**CORSTORPHINE COMMUNITY COUNCIL – MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2018**

**Attendees** – Steve Kerr; Claire Connachan; Cllr Gillian Gloyer; Tommy Maclean; Warren Hope; Shiela Ramsay; Keith Walker; Kirsten Olverman; Dave Latimer; Russell Moran; Cora Stewart.

**Apologies** – Cllr Frank Ross; Cllr Mark Brown; Cllr Robert Aldridge; Iwona Meiklejohn; Kenny Wright; Jonathan Melville; John Kerr; Susan Murray; Deborah McCall.

**Police Report** – There was no presentation from the Police this evening.

**Councillors’ Reports and Questions** – Cllr Gillian Gloyer Update

The Councillor gave her monthly update to the community council:

Schools review ongoing, if anyone wants to comment on the west of the city schools it will affect Corstorphine Primary potentially. The informal consultation has been extended until the end of March, on the CEC website under the schools section.

Comment – does this mean existing pupils will be transferred?

Cllr – At the moment it’s an informal consultation, once it gets to statutory consultation it will be looked at with schools and other bodies. My understanding is that they wouldn’t change the pupils there at the moment, but it may change with siblings or cousins. It’s still all informal so it’s all to play for.

Bins going missing and not being replaced. The council ran out of bins, so people have been waiting a long time. The people that have contacted me have been affected. The replacement bins were supposed to arrive but there’s been a production fault. The bins have arrived but there is a backlog and this is frustrating for people.

Traffic and parking, Cllr Ross and I have a useful discussion with Dave Sinclair from City of Edinburgh Council. Various ideas came from that and Dave was going to talk to Steve Kerr about it.

Tomorrow is budget day. Tomorrow’s Edinburgh Evening News will have a short piece from each of the parties explaining the budget proposal.

Question – The house at the top of Ladywell Avenue. As you walk along Ladywell Avenue along the wall of that property there are dozens of wooden pallets and they’ve been there since Xmas. Can this be addressed?

Cllr Gloyer will investigate. Cllr Gloyer reassures the CCC on rumours around the house. There has been no application for change of use. The house is being built and has relevant permissions.

Question – Can the traffic lights phase at Murray Cottages be looked at? It’s too long. Some parents are having to wait for ages.

Cllr Gloyer will look at.

Question – Double yellow lines from Featherhall Road to Oswald Terrace lane near Corstorphine Primary School. They’ve been painted but are being blatantly ignored.

Cllr Gloyer cannot police this. This is a decriminalised offence that is policed by CEC.

**West Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting Update** – S Kerr

Locality Committees

The restructuring of locality committees will see a number of new committees, eg place. There is an opportunity for the community council to feed into the committees. Other committees we could feed into could be community safety for example. Because the committee names names it’s inappropriate for us to be represented, but we can still potentially feed in.

Cllr Gloyer explains that the locality committee is councillors only because they take decisions about money. Cllr Aldridge is very clear that councillors want to keep involvement of community councils, even though they cannot vote.

Grant Fund applications & awards (including Local Events Fund)

First grant fund application to discuss is for a local events fund. CCC applied on 13 December and the judgement was a week ago. SK had asked for the application to be circulated around the CC to see if everyone happy with application and to accept the £10,000 liability element.

The day before the West Edinburgh Neighbourhood Partnership (WENP) meeting, the CC was informed we were applying for £3,500 which was raising to £5,000. SK attended the evening WENP meeting and phoned before to discuss the application, as nobody had seen the application and there was conflict of interest. SK asked to halt the application until CCC had been properly consulted.

CCC cannot hold money for contractors and businesses as that is a direct conflict of interest. As we are a statutory body that comes with requirements that we can and cannot do.

The grant application was also in CYCC’s name. If CYCC was prepared to take the grant money then that would be fine. If the grant application had been held over until this meeting then there would be no issue, as community councillors need consulted. Tommy Maclean acted on behalf of CYCC and accepted the grant. Tommy also clarified that the grant total was £11,000 in actuality.

Second application – partnering with Corstorphine Library for the film club. A grant was applied by CCC to purchase equipment that could be moved elsewhere in the community. The application was successful. It was to pay for the equipment.

There is still £7,000 via the WENP grant applications. One lady has approached us about the Leith litter picking initiative. Adopt a street and volunteers look after their community. This is something we could get support for and evidence its success through Leith. It needs to be applied to before 31 March. Any comments or discussion?

Question – Friends of Gyle Park would like to apply for project funding. Can they apply for part of the £7,000?

Answer – Yes. It’s applicable for all community organisations in the area who are constituted, max grant is £5,000.

Comment – support for litter picking. Would appreciate more people to help with litter picking.

Question – will someone take the lead on litter picking initiative?

