

Morningside Community Council

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting 7:30 pm Wednesday 16 November 2022

Open Door Café, 240 Morningside Road

People present:

MCC office bearers-

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

Members-

Caroline McKinley(CMcK), Jill Powlet-Brown (JPB), Moira Gibson (MG)

Ex officio-

Cllr Marie-Clair Munro(MCM)

Attendees-

Tamsin Kilgour (I love Morningside), Iain Meiklejohn (chair of Friends of Midmar Paddock)

Alastair Wright, Arne Strid, Ken Harvey(Keep Morningside Moving), Anne Ness (Morningside Traders)

James Ness, David Rogers, Alastair Seale, Paul Bailey, Deborah Jarrett, Andy (Bike Morningside) David Howe.

Ian Tame and Christine McCallum from CEC 20-minute Neighbourhood Team.

Apologies:

Cllr Ben Parker, Rebecca Diggle, Jennifer Scarce, Douglas Roxburgh, Sheena Nimmo, Maciej Malasuk John Robson and Theo Spanellis.

INTRODUCTION TO 20-MINUTE NEIGHBOURHOODS

WB welcomed Ian Tame and Christina McCallum who were attending our meeting to present the Council's 20-minute Neighbourhood strategy. (The powerpoint presentation is attached)

The team are aware of MCC Travel Survey and are willing to do a walkabout with MCC in the New Year.

The presentation indicated the Council's current thinking. The definition of a 20 minute neighbourhood does vary but in this strategy it is currently 10 minutes there and 10 minutes back. The presentation included a slide showing the 'Place Standard Tool' that is to be used for mapping local peoples priorities and forms the basis to developing a local place plan. (for more background details, please see: <https://www.ourplace.scot/tool>)

Ian Tame explained that Morningside/Bruntsfield place is one of several towncentres identified by the Council. At present there are no plans for the Morningside placemaking. The team are currently working in the Gorgie/Dalry town centre where road renewal funding has been committed. In this situation the team has the opportunity to informally engage with the public, develop place plans as well as the opportunity to influence the design.

Cllr Munro explained that the Council has funding from Sustrans to improve pedestrian and cycle environments so this is the reason for emphasis on these priorities.

A discussion followed where attendees made a number of comments. These were as follows: the need for public toilets other than the library, issues for people with limited mobility, Morningside is a 20-minute Neighbourhood, the need to improve small issues for pedestrians, need to improve green/open spaces, desire to have a community hub where people can engage with the Council. Wider views on Placemaking were also

so raised and these included the need to be mindful of Morningside's Heritage, concerns about the travel distances required by local secondary schools and concern that Morningside is losing businesses and local employment because the Council is too quick to re-zone shops and offices for residential development.

Taking matters forward –

It was agreed that MCC and the 20 minute Neighbourhood team member should meet in the New Year to have a walkabout to identify possible 'small wins' that can improve the experience of pedestrians and cyclists on Morningside Road.

Ian Tame was asked if MCC undertook engagement with M&S, Superdrug, local shops and the public and then developed a possible landscape plans for the area in front of M&S and Superdrug, would this improve the priority of Morningside/Bruntsfield area for future investment. GC said it may be possible to obtain a grant for a landscape architect. Ian Tame thought this type of community-led engagement and project would align with the 20-minute Neighbourhood Strategy and Public Street Life Assessment work and could be something that CEC would support

POLICE REPORT.

No report available this month.

Cllr Munro reported that the Police and traffic wardens have been actively involved in discouraging parents driving to Canaan Lane School and St Peter's School. A number of tickets for double parking have been issued.

WB mentioned that pop up Bobs can be purchased on the internet. Cllr Munro has enquired about the legality of installing pop up Bobs.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING.

The October minutes were approved as a true record.

An attendee mentioned that MCC is proposing a bus-gate for Morningside and referred to the discussion in MCC's September's minutes. WB confirmed that MCC did not propose a bus gate. At the September meeting the idea was one of many mentioned by attendees in a general discussion around the recent Travel Survey carried out in Morningside Road. CD reported receiving a number of emails objecting to MCC's 'bus gate proposal' and making other critical comments. She has responded to these emails which hopefully obviated any misunderstandings. CMcK said it is important that we all work together to improve Morningside Road as a great place to visit, live and shop

BRAID ROAD. Cllr Munro read the response to the enquiries made about Braid Road. The response (attached) gave an update on the details of the ETRO for the Greenbank/Meadows Quiet Route. The permanent changes of Braidburn Terrace/Hermitage of Braid entrance crossing etc are a separate contract and will be delivered later.

PLANNING REPORT

GC reported that the 3 Cluny Avenue case was refused and the news is that the applicant has submitted an appeal, which is to Scottish Government, in this case.

The other news was that the Leaf and Bean café was open and trading in the former Police Box next to the Blackford Pond entrance, having gained both Planning and Listed Building Consents.

Midmar Paddock development will require a 12 week pre-planning application process, but this process has not yet started.

TREASURER REPORT. Bank account is the same as last month-£3012.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Reminder of the small independent shops arranging a late night Xmas opening on Thursday 17 November.

AOB

Cllr Munro reported concern about cost of E-vehicles charging at Maxwell street and will investigate.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING. Wednesday 18 January at 7.30pm at the Open Door.