

**Morningside Community Council**

**Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at The Open Door, 420 Morningside Road.**

**DRAFT note of the meeting.**

**People present:**

**MCC office bearers-**

**Chair: Willie Black (WB)**

**Planning officer: Goff Cantley (GC)**

**Secretary: Carol Duncan (CD)**

**Engagement Officer: Moira Gibson (MG)**

**Members- Caroline McKinley (CMcK)**

**Ex officio-**

**Attendees- Alastair Webb, Jane Brown, Arne Strid, Tamsin Kilgour, Helen Sang, Sheena Nimmo, Ken Harvey, Kerr Fraser, David Milne, Iain Meiklejohn, Robert Swinney.**

**Apologies- Jennifer Scarce, Paul Bailey.**

**POLICE REPORT.**

The Police reported an increase of break-ins to sheds & garages in the South East area with several thousand pounds worth of bicycles stolen. Enquiries are ongoing, but nobody has been identified as being responsible yet. Information on shed and bike security was forwarded to MCC.

**ACTION:** CD to forward information to 2 attendees and bike security information is to be posted on MCC website.

**PLANNING-** please refer to the Planning Report.

In addition GC reported that a consultation is open 'till the 3/4/25 on

[Edinburgh Design Guidance](#) - Guidance for design and placemaking in new developments. This is to make sure we have places that work well and create good places to live.

[Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Guidance](#) - Guidance to support works to a listed building or within a conservation area. This is to make sure we look after our historic buildings and places.

[Guidance for Householders](#) - Guidance for development undertaken by individual householders. This includes work to existing houses and gardens.

Kerr Fraser (MHA) raised a recently posted application for a house in a garden at Jordan Lane 24/O6121/FUL. Previously this site has had several applications and permission was not granted on these occasions. (Previously there were more than 21 objections, and so the planning committee considered the application.)

## **MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING.**

Minutes agreed.

Niall Murphy from Home Energy Scotland has agreed to do a presentation at MCC's meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> March on the type of energy saving grants available to homeowners.

Sub group on Local Place Plans met. More details at the agenda item.

MCC noted the bins have been moved clear of the junction at Morningside Drive/Comiston Road to provide clearer sightlines for vehicles and pedestrians crossing. Thanks to Cllr Parker and Cllr Munro.

An attendee raised concern about the traffic problems that will be caused by the construction of the hotel on the Old Post Office site. It was agreed that while the construction is likely to restrict traffic on Morningside road, it maybe possible to make use of the parking spaces next to the trees and we can monitor the compliance with the traffic orders. The developer has attended our meetings previously and is keen to have the support of the community, so we hope he will continue to respond as far as he can to any issue, however there will be inevitable traffic disruption on Morningside Road. GC also explained that infrastructure issues is not a planning matter.

An attendee asked about the progress with last year's Roads NEP application to widen the pavement across from Waitrose. ACTION: CD to contact Alan Dunlop at CEC.

## **LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

CMcK circulated copies of the proposed community survey that will be circulated widely in Morningside. An attendee asked about the quantitative gathering and CMcK explained it can be gathered from the 1 to 5 answers in the responses.

CMcK gave an update on the actions so far. Report is attached to these minutes.

The subgroup is meeting Friday 17<sup>th</sup>. CD and CMcK have met South Morningside PS headmaster and hope to meet the pupil sustainability group in the coming month. A grant application has been applied for to employ a graphic designer to design the final document and to pay for publicity.

Helen Sang advised that AACT is planning to contact Boroughmuir High School and have been investigating at the 'A Place in Childhood' guidance.

## **FINANCE**

WB reported that we received a £2K grant for planters at the clock.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

CD advised the meeting that election of community council members will run from the 6<sup>th</sup> February till the 27<sup>th</sup> February. Members have to live in the defined Morningside area and there can be up to 14 members. Nominated members are reps from local constituted groups and there can up to 7 nominated members. Both members and nominated members can vote. Individuals seeking election

to a community council should be nominated by a proposer and seconder, both of whom must be on the electoral register for the community council area.

**Greenbank Church -Christian Aid Fund raiser- Concert by Forth Valley Chorus on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 7.30pm**

## **AOB.**

Travel. Concerns were raised about the sharp bend on Hermitage Drive. When the roads were icy there were a couple of near misses and concern for pedestrians using the narrow pavement at the bend with vehicles sometimes going on to the pavement.

Concerns were also raised about the junction of Cluny Drive/Midmar Drive. The bend on Midmar Drive means that traffic going north on Midmar Drive is not seen at the junction. Action: CD to email Cllr Munro re these matters.

An attendee expressed concern that no councillor was at MCC's meeting and questioned the value that CEC place on Community Councils. CD said there is a small team that specifically supports community councils and MCC has recently received an invite for a couple of members to attend a civic reception to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of community councils. After discussion CMcK agreed to attend the civic reception. ACTION: CD is check the councillor rota and make enquiries.

## **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm at The Open Door.**

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