



Red sky at Morningside – prize-winning entry to our 2015 photographic competition by Cathy Shields

Morningside Community Council e-Newsletter

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A New Member

We have welcomed a new member to the Community Council this month – Dianne Savage has been nominated as a representative of the Friends of Braidburn Valley Park.

Police Report

The police are maintaining their drive on tackling housebreaking through Operation RAC. The Ward Officer at our meeting, PC Sacha Ponniah, had earlier in the evening been involved in the pursuit and apprehension of 2 suspects after 2 break-ins in our area. Sacha reported on other noteworthy incidents where public vigilance is important in preventing crime. These included installation of a card-skimming device at an ATM in Morningside Road, thefts of cycles from stairs and a couple of cases of fire-raising in stairs. Sacha reminded us of the importance of keeping stair-doors secure and not allowing callers to gain unsupervised entry for deliveries. There has also been a case of theft by a bogus caller claiming to be a new social care worker. Unfamiliar carers should not be allowed in without first checking with the care-provider or carefully examining their ID.

Parking around Myreside

Residents in the Myreside area have raised concerns about inconsiderate parking by contractors working on the REH re-development. We were represented at a meeting of interested parties where City Council roads officials agreed to introduce parking restrictions in Meadowspot, part of Myreside Road and part of Craighouse Road. These will fix the immediate problems but we foresee a longer term issue as the new hospital units become operational. Staff and visitors are likely to use the planned pedestrian access at Myreside and take advantage of the unrestricted parking in the western part of Morningside. This could add to the existing pressures from commuter parking. We would welcome comments from residents in the affected areas.

Communal bins etc

Problems with communal bins and fly-tipping continue to feature highly. The recent gales have blown some large bins across roads but we hope that the worst culprits will soon be replaced with more stable models. We have made the City Council aware of chronic issues such as lack of glass-recycling bins and inappropriate use of communal facilities. The Council official present at our meeting, Louise Vittery, assured us of strenuous efforts to identify and issue fixed penalties for misuse of bins. We thanked Louise for her recent efforts in getting prompt action on fly-tipping and on starting to bring A-boards under control – we're promised more action on that front in April.

Young and old

The Local Community Plan for South Central Edinburgh has as one of its local priorities to “*work with young people to improve their access to outdoor spaces and other services.*” The Action Group taking this forward, on which we're represented, is planning a scheme called “Youth Talk” to engage young people directly and get their views on local facilities. CCs across the City find it difficult to engage young people and we hope that this scheme will help us get a better insight into what young people think about their local area, free of adult preconceptions. At the other end of the age scale, we're pleased to report that the Open Door's new group for “senior men” is proving a success in providing a social facility for a group that is seriously under-represented in other outreach activities.

*Next Meeting, Wednesday 16 March 2016, 7.30 pm at the Open Door. All welcome.
Confidential police surgery from 7.00 pm.*

Contact us through our website www.morningside.org.uk or through Facebook (look for Morningside Community Council) or e-mail secretary@morningside.org.uk