

Stockbridge & Inverleith

community council

May 2018 Draft minutes

of the meeting held on Wednesday 16 May 2018
at Stockbridge Parish Church , Edinburgh

Present, S&ICC: Gregan Crawford (Chair); Nigel Bagshaw; Pam Barnes (Planning Officer) Joan Beattie (Inverleith Partnership); Nigel Clark (minutes); John Cowie; Tannis Dodd (Secretary); Andrew Morrison; Jerry Ozaniec (Environment and Transport); Clive Preston (Vice Chair)

Members of the Community, including: Alex Johnson; PC Holly Matheson (Police); James Simpson; Hina Hirani ; Maggie Ferguson; Ian Ferguson; Robert Backhouse; Rosie Stewart; Susan Stewart; Margaret Hills; Gillian McArthur; R Wilson

Ward Councillors: Cllrs Gavin Barrie; Max Mitchell; Hal Osler

Apologies for absence: Deidre Brock M.P.; Penny Richardson (Licensing)

CC Chair Gregan Crawford opened the meeting

1. Minutes of previous meeting (18 April 2018):

- Cllr Mitchell asked that it be recorded he had sent in his apologies for absence. He added comment that any mural art work applied to the Saunders street buildings would require the consent of all residents. It would be classified as advertising. A brief conversation continued on the theme, including temporary art work say, during the Festival or maybe a laser show on the buildings.
- There was a brief discussion about what is known as ghost calling where someone wants access to the building and is “buzzed through” into the building, It was considered useful to get some advice on how a “No ghost calling” zone be set up.
- James Simpson and Hina Hirani explained that a steering group was activated and for setting up Stockbridge Development Trust and there would be a public meeting to explain its objectives.
- Community Art work for the Accies site wall - Hina Hirani, resident of Comely Bank Road said she had made contact with the Foundation about how the history of the area could be told in stories on the temporary grey boards (for one year) . The Foundation were interested in exploring the ideas further.
- There were no further matters arising: The Minutes of 18 April were approved.

2. Reports:

- i **Police Scotland:** PC Matheson outlined aspects of local police work for the past four weeks:
 - Carrying out speed checks on the local roads - the speed restrictions seem to be making a difference in changing driving attitudes and behaviours to lowering their speeds. A resident explained that vehicles cutting through West Silvermills Lane as a way of bypassing Clarence Street were speeding excessively and requested that 20 mph signage be put up there.
 - An attempted house-breaking in Learnmonth Gardens was discussed in which PC Matheson said someone had been arrested in connection with this. Local foot patrols would be a regular and routine feature in the area. There have been some bike thefts in the Colonies and near Broughton High School. As ever, precautions needed to be taken and in some instances trackers should be considered.