Answer – There has been interest from several parties, Susan as head of environment subcommittee should be able to help with this but several other interested people.

Question – could some of the businesses that contribute to the rubbish also get involved?

Answer – McDonalds have expressed interest in supporting this. They have been keen to support financially.

West Edinburgh Youth Engagement Partnership

Steve Kerr reiterates his personal support to the Youth Engagement Partnership (YEP).

Jenny Beck is stepping down from the Community Council. She asked if anyone had any objection to her continuing with the YEP. There should be no issue with this. She has been an asset to YEP. As Tommy is now a CC member, he also sits on YEP and will be able to feed into YEP from CCC perspective.

Comment – CYCC has taken on liability of the grant, and as well as managing the money there is a lot of paperwork needing managed also like PVG for example.

Question – Can CCC still support and take liability on for YEP grants in the future?

Answer – Yes, so long as due process is followed.

Comment – This is new for the area, as the area hasn’t had any money for youth work in the last few years. This area needs support for youth engagement and working with young people as there has been a lack. CYCC has put in a bid for a project called Corstorphine Parklife, to engage with young people and get them involved in activities. It’s the only project in North West Edinburgh that’s not in the Pilton area.

**General Data Protection Regulations** – S Kerr

Edinburgh Association of Community Councils meeting

In terms of data protection and scrutiny of records, things will be getting more complex.

In December, after our CCC meeting we received the first several pages of paperwork on General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). The rest of the document was requested and then supplied from CEC.

A community council will be treated in exactly the same way as a business or company with respect to data protection regulations. There is instruction on the type of information managed and held. It’s about security and protection of individuals’ personal data.

In addition to CCC office bearers, there also needs to be a Data Compliance Officer. This post needs to be filled by May.

Steve spoke with governance people and many CCs had already been in touch with complaints and concerns on GDPR.

The Edinburgh Association of Community Councils are concerned; the CEC and Association will have a meeting tomorrow called “Don’t Panic!”.

**Corstorphine CC officer vacancies**

Jenny Beck has decided to step down from the CC, as well as the secretary role. She is keen to support YEP and youth engagement activities. She has been an excellent secretary and will be sorely missed. Jenny passes on her best wishes to the CC for the future.

As a CC, we require the roles of Secretary and Data Compliance Officer to be filled. If they are not filled then we cannot be a statutory body. If anyone is interested in doing these roles, please express interest.

Comment – for small voluntary organisations, it should be less onerous and scary than some people think.

Question – Is there a job description for the Data Compliance Officer role?

Answer – Steve can pull together a job description.

**Subcommittee Reports**

Planning – W Hope

Warren provided a verbal contribution at the appeals hearing at 19 Turnhouse Road. Waiting outcome of appeal from the Reporter. By doing this it made it easier for a couple of local residents to submit their own appeals. There were too many optimistic assumptions about traffic on local roads.

What was interesting about the appeal was that is was very acrimonious for the planning application for this large tract of land from Craigs Road. That land is still officially within green belt area. CEC took this on and have put it to the Reporter. The guy from Cala said this was only to widen the road. That area of land would accommodate another 400 houses so draw your own conclusions.

Other objections – location of primary school and other infrastructure facilities such as health centre. These could be linked via a bridge and needs to link into walking and cycling network, but bridge would need to be agreed with Network Rail as it goes over the railway.

We will wait to see outcome of Reporter on objections.

Notification on large increase on land at the Gyle Shopping Centre. There are plans for a six screen cinema, a gym and fitness centre on an additional upstairs deck. They will move bus and taxi rank out to car parking spaces and put in a restaurant on ground floor.

Warren attended event at Gyle. The Gyle wants to develop more for evening activities, as well as working to improve walking and cycling connections.

Mactaggart & Mickel’s SJR development

181 – 195 St Johns Road. Warren attended event at Astoria centre. Emails received complaining about the four storey height of the proposed development and the canyoning effect of St John’s Road traffic fumes and air pollution. What is the difference between three and four storeys on air pollution? This proposed height will be consistent with other tenements on the road. The storeys are also not right over the road as the development will be set back from the road.

Comment – pleased to see so many people attending consultation events and take interest in the local community.

Comment – the planners has thought about the aspirations of Corstorphine and what the community would like to see.

Comment - RE traffic due to this development, the idea that Featherhall should be north to south, and Manse Road would be south to north. There is a potential traffic increase on this cyclacel route . Invitation to be extended to Mactaggart & Mickel to discuss traffic impacts from this SJR development.

It’s looking like Iceland will be demolished and built on by M&M – probably six or seven years’ down the line.

