

# West End Community Council

## Minute of Meeting

7:30pm on the 4th of May 2021 on the ZOOM video platform

Present: Dr Gordon M Wyllie (Chair), Ian Robertson (Vice-Chair), David Duncan (Secretary), Isabel Thom (Planning), Gordon Renton, Paul Hancock, City Cllr Joanna Mowat and local residents David Hewitson, James Benbow, Darcey Black, Fraser Stevenson, Fiona Serle, Linda Cunningham, Peter Black, Benoit Culioli, Mark McKergow and Darlene Khazaka.

Discussion	Action
<p><b>1. Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies were received on behalf of Community Councillor Alex Milne and City Councillors Alasdair Rankin and Hal Osler.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minute of meeting held on the 6th of April 2021</b></p> <p>The Minute of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> of April was agreed to be substantially correct.</p>	
<p><b>3. Matters arising</b></p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
<p><b>4. Correspondence</b></p> <p>The NHS advised that the boundaries of the West End Medical Practice are being narrowed.</p> <p>Regarding a letter from Scottish Power Energy Networks regarding outages, Isabel Thom read out some extracts regarding the replacement of cabling and introduction of new technology that should greatly reduce if not eliminate problems. She then described how they had dealt with an incident involving herself; it appeared that the cabling needed to reach a certain stage of degradation before it could be replaced.</p>	
<p><b>5. Police Matters</b></p> <p>Paul Hancock had received the Report contained in the Appendix. He advised that local resident Fraser Stevenson is now in Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and will welcome reports regarding local incidents</p> <p>No response was received back from Police Scotland in relation to the graffiti reported in April.</p>	



<p><b>6. Councillor's Report</b></p> <p>a) Cllr Mowat advised that the City Council's legal department is still looking into the burden of sale conditions regarding public toilets on Morrison Street how effectively this has been transferred to the current owners of the site. It was noted that Haymarket station toilets are only accessible to fare-paying passengers and not a substitute</p> <p>b) Baillie Gifford are taking the 2 big offices in the Morrison Street development. There will still be an area for public access. They have said they would be interested in getting to know the local community and speak to the local community councils.</p> <p>c) The next stage of Communal Bin Review has been approved.</p> <p>d) There was nothing to report regarding Winter festivals.</p> <p>e) Darcey Black referred Cllr Jo Mowat to a comment about transport issues in the West End which she will forward to those best able to answer. He is reflecting on a discussion he had had with officials earlier. This gave rise to a discussion about Traffic Regulation Orders arising out of the Edinburgh Tram Project. Noting that the proposed TRO3 had not been proceeded with. Cllr Jo Mowat advised that it would be good to involve Cllr Karen Doran and it was possible that progress on this front might happen fairly quickly. In response to a question by local resident James Benbow Cllr Jo Mowat will send information on this to Paul Hancock for circulation among the Community Councillors.</p> <p>f ) Regarding the damaged railings at the corner of Douglas and Magdala Crescents, Paul Hancock shared an illustration and referred to two planters installed at Clarendon Crescent, which local resident Darcey Black had been informed were installed upon a temporary basis only. The soil in the planters could serve as a temporary safety barrier. David Hewitson worried about closures diverting traffic into other areas. Cllr Jo Mowat will circulate questions that had been asked in connection with TRO3.</p> <p>(g) Vice Chair Ian Robertson referred to a problem regarding the administration of residents' parking permits involving a mismatch between payments made and the information available to traffic wardens. Cllr Jo Mowat agreed there are a number of issues surrounding technology, and will report to the issue.</p> <p>(h) Paul Hancock referred to recent failures of street lighting, which might have been triggered by an inspection. Some lights were lit during the day rather than at night.</p>	<p>JM</p> <p>JM</p> <p>JM</p> <p>JM</p> <p>JM</p>
<p><b>7. Finance Report</b></p> <p>The current balance in the Community Council's favour stands at £1155.</p>	



