

### **Present**

Dr David Houston (Chair), Tom McDonald (Vice-Chair), David Bewsey (Secretary), Gordon Neill (Treasurer), Mike Scott, Nigel Rudd, Bill Alexander, Colin Proctor, Alastair Murray, Lorraine O'Shea (CVE), Cllr Jason Rust, Cllr Richard Lewis, Gordon Lindhurst, Duncan Campbell (CCCT) & 4 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Major Alex Price (3 RIFLES), Gordon Macdonald MSP, & Joanna Cherry QC MP, & Sarah Stone.

### **Welcome by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He clarified that community council meetings are a meeting in public and not a public meeting. He went on to introduce Duncan Campbell of Colinton Community Conservation Trust (CCCT).

### **Presentation on the Colinton Community Conservation Trust Artwork Project**

Duncan Campbell of CCCT presented the proposal for artwork panels along Woodhall Road replacing the current railings. A key issue is one of safety and the ability of these panels to protect against vehicle penetration. The artwork panels will represent Colinton's history. There is currently an assessment being carried out which will report to the local roads department. CCCT have an alternative proposal to site the panels on the Drover's Path should the outcome of the assessment not suite the preferred choice of site.

### **Declarations of Interest**

None

### **Police Report**

PC Sonja Kaiser-Ferris outlined the crime related issues during the past month. She reported that there had been one incident of housebreaking and a case of someone trying doors. She stated that an arrest had been made in relation to the latter. She went on to say that many of the thefts were perpetrated by teenagers who had stolen high value cars and usually drive them at high speed. She advised that if a member of the public should see one of these cars with several young passengers, sometimes wearing balaclavas, they should immediately call 999 to report this. It was also mentioned that there had been cases where registration plates were being removed from high value cars.

PC Kaiser-Ferris reported that there had been no assaults or hate crimes in the past month.

Sgt William Telford has now taken over from Sgt George Richardson who has moved to Wester Hailes. It was also commented that PC Vinnie Blair of MOD Police had left and the position was to be covered by Police Scotland

Cllr Rust suggested the possibility that another Crime Prevention meeting might be held.

The Secretary said that the upcoming Health Fair on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May might be an opportunity

to combine health and welfare issues and the elderly, with crime prevention and he would follow up on this.

**ACTION: SECRETARY**

The Chair asked if CCTV was a recommended installation. PC Kaiser-Ferris suggested that it was definitely a deterrent and that even although most perpetrators wear a mask, they could still be identified by their build and walk.

### **Schools Crisis**

The Vice-Chair proposed that the current PPI1 schools safety issues should be a matter for the Community Council to write to City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) about its concerns over this matter and to seek assurances that it would be fully investigated, as he saw this as a failure of the building control system and not just a failure of management.

It was suggested that we should not jump to conclusions until further investigations had been carried out. The community council is to monitor the situation and respond accordingly.

MS expressed concerns about the safety of pupils. The Secretary informed the meeting that there was a link on the website to the latest information and this would be updated as further information was received.

TM moved that a letter should be written to the Chief Executive of CEC expressing concerns about the school building programme and the safety of pupils. Seconded GN.

### **Minutes of the meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and matters arising:**

The minutes were approved. Proposed: TM, seconded: NR

TM informed that there had been contact with the owners of 6-8 Bridge Road Kilpatrick Property Group and that there would be a meeting between Colinton CC, the owners of the building and the Cooperative. It was also mentioned that the premises were unlikely to be occupied before 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017.

In response to concerns about those who either have no internet access or cannot get to the Library to see CC meeting papers, the Secretary proposed that for an annual fee of £10 the papers could be posted to them. Seconded: NR.

The Chair mentioned that he had not had a positive response to his request for money to upgrade the Spylaw Bank Road Tunnel lighting.

### **Action Group Reports – Matters Arising**

#### **Communications**

MS read the brief summary to the Tunnel Project feasibility report which was later distributed to members. It was proposed by MS that this should be the subject of a business meeting to discuss how the project is taken forward. Seconded by AM and approved.

#### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary mentioned the Dementia Awareness week and the series of events around the Colinton Health Fair to be held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at Colinton Bowling Club.

**Community Safety**

AM had nothing to add to his report.

**Environment**

No action to report

**Roads & Pavements**

**Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEPs) 2016/17**

Following discussions with SW Roads, BA proposed that the two projects to be taken forward are:

- **Campbell Park** A new path from Woodfield Avenue to Campbell Park Play Park
- **Woodhall Road** Upgrade pavements between Campbell Park Drive & Woodfield Avenue on both sides of the road.

Seconded: LO and carried.

**AOCB**

The Chair pointed out that there had been a useful business meeting on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

GN suggested members consider items for the budget for 2016/17 for discussion at the next meeting and that in light of three-yearly CC elections the AGM might be better changed to a November date. The Secretary is to seek advice from the Community Council Liaison Officer.

**Public Questions**

None

**Date of next meetings: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7pm, at Colinton Bowling Club**

TM tendered his apologies for the next meeting

The meeting closed at 8:27 pm and the Chair thanked the Bowling Club for use of the hall.

Reports are available on the website and in the folder in the Library.

25 April 2016