**Corstorphine Community Council Monthly Meeting – Minutes**

**Date:** 15 March 2017

**Time:** 19:00-21:00

**Location:** Heritage Centre, Dower House, St. Margaret’s Park, Corstorphine

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**Attendees**

C Connachan, E Donaldson, W Hope, K Keil (CEC), I Kirkpatrick (Corstorphine Churches Together), D McCall, T McLean, J Melville, R Moran, S Murray, S Ramsay, B Rattray, A Sillars (Rotary), C Stewart, G Swann, I Todd, J Beck, S Kerr, I Bird, S Hunter, A Millar, G Smith, C White, N Brown, S Hunter

**Apologies**

F Ross (CEC), T Ni Lionnain, Alex Cole-Hamilton (MSP)

**Police Report –** PC Sam Davison

Asbo area - male harassing people in area; now in jail.

42 crimes this year (downward trend), as well as housebreakings (1 dwelling, 2 businesses in same night - caught offender). Currently offering advice to citizens regarding how to prevent break-ins.

5 domestic violence instances.

Pedestrian crossing tickets increased lately; hefty fines charged.

St Johns Rd, Corstorphine Road (bus focus), N Saughton Road -- road blocks to ensure people not using mobiles, materials tied down, etc.

3 thefts in last month (package dropped off); one bike theft. Down from 18 reported at this time last year.

No motor vehicle thefts in last month, nor any hate crimes.

Youth issues -- petty vandalism, rocks at windows, etc. Ganging up at stores, etc. Vandalism in Union Park, with vindictive behaviour following complaints, as well as rugby posts kicked down. Now weekly youth patrols by police in area due to above and due to underage buying of alcohol. Tram tracks at Balgreen seeing issues with gangs of kids as well.

Fraud happening locally whereby someone calls and says HMRC needs to be paid via iPhone vouchers (see Police Report for further details). Local public is warned to beware of such calls.

Advised that people go through 'Trusted Traders' site on CEC website if needed, as Spring brings out fraudulent traders.

Expect safety forum to be revised by late summer (see 15th February minutes for more information).

Parking bill is NOT yet a law. Ongoing consultations thru Transport Scotland, Police, etc. to ensure fit for purpose. No date in sight for when will be put in front of Parliament. However, if a car is parked on payment in a way that makes a pedestrian go into road (ie with buggy or wheelchair), then can be a police matter.

**Request from Public Attendees Regarding St. Margaret’s Park –** Ann Millar and Friends

Dog owners asking CCC what support can be provided to fix issues with sinking mud and foot-deep ponds in SW corner. Also ask that vehicles when going across park use correct paths, as tire tracks are adding to problem.

S Kerr notes that the needs budget has been allocated for year of 2016/2017. Issue raised will be added to CCC projects list for April requests (2017/2018) – **ACTION.**

It is noted and agreed by all that ‘Friends of the Park’ groups are best way to get results for such issues, as well as way to get outside funding. It is also noted that Corstrophine Trust have some responsibility for park. **ACTION: S Kerr** will reach out to Corstorphine Trust regarding matter.

**Councillor’s Report** – Councillor Karen Keil

Quiet at moment due to election period. Suggests a transport conference be scheduled amongst CEC and CCC members only. Issues currently: lines not being enforced, Roseburn Cycle Path coming, St JOhn's Rd traffic, etc. No action owner agreed at this time.

C Connachan notes that she will be leading an upcoming street audit via Living Streets guidance. Focus on walking. Environment Group would like to do as main project at this time. S Kerr suggests this audit be added to Conference agenda. D McCall notes the need to focus on all transport types/needs.

B Rattray - light at St Johns Road/Bank of Scotland has no button. **ACTION: K Keil** will look at this.

Emailed update from F Ross (read by J Beck):

* Parking survey has now been completed (end Feb) by officers and results are being analysed. Expected resident consultation to commence in the next couple of months
* Still chasing up the pedestrian crossing for St Johns Road (Barnardos) but it has been passed to another officer who is on leave
* Attended the Pinkhill Development Proposal (met Warren) and have raised some issues with planning officers in particular policy relating to employment (120 jobs). Need to see what proposals are actually submitted
* Installation of a Bus shelter at Haymarket for westbound 12,26 and 31 users has now commenced
* Still no knowledge of who has bought the old Woolworths site but through the selling agent have requested a meeting with the new owners **UPDATE provided by T McLean:** new owner of buildings is MacTaggart Commercial Developments, Ltd. (residential)
* Following complaints I am investigating parking under the railway bridge at Carrickknowe.

Other issue raised by public - parking on Saughton by trams, for riding into city.