- It was acknowledged the Sunday Market was proving a very popular feature in Stockbridge and was exemplary in sweep and clean-up afterwards. It was thought that it might be useful to hear from the manager of the market at a future Community Council.
 - Pam Barnes said that the sundial was to be re-erected in Inverleith Park on the 16 June following its refurbishment and it would be a pity if it were to be vandalised prior to its rededication. PC Matheson noted the concern and timing of the event.
- ii. **Chair:**
- Gregan reminded everyone that under the new **General Data Protection Regulations** (GDPR 25/5/18) you can opt out at any time from the CC mailing list by emailing the CC Secretary." Tannis had contacted everyone on the current list to affirm either continuance or removal. Fifty names have already confirmed continuance.
 - Television filming is taking place on Comely Bank Road this month. John Cowie added that the BBC would be filming in the church on Sunday 27 May.
 - The Water of Leith 'clean-up' scheduled for the Sunday 27 May would start from the *Falshaw* Bridge from 10.00am till 12.30pm.
- iii. **Secretary:** Tannis Dodd said that a grant had been applied for to enable fresh rendering and painting for the pend at Hamilton Place leading to St Stephens Street
- iv. **Treasurer:** David Chamberlain was absent so no report was presented.
- v. **Environment** and (vi.) **Transport:** Jerry Ozaniec presented a written report summarising T & E Committee activities and added that the Council Committee had not met since the last C.C.; the report would be added to the C.C. website.
- vii. **Licensing and Planning:**
- Licensing**
- Gregan read out Penny Richardson's written report in her absence which included: notice of Edinburgh Licensing Board's continued consultation on its new statement of licencing policy and the workshop on 2 May reviewing "overprovision" which she and Gregan attended.
 - Edinburgh Licensing Forum Constitution was still being reviewed.
 - Scottish Government consultation on updating the Licensing (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations was in review with the aim of engaging with the Community more effectively.
- Planning:** Pam Barnes updated the C.C. on the following applications:
- The **Scran and Scallie** submitted a planning application for **change of use** for the flat located above their restaurant at Mary's Place at the west end of Raeburn Place. A resident to the flats informed the C.C. that they would be directly affected and that the application was not appropriate for the Georgian B listed building. Pam conformed she would write on behalf of the C.C. to support the resident's objection.
 - **Inverleith Place Lane** – Pam gave an update on the roof top application; there were neighbours for and against the changes. (note: a recent change to regulations means that there will, in future, have to be at least 20 observations either for or against an application for the Council to review the case)
 - **Old Royal High School** application for alterations as part of the bid to make the building part of an hotel development. The Cockburn Association are seeking funds to oppose the development.
 - **Princes St Gardens West** plans put forward. Although there has been no intention to privatise publicised an arms-length organisation has been set up to maintain the public space.
 - James Simpson explained some of the background to the common good fund and referred to the Community Empowerment Act adding there should be a register of all common land and that where this was the case such land would not be in the Council's gift to dispose of.

- Cllr. Osler added that the Council would have to invoke Government Statute to effect any changes to this situation.
- **Edinburgh Academy** Cllr Osler said that the Council Planning Committee would sit next Wednesday and that the recommendation was for approving the application.
- Cllr Barrie said the Council had agreed to the banning of advertising “A Boards” in the street from now on.

viii. **Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership:** Joan Beattie said there will be an update on the Partnership at the next meeting after the latest Localities Committee had met.

ix. **Youth Community Council – Alex updated the C.C. :**

- Pupils from Fettes were now attending
- Members were wanting to find out more about the community about the area so they could consider what sort of things they could get involved with and help, such as looking at volunteering opportunities in the Community.
- A multi-school community event such as music or sports for the community could be organised - they would like feedback on this. Cllr Osler added that there was an Active event planned for 2 September.
- Alex confirmed the Youth Community Councils would meet on the second Tuesday of the month at No 7 Raeburn Place. There would not be any meetings over the summer holiday.

3. Brief Discussion on the Locality Committee:

- Nigel Bagshaw had asked for this item to be included but he had to leave early so it was agreed to hold this over until the next meeting.

4. Stockbridge Primary School:

- Refurbishment work was going on at the school and 8 car parking spaces would not be reinstated when the work was finished. Teachers were finding it difficult to find parking spaces nearby. A conversation took place about possibilities but no firm ideas were realised.
- James Simpson said there was a need to review the whole space of the School.

5. Inverleith Park:

- Joan Beattie asked for a proper marked **crossing** from **the Park to Botanics** and there was a general agreement at the meeting that this was a good idea. Joan also asked that the Snakey path from Saxe-Coburg Street to the Colonies be upgraded.
- Cllr Barrie added that there was a need to segregate pedestrians and vehicles in the park.
- Gillian McArthur said there was a need to have better play facilities for the different ages of children so all ages could play there.

6. AoB

Stockbridge Development Trust – James Simpson outlined a number of issues that could be realised through the setting up of a Development Trust in Stockbridge to enhance the shops and buildings in the centre for the benefit of the Community.

7. Date and time of next meeting:

7.15 pm on 20 June 2018 at Stockbridge Parish Church. The AGM will be held at 7.00pm on the same day.

(**Note:** the CC Constitution requires the CC meet on at least 7 occasions throughout the year. It is likely there will be no meetings in July, August and December)