<p><b>8. Planning Report</b></p> <p>Isabel Thom began by referring to Edinburgh World Heritage webinar which covered topics concerning;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Management plans for the WH Site + presentations from Santiago de Compostela</li> <li>(b) Climate change issues</li> <li>(c) Protection of Historic Buildings</li> </ul> <p>Mrs Thom then turned to the written Report circulated prior to the meeting and identified various items considered to be of particular interest.</p> <p>Reference was also drawn to an issue previously raised by Alex Milne regarding kitchen extractor flues and it was noted that these need to be fireproof.</p> <p>Paul Hancock advised that Rosebery House proposals are being redesigned.</p>	
<p><b>9. Communications Report</b></p> <p>Paul Hancock advised that he was working on an engagement strategy alongside the data team at the City Council, thanks to Cllr Mowat it seems that the Community Council boundary extends further than originally thought, and contains more young local residents between 20 and 40 than expected.</p> <p>Mr Hancock had attended the Public Spaces Management Plan meeting on 21 April on behalf of WECC. There are management plan is comprised of various sub groups, covering areas such as engagement, filming, economy, environment and social.</p> <p>Although this is a public forum, the identities of contributors were being concealed which Chair Gordon Wyllie felt was an example of poor governance</p>	
<p><b>10. Website</b></p> <p>Pete Black and Benoit Culioli were invited to make a brief report on developments on the new website design. Benoit Culioli made an on-screen demonstration and invited comments upon its appearance and functionality. Thereafter he and Peter Black answered a number of questions and points raised by those present. It was noted that some further work will be done at a later stage on the communications side there was general agreement with Fraser Stevenson that ediwecc2 'was the most appealing. Paul Hancock will carry this forward, and suggested acquiring a new logo, as the current one affects load speed.</p>	<p>PH</p>
<p><b>11. Dates of next meetings</b></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 5<sup>th</sup> October, 9<sup>th</sup> November</p>	

<p><b>12. AOCB</b></p> <p>There was no other business</p>	
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Dr Wyllie closed the meeting.

Appendix 1. Police Report provided to and distributed by Paul Hancock.

*I thought I would take the opportunity to introduce myself and the rest of the team at the City Centre Community Policing Team based at the West End Police Station, as there have been some recent changes to postings here, and I appreciate that COVID has had an impact on the level of engagement that we have been able to maintain between ourselves and your respective Community Councils, however I am keen to maintain and build on this where possible.*

*The team operating out of the West End comprises:*

*Inspector - Mark Hamilton  
Sergeant - Cameron Walker  
Sergeant - David Duthie  
8 x Constables*

*Of those 8, at least two officers per beat are assigned areas of responsibility in line with our 3 beat areas which are roughly:*

*The New Town  
The Old Town, Dumbiedykes and Holyrood  
The West End, Tollcross and Lauriston*

*There is also one officer assigned to the Business Improvement District who provides support and training to the businesses within it. There are some areas of your respective community council areas that fall slightly outwith our beat areas, however in those circumstances, we are happy to take the details of any issues that require to be addressed and pass them on to the relevant area, asking that they link in with you directly.*

*I intend to pull together a monthly newsletter to address issues that have been raised previously, give an update on trends and significant incidents that we are aware of for you to pass on to your members, provide advice and support via partner agencies, and give an overview of any upcoming initiatives or events that may be of interest to your area. This is something that is in progress, and I will look to get it sent out to you in due course, however in the meantime, if there is anything in particular we can assist with, please let me know.*

*Whilst we are happy to receive e-mails and will respond to them in due course, I would be obliged if this is not shared routinely with community members for their use, as it is not monitored 24/7 and a more appropriate means of contact for them is either via 101, 999 in an emergency, or via the contact us form on our website. These are monitored 24/7 and the message will still reach us, but will be triaged to ensure that anything that requires urgent attention is given it.*

*Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or queries that we can assist with, and I will be in touch in due course with our monthly newsletter. I am happy to tailor these for each community council, so if you can give us an idea of the key themes you would like addressed on a month to month basis we will use that to formulate it.*



*I look forward to speaking to you (and hopefully meeting in person before too long).*

*Kind Regards,*

*Cameron*

*Cameron Walker  
PS 857-E*

DRAFT