

Morningside Community Council

DRAFT Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 7:30 pm Wednesday 15th November 2023

At Open Door, 240 Morningside Road

People present:

MCC office bearers-

Willie Black(WB),Chair, Goff Cantley (GC),Planning, Carol Duncan(CD),Secretary, Moira Gibson(MG),Engagement, Rebecca Diggie (RD)

Members-

Caroline McKinley(CMck), Jennifer Scarce(JS), Jill Powlett-Brown (JPB), John Robson (JR)

Ex officio-

Cllr Marie-Clair Munro.

Attendees-

Alastair Webb, Paul Bailey, Tamsin Kilgour, Kerr Fraser, David Milne, David Hughes, Arne Strid.

Apologies-

Daniel Johnson MSP, Abby White, Sarah Hunt, Ken Harvey.

POLICE REPORT.

No Police present.

An attendee asked if an email can be sent to the Police to request a Police presence at the evening shopping event on the 6 December. An attendee reported a number of shed break-ins in Morningside and a cyclist was hit on Morningside Road. RD reported on going problems with traffic violations near Canaan lane school. ACTION: CD to email the Police.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING.

Minutes agreed .

JPB advised MCC that she is stepping down as the nominated member from Morningside Heritage Association and her nominated position will be covered in future by Dr Kerr Fraser and Dr David Milne. MCC thanked Jill for her support over the years and she will be missed. ACTION: CD to advise the Council and enquire about job sharing a nomination.

Cllr Munro is continuing to make enquiries about the bus trackers and how they can be improved. Attendees raised concerns about the buses, that are imminent, disappearing off the screen and the lack of 'Due' on the screen. It also appears the screens may only be a timetable, not a tracker.

Cllr Munro reported that the local councillors continue to have had a lot of enquiries about the location of the new 6 bin hubs across the Merchiston/Bruntsfield/Morningside area. The bin collections are now going to be more frequent following the installation of the new bin hubs.

Subsequent to the meeting, MCC was notified the review of the consultation of the new bin hubs in South Morningside is complete and local residents will be notified of their nearby locations. The new bin hubs will hopefully be operational summer 2024, after the TROs are completed.

TRAVELLING SAFELY.

Cllr Munro informed the meeting that both local councillors and neighbouring councillors met with the officers and have been advised of the preliminary results of the Quiet Route consultations. The report on the consultation and its findings will be considered at the January 2024 Transport and Environment Committee.

Following the pavement cleaning, attendees raised concerns that a number of pavement repairs are needed, particularly 1. The poor condition of the haunching around the manholes at the pedestrian waiting area at the south west corner of traffic lights at Balcarres st/Comiston Rd. 2. The wobbly paving slab near Mia Kitchen restaurant. ACTION: Cllr Munro to make enquiries about the repairs mentioned.

Following discussions at the previous meeting about the possible project bid to make a safer pedestrian crossing at Morningside Park and to improve the space around the bus stop, M&S and Superdrug, WB asked the members present if anyone objected to MCC submitting a bid for place based investment. No one objected and so it was agreed that the bid would be submitted.

PLANNING.

GC planning report is attached.

At MCC's next meeting (20 December), the property owner of the Old Post Office will be presenting an alternative proposal for a boutique hotel that includes a restaurant and bar on the ground floor. To progress a possible local place plan GC CMcK JR and CD agreed to discuss further.

TREASURER

WB reported £1366 in MCC's account.

SECRETARY.

Cllr Parker reported that Home Energy Scotland is checking the number of tenements that have had loft insulation grant.

A useful meeting was held with officers and local councillors to find out more about Place Based investments.

Cllr Ross made enquiries and the pedestrian crossing time at the clock traffic lights has been increased to assist families and less able people crossing the junction.

A meeting to establish the priorities of the south east locality is to be held. MG and CD to attend.

AGM of Morningside Heritage Association to be held on the 5 December.

AGM of Astley Ainslie Community Trust to be held on the 7 December.

Morningside Christmas Shopping Night on the 6th December- treats in store!

Alastair Wright, one of our regular attendees, is moving shortly. MCC thank him for putting us in touch with a Scottish Tech Army and will miss his contributions to our discussions.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 20 December at 7.30pm at Open Door.

