

Morningside Community Council
DRAFT Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 7:30 pm Wednesday 21 June 2023
Open Door, 240 Morningside Road

People present:

MCC office bearers-

Willie Black (WB) Chair, Goff Cantley (GC) Carol Duncan (CD) Secretary.

Members-

Jennifer Scarce(JS), Moira Gibson(MG), John Robson, Jill Powlett-Brown, Theo Spannellis.

Ex officio-

Attendees-

Tamsin Kilgour, Arne Strid, Paul Bailey, Alastair Wright, Ian Hadden, Wilma Hadden, Alastair Webb, Sumit Ghosh, Sarah Hunt, Marta Pasikouska.

Police Sergeant Michael Dixon, PC Ryan Williams.

Apologies-

Rebecca Diggle, Ken Harvey, Ian Murray MP, Cllr Marie-Clair Munro and Cllr Ben Parker.

POLICE REPORT.

Sgt. Dixon introduced himself as the new sergeant for our area. He explained that the main focus at present was on 'acquisitive' behaviour, youth disorder and vehicle speeding. He confirmed that the Police team email is EdinburghCPTSouthEast@Scotland.pnn.police.uk Also phone 101 for non emergencies or 999 for emergencies.

MCC thanked the Police for spending time marking bikes on Morningside road, while MCC was carrying out surveys nearby.

Sgt Dixon explained Police resources are currently stretched with the investigation of 3 murders and with the Royal Week and these do impact on Community Policing.

During a discussion about the Royal Ed. grounds, a resident asked if it is safe to walk in the Royal Ed. in the evening to which the officer replied that a resident should keep your wits about you. PC Duffy remains the police officer at the Royal Ed.

An attendee asked if the Police do checks on the selling of vapes. The Police sgt. advised that they do checks and report issues to Trading Standards, who can impose sanctions businesses.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING.

It was agreed that May's Minute should be amended to reflect that the Trinity Network is co-ordinated by Edinburgh University.

JPB thanked Goff Cantley and the Councillor Parker's assistance in making an application for a community grant to repair the wall and to provide an interpretation panel.

CD reported MCC is still awaiting a decision on its community grant application for the replanting of the planters at the clock. A resident asked if Parks could remove the dead plants.

The narrow footway between the Merlin and Cuddy Lane was discussed and it was agreed that MCC should contact the Council to ask about the progress in widening this footway as the kerb can be dangerous at present.

ACTION: Secretary to write to Ian Tame and local councillors.

Open Door was successful in its Lottery funding bid.

Graffiti on Canaan Lane has been removed.

TRAVELLING SAFELY.

Quiet Route.

Paul Bailey circulated a plan of his idea for an alternative traffic movement through the Braid estate. His main proposal was to fully open Braid Avenue to cars and bikes. The plan prompted an interesting discussion, where a number of valid comments were made from the perspective of the different users.

Drivers felt the lights on Braid Ave. would enable easier driving through the area, although there maybe a problem at the top junction with Midmar Drive.

Cyclists mentioned the existing staggered Quiet Route on Braid Road is very helpful in cycling uphill but there is a problem at the junction from Braid Road cycling onto Braidburn Terrace. Comments were also made about there being no signage to direct cyclists to use the Quiet Route.

Walkers, particularly for school children, acknowledged the benefit from the safe pedestrian crossing at the Braid Avenue/Cluny gardens and the quieter streets.

In general, there was a sense that there is too much vehicle traffic moving through the area and in response to this, an attendee suggested closing Braid Road.

(previously residents at MCC meetings have had complaints the volume of traffic on Commiston Road, about the congested junctions at Midmar Avenue/Cluny avenue and Hermitage Drive/Braid Road and speeding on Midmar Drive and Braid Road, particularly down towards the pedestrian crossing at the Hermitage entrance In addition, MCC has previously requested filters at Morningside Clock traffic lights for vehicles from Comiston Road for a right turn onto Cluny gardens and bike filters at the east end of Braidburn Ter and at Morningside Clock. Also concerns were raised about improving the junction of Cluny Drive and Midmar Avenue)

ACTION: Secretary to submit a request for a more wholistic consideration of the changes necessary to allow the ETRO to be more effective in achieving its aims and improving local issues in the nearby streets.

Secy also to request someone to explain how traffic maybe reduced in Morningside.

PLANNING.

GC planning report is attached. In addition GC also mentioned that a recent planning application was submitted for the demolition of the sheds at the back of The Canny Man's.

FINANCE.

WB reported that the account currently has £1827 but this will reduce once cheques issued are cashed.

SECRETARY.

The secretary report is attached.

There was a further discussion of the Council's process of the ETRO for the Meadows to Greenbank Quiet Route. CD reported the ETRO will be advertised seperately and the consultation is open until November and here will be no changes to the existing route meantime.

AOCB.

Paul Bailey questioned the map on our website indicating the area covered by MCC. (subsequently Paul accepted our map was correct)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 16th August 2023 at 7.30pm at the Open Door