

Morningside Community Council

DRAFT Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 7:30 pm Wednesday 21 February 2024

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), community engagement.

Members-

Caroline Mckinley, Theo Spanellis, Kerr Fraser, Jennifer Scarce, Alastair Webb.

Ex officio-

Attendees-

Sergeant Dixon, Arne Strid, Tamsin Kilgour,Paul Bailey,Anne Ness,S.Kane, Chris Miller,Samnel Gossage, Kaitlin and Garaldine(From Napier Uni)

Apologies-

Cllr Parker, Ken Harvey.

POLICE REPORT.

Sgt. Dixon was pleased to report that a housebreaker was caught in the act hiding in the house. He also reported that travelling criminals have been around Edinburgh University stealing mobile phones.

There has also been thieves using electric bikes in the neighbourhood.

Sgt Dixon also recommended the public having their bikes marked. CD asked if the Police could do bike marking again in Morningside near M&S.

In response to MCC concerns about vehicle speeding, he reported that the Police are doing as much as they can when resources are available.

In response to comments about bogus callers in Greenbank area, he suggested not buying anything from callers and in response to concerns about drinking in Morningside park, Sgt Dixon said the Police will visit when resources permit.

Lastly Sgt Dixon informed the meeting that he is being seconded to the NW part of the city. MCC thanked him for his assistance and hope the Police attendance at our meetings will continue.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING.

Minutes agreed.

No update about the bus trackers at the bus stops. No update about the damaged paving particularly at crossing Comiston Rd/Belhaven terrace. CD to contact Cllr Munro.

Kerr Fraser, MHA, reported concerns about the deterioration of the wall with stones from the trinity church. MHA have received some funding but more is required. MHA and MCC are still waiting a decision on the community grant application, however an attendee informed the meeting that he attended the meeting and all Morningside applications have been granted funding.

MCC is not clear on rota for councillors attending our meeting. CD to check.

PLANNING. There was a short discussion on how MCC should progress a local place plan and possibly setting up a separate meeting with other local groups to develop a plan. CD to contact Local groups with a view to developing a group to oversee a local place plan consultation.

TRAVELLING SAFELY. Braidburn Terrace to close for 5 nights for road works.

TS raised his concern about a leaflet sent to him from Cllr Munro and Miles Briggs MSP asking a question about the space in front of M&S without any context or reference. (the questions asks what the whether or not the recipient supports the removal of the parking spaces and the taxi rank and replacing it with a paved area and seating). TS expressed his concern that this is damaging to the public's future perception of both the project and MCC. CD drew attention to a recent article in the Evening News about the space as well.

JS complained about the uneven surface of the road crossing at Steel's Place.

TREASURER.

WB reported £1031 in MCC account.

SECRETARY.

CD gave an update on the suggested placemaking bid and other matters. Please see the attached secretary's report.

It was agreed that MCC should make a bid for a first phase of the placemaking bid given the funding availability is finite and it's a bidding process.

CD also drew attention to the advertised TRO/23/26 on proposed electronic visitor permits and amendments to diesel surcharge announced.

AOB.

Paul Bailey gave an update on the activity of the Friends of Braidburn Valley Park. They are working with David Kyles from Parks and have been doing a clean up of the old tram shed and have plans for a new picnic table and possible concrete tennis table.

Anne Ness, from Morningside Traders Association, suggested installing a statue of 'Maisie' in Morningside. This idea was well received by the all the meeting attendees.

Anne Ness also suggested that an Edinburgh Bus tours should include Morningside and the Braids. Also the Annual Scottish Independent Retailers of the year competition is still open. 'Houseproud' is a finalist and to vote for the the shop, please pop into the shop and pick up a leaflet with a QR link.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 20 March 24 at 7.30pm at The Open Door.