**Minutes of Tollcross Community Council Meeting 29 May 2024**

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| 1. Welcome | **Present**  Members**:** Richard Allen, Roger Colkett, Rebecca Fairbairn, Liz Summerfield, Tim Puntiss  **Apologies:** Iain Black, Andy Devenport, Paul Beswick, Cllr Margaret Graham, Cllr Findlay Macfarlane, Cllr Jo Mowatt,  **Lothian Road Project:** Chris McGarvey, leading the development and delivery of LRP for Edinburgh City Council, Hannah Buffham and Jordan Dunn from Stantec. |
| 1. Minutes of last meeting | The minutes of the last meeting were approved, proposed by Roger, seconded by Richard. |
| 1. Lothian Road Project | CMcG outlined the Lothian Road Project (LRP). It was identified as part of the City Centre Transformation 2019. It runs from Charlotte Square to the King’s Theatre, and the streets running east and west from it. The aim is to improve the public realm, walking, wheeling and public transport. The project team joined this TXCC meeting to test thinking on the seven objectives that are being developed.  Objectives:   1. Enhancing the environment for walking and wheeling 2. North-South segregated cycling connection 3. Improving safety and functionality of junctions 4. Improve the efficiency of existing bus services 5. Enhancing street greening, linking the Meadows and Princes St Gardens 6. A thriving economy 7. A people-focused, attractive and liveable place   Feedback from community engagement will be used to finalise objectives which will lead into the development of viable options. There will be many future opportunities for engagement.  Discussion of the detail of the emerging objectives and the basis for the project touched on:   * The vibrancy and the cultural importance of activity in the area, which exists in a place that is not particularly welcoming for people to dwell or travel on foot or by bike. * The complexity of reconciling the ambitions outlined 2019 (above) with other plans to remove transport from the Mound and the Bridges. Lothian Road will need to be open to all types of traffic, including cars. * That Lothian Road and its pavements are wide and heavily used but not currently well designed for optimum use. This included confirmation that there may still be a tram route down Lothian Road, and the recognition that trade waste and bus stops reduce the width of the pavement to below UK minimum width for pavements. * The importance of the plan including being scalable in both directions and being modular so that improvement can be made with tight public finances.   The difficulty of reconciling these points was noted, and the importance of prioritising objectives suggested.  It was confirmed that the clock will be part of plans for Tollcross.  **ACTION: CMcG agreed to circulate links to relevant background policy documents**  **ACTION: the team agreed to alert TXCC to future engagement events so that opportunity can be taken to encourage more people to join TXCC.** |
| 1. Updates | Police: no updates  Councillors: no updates |
| 1. Tollcross Matters | **The website:** it was noted that an error message was given when to connect with TXCC via our website.  **ACTION: TP to explore.** |
| 1. Planning | Circulated. |
| 1. Licensing | **Kings Stables Road, Stay City Serviced Apartments proposal:** It is unclear how big an impact this proposal will have on residential property in the area.  **Usher Hall:** Plans to expand licensing outwith licensing hours were discussed. It was agreed that as this would be managed within existing facilities it would be low risk. |
| 1. AOB | **Meadows Festival:** It was confirmed that TXCC lack capacity to cover a stall, but that Southside and Merchiston are likely to be present.  **Publicity for TXCC:** Agreement to try to build a flier for TXCC over the summer. An extra meeting will be scheduled to gain input for this.  **ACTION: RA to explore dates.**  **Elections:** It was confirmed that no update has been received from the City of Edinburgh Council, but that it is expected that planned community council elections are likely to be delayed as a result of a general election being called. |

Meeting closed at 20.40

**Next meeting at 19.00, Wednesday 26 June 2024. This will be the Annual General Meeting.**