I Kirkpatrick – question raised: why is winter pick-up being reduced? Concerned that this will cause people to take brown bin waste to landfills. **ACTION:** **K Keil** will register concern and address for a later date.

It is noted that increase of CEC tax by £50 per month is to address £271 million decrease in grant from Scottish Gov't.

**Planning Subcommittee** – Warren Hope

Pinkhill Consultation on 9th March -- met F Ross and John Kerr. Main concerns regarding height of buildings (shading of adjacent properties) and parking. F Ross has raised issue with employment footprint being lost to residencies if this is approved.

Should we not get licensing information? W Hope concerned due to take-away to come on Saughton Road, but regarding which CCC has not been made aware. **ACTION: JB/SK** to chase with Ken Swinney re: correspondence that covers licensing, amenities, etc. Licensing currently will remain under Amenities with J Beck. **ACTION: K Keil** will chase up with CEC Licensing to ensure J Beck gets requisite information.

PAS event – R Moran and W Hope attended on 14th March. **ACTION: W Hope** to request availability of CCC members to meet together to formulate a representative response.

**Business Subcommittee** – S Kerr

Business Hub is first focus item - Tax Accountants have agreed to open their facilities to public. No charge for usage.

Huseyin Simsek requiring more support for establishment of CTA. May need to suggest some other business owners. T Ni Lionain has suggested a feedback session and event once Napier students provide their survey findings.

K Keil suggests that T Ni Lionnain visit Business Gateway at Foot of Leith Walk (old corn exchange) for ideas of just what such a hub can be.

**Environment Subcommittee** – S Murray

Met previous Sunday to discuss Living Streets further. Going to start small pilot with view to training others to do the same.

Waiting for parking survey results to help design focus of group/projects.

Will be looking at Placemaking exercise results and what CC can do, based on results, to encourage more membership. **ACTION: J Beck** communicates plans to create document of trends/themes of such feedback and share with CCC.

Edinburgh Playing Out (an initiative to have street closed for party/encouraging communication amongst neighbours) is open for submissions. Also, noted that World Car-Free Day is 22nd September

J Melville suggests a marketing campaign for CCC. S Kerr notes we can use available £300 communication budget.

**ACTION: All** agree that we will work together on new marketing campaign in coming months.

G Swann - reminder of Corstorphine Hill Tower heritage project; would like to apply for grant to Western Locality; asks how he must do so. **ACTION: S Kerr** will send template of request form to G Swann and he will take forward from there.

**Youth Engagement** – J Beck

Akhila, P3 student at Craigmount, will be our new youth representative. We hope to have reps from all local secondary schools in near future. Plan is for a Community and Cultural Engagement Week, hosted by Craigmount, in September/October.

**Corstorphine Old Parish Church Graveyard** – I Kirkpatrick/J Beck

Further discussion held regarding request to have some local citizens’ ashes interned in small area of green. **DECISION:** In principal, all in favour, based upon details provided to date, pending similar approval from Corstorphine Trust. **ACTION: S Kerr** will write letter clarifying this, for Moira McDonald.

**Placemaking Exercise Results –** S Kerr

**J Beck ACTION:** chase up with Audrey Primrose to ensure online feedback is also being taken into account to impact locality planning.

S Kerr and J Beck will ensure feedback provided both online and in person stays in focus during NP meetings in future.

**ACTION: J Beck** will break into trends and disseminate to all members of CCC.

S Kerr recommends that we have Napier University review as well. C Connachian suggests we pull shovel-ready projects from these responses.

S Murray suggests husting exercise to ensure current/new Councillors are provided such feedback in person as well.

**Previous Meeting’s Minutes –** S Ramsey and C Connachan approve

**Treasurer's Report –** S Kerr will be handing over once annual report to D McCall, from April

**Correspondence and Social Media** – J Beck/I Meiklejohn

I Meilklejohn shared Facebook item raised by member of public regarding crossing at the White Lady still taking inordinately long time to change to allow pedestrian crossings.

All agree should have insurance due to events, etc. and including for monthly meeting, if not already in place. **ACTION: K Keil** will research and revert on why need/exactly what is needed.

Members who wish to be chosen to represent the CCC at the Queen’s Garden Party should email [admin@corstorphinecc.uk](mailto:admin@corstorphinecc.uk) prior to April meeting. S Kerr will pull a name out of a hat to ensure fairness.

J Beck notes email sent earlier this week regarding update to bus services framework; all members encouraged to read.

**AOB**

**S Kerr –** 2nd March Officers & Conveners meeting brought together various projects in place; this information has been sent to all CCC members who are encouraged to get involved.