

Morningside Community Council

DRAFT Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 7:30 pm Wednesday 18th October 2023

Open Door, 240 Morningside Road

People present:

MCC office bearers-

Goff Cantley (GC) Carol Duncan (CD) Secretary.

Members-

Moira Gibson(MG),Caroline McKinley(CMcK), Theo Spannellis(TS), Jennifer Scarce(JS).

Ex officio-

Cllr Ben Parker, Cllr Marie-Clair Munro.

Attendees-

Sergeant Dixon, Oscar Virdee, Arne Astrid, Tamsin Kilgour, Alastair Wright, Paul Bailey, Ken Harvey, Andrew Reynolds, Bethany Lee.

Apologies-

Dr Willie Black, Rebecca Diggle, Daniel Johnson MSP, John Robson, Abby White, Sarah Hunt.

Caroline Mckinley volunteered to chair the meeting as Willie Black is on holiday.

POLICE REPORT.

Segeant Dixon reported that there have been no breakins in the past 2 weeks in Morningside/Marchmont/Grange area.

The Community Police are endeavouring to have a presence in the area and where they are suspicious, they do stop and enquire drivers/cyclists about their business in the area.

In general, Youth disorder and antisocial behaviour are giving senior people in business concern. Locally, the Police are building up a picture and have identified several youths who have caused problems at Sainsbury's and M&S.

Recently, the Police have also been involved in speaking to drivers parking near the schools, giving advice about anti-social parking, particularly those parking on Zig- Zag lines.

An attendee asked about photos in shop windows identifying people stealing (face pixelated out) Sgt Dixon explained the legality of the photo is not a Police matter but may be worth checking with ICO.

Sgt Dixon explained that the up and coming winter festivals are a busy time for the whole team. The Police work with the Fire Brigade and the Council in joint operations during these times.

To report incidents please Call on 101 if you need advice or to report a crime, or 999 if it is an emergency. There is also a contact form on Police Scotland's website.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING.

Minutes agreed

CD confirmed the recent Street life survey results were sent to new manager at M&S.

The shrubs at the clock have been pruned. Cllr Munro and Parks team were thanked.

Cllr Ross advised MCC that Shared Repair service have informed him that the drip above Greggs is common repair and that is a responsibility of the stair owners. CD to contact Marchside property agents, who manage one of the properties.

TRAVELLING SAFELY.

Braid Road, south of Hermitage Drive, is closed as part of the contract work to Braidburn Terrace. Attendees confirmed to Cllr Parker that the necessary closed signage is now installed. The sequencing of the traffic lights is also being worked on.

The temporary closure of Braid Road is causing the build up of traffic on Comiston Rd and Morningside Road during rush hours.

One attendee felt the contract should only close one end of Braidburn Terrace at a time. Another attendee thought the barriers should be moved at the Greenbank junction to improve traffic movement.

PLANNING.

GC advised that MCC support the reduction of the height in the development of the Canny Mann planning application-23/02585/CON.

GC reported correspondence with a neighbour requesting support for an objection to planning application 23/04064/FUL - very large rear extension of a terraced house in the Plewlands Conservation Area. The application appeared quite unsuitable in this context, but the fact that the extension extended into the rear garden to the full extent of the existing house, i.e.doubling its depth, and leaving little rear garden ground, made the case look unsupportable and worthy of an MCC objection. Such extensions appear to be limited to 3 metres. The impact on the Conservation Area, if repeated on many houses, would be highly detrimental to the amenity and character of the area. With a 29th September closing date for comments by then imminent, a quick objection was made on the above grounds.

GC and other officer bearers to attend 2 meetings on local place plans, in order to gather more information.

TREASURER

No update as WB on holiday.

SECRETARY.

The secretary's report was circulated.

CD informed the meeting that Morningside and Bruntsfield traders are planning a late night shopping event on the 6th December. MCC has requested the Council will switch on the xmas lights that evening.

There was a discussion on whether MCC should put forward a Place Based Investment bid for funding a project to improve the place in front of M&S and Superdrug, in line with the results of our recent street life survey.

Cllr Parker is arranging a meeting with Council officers and the local councilors to find out more information about the Place Based investment.

AOB.

JS thanked GC for stair fire safety leaflet which JS circulated in her stair.

Cllr Munro informed the meeting that she arranged to have the pavements powerwashed. An attendee asked if the pavements are to be repointed, but she was advised this won't be the case.

Cllr Munro informed the meeting that the councillors are dealing with a number of complaints about the new groupings of bins. Cllr Munro also reported that these bin arrangements will be uplifted 3 times a week.

Cllr Parker reported that In line with [Scottish Government guidance](#), the Council is preparing a

- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)
- Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Delivery Plan (LHEEDP)

The LHEES sets a plan for decarbonising heat in buildings in Edinburgh and improving their energy efficiency. The LHEEDP sets out the first stage of actions for delivering this strategy. Both will be published by the end of 2023.

Related to this and the recent presentation, CD asked Cllr Parker if he can find out from Home Energy Scotland how many tenements have received grant funding for loft insulation and what is the grant.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.30pm at the Open Door