. Election of Office Bearers

Chair – Andrew Brough, proposed by Iain Black and seconded by Roger Colkett, was re-elected unopposed as Chair.

Secretary – Andrew Brough, proposed by Iain Black and seconded by Richard Allen, was elected as Secretary.

Treasurer – Paul Beswick, proposed by Andrew Brough and seconded by Liz Summerfield, was re-elected unopposed as Treasurer.

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

Community Councils Liaison Coordinator – Liz Summerfield

Planning – Paul Beswick

Licensing Forum – Roger Colkett

Media monitoring – Liz Summerfield

Health – Chris McGregor

Built Environment – Michael Lister (co-opted)

Fountainbridge Canalside Initiative – Richard Allen

Licensing – Roger Colkett

Edinburgh Civic Forum – Roger Colkett, Michael Lister (co-opted)

Meadows' Festival – Andy Devenport, Liz Summerfield

FOMBL – Iain Black

Canalside Festival – Richard Allen

Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust – Roger Colkett, Michael Lister (co-opted)

Fountainbridge Steering Group – Richard Allen

Canal Management Committee – Richard Allen

NOTE

Following the suspension of meetings of the various Neighbourhood Partnerships, and the consultation into the composition of the new localities that is to take place over the summer months, appointments to these new committees will be made at a later meeting.

Cllr Miller intimated that FoMBL was looking for new volunteers and a new Chair.

Special thanks were made to Heather Goodare for all her work as Chair of the Edinburgh Health Forum.

5. Treasurer's Report

The accounts for 2015-16, proposed by Liz Summerfield and seconded by Iain Black, were accepted.

The meeting closed at 7.28pm.

**Date of next AGM: Wednesday 27 June 2018 at 7pm
Tollcross Community Centre**

Tollcross Community Council Annual Review 2017 – 2018

This past year has seen many changes – not least to the Council which held elections in May 2017.

Tollcross Community Council for the first time held an election hustings event within our area for the public to come and question our possible new representatives of which a good 50 members of the public came along to, and one of our own ex-community councillor Tim Puntis chaired the meeting.

After the election came a new Councillor for the City Centre, Claire Miller alongside Karen Doran, Joanna Mowat and Alistair Rankin being re-elected.

Some things change alas other don't - we are stilling fighting many planning battles around cheap student housing, short term lets such as Airbnb and more hotels than ever being planned, built and used in Fountainbridge.

Another first this year was a Community Council deputation to Governance Risk and Best Value (GRBV - the Council watchdog) regarding the Licensing Forum. At which Roger Colkett encouraged the committee to re-look at the appointment system for the Forum to make it more democratic and open.

We are very happy to say that piece of work has been taken up by GRBV and a report will be coming back to them soon. It would be fair to say it hasn't universally won us friends across the City but sometimes doing the right thing won't make you friends with everyone.

Having said that my focus as Chair of the Community Council is to allow all available options to make the Council more open and transparent and available for all to participate in. The review will make this happened for the Forum - better able to serve the public of Edinburgh.

Locally a perennial thorn in the side of certain members of the Community Council has been the eyesore at Thornybault, and we are delighted to say that with Cllr. Miller's help the waste land has been cleaned up, the bins issues are close to be resolved and a permanent solution to the satisfaction of the local residents will soon be in place.

We also gave evidence to the Scottish Parliament Committee on Local Government and Communities. Roger gave evidence on our experiences with Alcohol Licensing at an evidence day arranged by the Committee with the hope that it would feed back into improvements around local engagement of communities with Licensing issues.

We were sad to see this year that the long-promised Meadows to Canalside cycle path has been put on hold again, not due to lack of finances but due to lack of Council Officers to take the work on. We hope it won't be too long before this is brought to reality on the ground and benefit cyclists and Home street with a re-arrangement of existing street layout and furniture.

In May we celebrated the life of past Chair David Rintoul with a tree and plaque on Bruntsfield Links. We are grateful for his efforts over many years to promote Tollcross and improve the area. A large group attending including one in particular with many interesting stories of David's interests and life as a DJ and 'international' croupier.

And most recently we had a deputation that Richard Allen spoke to at Housing and Economy regarding a hotel of 400 beds on land the Council owns, but the master plan says mixed use. A masterplan that was created with and engaged with the community over many years to bring this about. We have yet to see what decisions the Council will take over an issue that sees them being both land owner and developer as they own a majority stake in EICC who are pushing for the hotel.

With all that being said to those whom are Community Councillors in Tollcross, to those who attend meetings on our behalf, who help with the secretary duties and those who serve in other organisations around Tollcross we put on record our grateful thanks for the selfless service that improves the quality of life in Tollcross, and that of the community which we ultimately serve.

As we look forward to 2018 – 2019 I am reminded that next year will be the annual 3 yearly election for all Community Council in Edinburgh.

And finally, one last special mention to an ever-present member of the public at our meetings Andreas Wilhelm. Thanks for coming and taking an interest in all we do for Tollcross.

Andrew Brough
Chair of Tollcross Community Council