Cammo Walk/Maybury Road development

Cammo development – Steve and Warren attended a meeting with Cala and Barrett along Cammo. 670 homes are proposed for Cammo Walk. Keen to point out cycling links, nursery built etc. Steve asked to have three or four slides showing the development proposals to circulate around the CCC. He will send this on to community councillors. Warren noted there is not much detail on the housing. Steve notes there was focus on affordable housing and community space, not just retail. Bus route points are proposed. We have invited developers to come to CCC meeting – propose for June.

Business, Licensing & Amenities – S Kerr

Current Licence Requests -

We have three licenses to consider – 8 March, 7 March and 7 March. There is time for objections and concerns if relevant.

Previous agreement had been that if there is an existing business with the same license there is no good reason to object to healthy competition.

The presumption in Corstorphine is that you will close at midnight, and can apply for a late license to 2am. McDonalds have expressed interest in an opening until 2am but police not in favour.

Requests –

Good Brothers West Ltd, a café premises with retail facility. 113D St Johns Road.

Knife dealer license – Argowan Distillery Licence, Redhaughs Rigg, Glenview House, 8am – 6pm. Concerns about type of knives being sold – whether small things or proper knives. To be discussed over correspondence.

Second hand dealer licence – 71 Clermiston Road. Will query this licence as it looks to be a residential address.

Comment – Would be helpful to get more information on the license requests so that community councillors can make an informed decision.

Comment – We need to look at rates for shop units in the area, it is something we should lobby for in the future as the area is prohibitive for many small businesses and is causing the area to struggle.

Environment

Susan provided her apologies but supplied a written update on the environment subcommittee:

We are working with a willing volunteer who is looking into leading the development of local equivalent of Leithers don't litter campaign

A local dad is leading the new Corstorphine Action on Climate Change group. They had first meeting and air pollution was a key issue (he also attended last months CCC meeting too). He has led a change.org petition re west Edinburgh development and traffic which is quickly gathering support https://www.change.org/p/city-of-edinburgh-council-make-west-edinburgh-a-safer-place-to-live-work-and-breathe

We have also done a local litter pick and bulb planting at the ' parklet' between broomhall avenue and Ladywell avenue

We continue to receive correspondence about the state of St Margaret's Park - Susan met with the Anne Miller who attended the Community Council meeting last year to raise issues and will be working with her and others to move the issues forward.

Traffic and parking especially pavement parking continue to be big issues - so far we have no news on when the Parking Bill will progress through the Scottish Parliament.

The mess left behind from Scottish Gas Works on Ladywell Avenue has been raised directly with them and reported to CEC. As a result of their vans and machinery parking on the pavements. there is now significant damage to the verges and pavements especially to areas around ironworks on the corner of Castle Avenue. As part of this complaint we also raised the lack of reinstatement works to the area equipment was stored during last year's gas works on Broomhouse Road (B701) and Ladywell Avenue.

Parking & Traffic discussions with CEC

Steve wants to follow up on our initial discussion on traffic concerns and our top ten list.

We are keen for Susan to use the map she has drawn up to identify hotspots. Featherhall is a clear front runner. Pinkhill and Carrick Knowe, Saughton Road North are all areas of concern.

If we can get a result on Featherhall Avenue soon that would be positive.

Now Dave Sinclair has spoken with councillors, he can progress with us. Dates need confirmed and it would be helpful to have an attendee who lives on Featherhall Avenue to come along. Steve will propose three dates to progress. Keen to discuss metered parking and residents’ parking permits as well as filtered permeability.

Comment – Parking issues with the Gyle industrial estate at South Gyle and issues there need to be addressed also. Nathan Ready is Residents Association at South Gyle.

Comment – Traffic restriction around schools would also be helpful. Schools need to apply for the exclusion zone. There is a new head at Corstorphine Primary School, so it’s important to engage with Carrick Knowe and Corstorphine when the next opportunity to apply comes through.

Comment – Car parking on Manse Road is making it difficult for turns. Another comment that HGVs shouldn’t be on these residential streets in the first place.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting** – S Kerr

Minutes from last meeting – no comments.

Minutes proposed – Shiela, Cora seconds.

**Any Other Business** (incl. any public correspondence) – All Attendees

Question - The old bakery on St Johns Road. What is happening with that? It looks dreadful.

Answer - Planning permission for student flats and a studio flat. It has not been progressed.

Comment - CYCC and public hall. It’s now Corstorphine Community Centre. Date on 5 April to elect management committee. If interested please get application from CYCC. Info also in Grapevine. CYCC and community centre will become one organisation.

Comment - CYCC in for a big lottery grant. There is a survey out by CYCC that is also in the Grapevine, and there is also a Surveymonkey link that is on the CYCC and public hall link. Would really appreciate if you could fill it in, especially young people and BAME community.

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME**