

Present

Dr David Houston (Chair), Tom McDonald, David Bewsey(Secretary), Gordon Neill, Nigel Rudd, Catherine Lang, Bill Alexander, Ken Eyeington, Cllr Elaine Aitken Lorraine O'Shea (CVE), Cllr Jason Rust, Gordon Lindhurst MSP, PC Sonja Kaiser-Ferris, Capt. David Bell (3 RIFLES) & 6 members of the public.

Apologies: Alastair Watt, Maj Alex Price

Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Ken Eyeington, newly elected member of the Community Council who introduced himself, and Capt. David Bell, Welfare Officer for 3 Rifles for Major Price.

The Chair stated that there wasn't to be any discussion on item 4a Funding Panel Meeting on 9th Nov 16, as it was likely that in discussing this item, it might compromise the position of our representative, the Treasurer, Gordon Neill. This was agreed. The Chair also asked if he could continue to talk to the Chair of the Funding Panel as he was concerned that the Community Council was at a distance from the process. BA asked if it was just our Community Council that was distanced or all Community Councils. The Chair suggested that potentially all Community Councils were at a distance from the process.

Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

Police Report

PC Sonja Kaiser-Ferris gave an overview of crime in the Colinton area. Detailed reports were available to members. It was stated that there were relatively few items in the report. There has been a reduction in anti-social behaviour. Police activities included monitoring parking near schools and motorists speeding. The report included attempted break-ins to three garages and a break-in to a house on Hailes Terrace. There was also a house breaking on Torphin Road. There were no serious assaults in October and there were several minor road traffic offences on the City Bypass. A van was also stolen on Redford Avenue using the true key. There were no reported hate crimes. Following on from the Home Security meeting SK mentioned the need for greater security as we approach Christmas. There was a warning that individuals were knocking on doors targeting older residents offering to clear driveways or work on the roof etc. Residents should be very suspicious of these individuals as their intentions may not be altogether helpful or honest and not to engage with them. Also mentioned was the new Policing model which seemed to be working well so far. Several leaflets were made available. A question was asked about security lighting. Questions were asked about "No Cold Calling Zones". A point was asked about the signage which is recognised through-out the city.

Minutes of the meeting of 8th October 2016 and matters arising:

These were accepted as a true record. Prop. CL, Sec, BA.

The Secretary brought up some matters including a follow-up on the matter of the Building Warrant for 6-8 Bridge Road. TM expanded on this. He also explained the situation with regard removal of invasive weeds. NR said there were plans for removal but there were some difficulties in accessing the site. TM suggested that it would probably be the end of January before any work on the building could start, with two to three months of work on the building followed by fitting out work. TM also mentioned that the owners would allow some limited consultation on the finish of the building. A question about the upper floor used by a nursery was asked, but it was explained that the effective use is unlikely to change in the medium term. There was a discussion on the proposed Traffic Restriction Order proposing “Loading only between 7am and 8am, Monday to Saturday.

BA was asked about his investigations with regard Christmas lighting in Colinton village streets. He had received a response from the Council which stated that the budget for 2016 had been spent. BA suggested it was probably too late for this year and that options for next year should be investigated. This was agreed. **ACTION: BA**

The Secretary mentioned the business meeting on 22nd November 2016, which he felt should be notified to the public.

Cllr Rust said he had asked about the BT stickers on some of the green telecoms boxes. It was suggested that these are to promote broadband. TM suggested that this was probably a permitted development matter which identified who owned the cabinets. The Secretary mentioned the telecoms mast at Dreghorn Link which the residents were complaining about and stated that he had received a request for comment and had suggested they be moved away from line of site of the hills.

Cllr Rust said he had received a response from the Council stated that they had no input on diversion of buses as they are a commercial service operator. Lothian Buses have taken on-board comments from the community.

The damaged wall at the Rustic Cottages Bus Stop was raised. The Secretary stated that he had been in contact with SGN and there had been confusion over who was responsible for the wall. Merchiston School had obtained a quotation for repair when it was pointed out that SGN were responsible. The Secretary suggested that SGN were probably obliged to tender for the work which might delay the work.

The Chair explained that he was not going to have any discuss on the Community Grants Fund (CGF) Panel until he had clarified with the Chair of the CGF and our representative the exact procedure.

Estate walkabout

The Secretary said he had sent the most recent list of action points to SW Roads with a request for an update and asking if there would be a Walkabout on 8th December 2016. Cllr Aitken said that her understanding that Walkabouts have been suspended *pro tem*. Cllr Rust read out an

email he had received confirming the situation. The Secretary suggested that it was still possible to look out for areas of concern but that he is awaiting an update.

Correspondence

The Secretary listed a number of items of correspondence received including:

- The Traffic Restriction Order (TRO) for roads around Colinton Primary School has now been made permanent.
- An email from the Owner of the Cottage Bistro offering Community Councillors a discount for Christmas meals was discussed. This was rejected as it went against rules on receipt of gifts by elected representatives.
- Notice of a Local Energy event with talks by Scottish Water and Millerhill Waste Energy.
- The Secretary asked about final arrangements for CVE Christmas events. LO agreed.
- CAA has asked if the Community Council would like to use the small noticeboard now replaced by a new larger board. It might involve a planning issue and repair to the wall. TM mentioned that the Co-op has suggested they might provide a notice board outside their premises. It was agreed that TM would take this up with CAA. **ACTION: TM**
- The auction of the RBS building is to go ahead on 30th Nov 16. A question over the possibility that a community body could raise the money was discussed.

The Secretary suggested that there were a number of options for groups and individuals to join the Community Council.

Ideas for Speakers

Some of the suggested speakers were:

Further update on Historic Railings by CCCT

CAA might wish to present on their project to look at the village assets.

It was also suggested that David White from the HSC Partnership come and speak to the meeting on 13th December. Cllr Aitken to speak to Rob McCulloch-Graham. Health & Social Care are in the process of appointing a new Localities Manager

Paul Lawrence – CEC Executive Director for Place

This led onto discussion on disposal of Redford Barracks and army housing and its disposal.

The Secretary mentioned the Motion by Councillor Rust to a future Council Corporate Policy & Strategy Committee.

AOCB

KE proposed that the meeting announcements need to be more prominent.

Issue raised by Pam Wardell (PW) about attracting more attendees by advertising key subjects to be spoken about at meetings.

The Chair asked Pam Wardell for a quick update on current situation with regards Colinton Village Ventures (CVV). She read out the various groups who have taken an interest on the aims

of CVV and the areas they were looking into with regard financing including a community benefit organisation, a pop-up market, a community café, and an out let for local produce.

PW suggested the CC start a Community Trust to support groups. BA mentioned that Co-op has within its business plan to offer a 1% dividend to local community plans.

Public Comment: None

Date of next planned meeting: Tuesday 13th December 2016 at 7:30pm, at Colinton Bowling Club.

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