

Stockbridge & Inverleith community council

September 2019 Draft minutes

of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 September 2019
at Stockbridge Parish Church , Edinburgh

Present, S&ICC: Nigel Bagshaw; Pam Barnes (Planning Officer); Joan Beattie (rep on Inverleith Neighbourhood Partnership); David Chamberlain (Treasurer); Nigel Clark (minutes); Gregan Crawford; Tannis Dodd (Secretary); Alex Johnson; Andrew Morrison; Jerry Ozaniec (Environment and Transport); Clive Preston (Vice Chair); Penny Richardson (Licensing)

Members of the Community, including: (Police); PC Holly Matheson; PC Ros Milne; Majied Robinson; Kim Hamilton; Frank Spratt; Louise Hodgson; Rona Carson; Douglas Lowe

Ward Councillors: MP Deidre Brock; Cllr Hal Osler;

Apologies for absence: Cllr Gavin Barrie; Cllr Max Mitchell
John Cowie;

CC Chair: Nigel Bagshaw welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

1. **Minutes of last meeting 17 July 2019.** Nigel noted request from Penny Richardson to make an amendment to the minutes referring to an application for extended license was open for the two weeks during the Edinburgh Festival. With that noted the Minutes were approved.

2. Brief reports:

a. **Police Scotland** PC Matheson's update report on the past month included monitoring illegal and obstructive parking in Craighleith Road. They were also carrying out speed checks in the neighbouring streets.

Organised Begging had increased in recent weeks outside the local shops. PC Matheson said the Police were aware of this and were monitoring the situation.

PC Matheson announced she was leaving to join the Police Unit at Drylaw. Nigel Bagshaw and members thanked her warmly for her work with the community and wished her well in the new role.

b. **Councillors** (on any local matters/action points):

Cllr Osler updated members on the City's Transformation vision (Seeking to make the city centre more accessible through increased bus and bike take-up to reduce pollution) and its consultation timetable.

The review of permitted parking to extend to the outer reaches of the city has gone to Transport and Environment Committee and it sets out the adjustments to take effect in three phases starting in 2020 and its third phase by 2022.

Street bins locally are not always emptied in the notified publicised times and in some instances are left overflowing. Members were asked to keep councillors aware of where and when this is happening.

Asked whether there were any plans on changes to the depot in Inverleith Park, Cllr Osler said that there was no news because the review was internal to the department. Cllr Whyte had been reported to say the asset will remain a depot for the foreseeable future and the Council was unlikely to sell it. Any asset sales would have to go to the Finance and Resources Committee for approval.

Cllr Osler responded to concerns raised about chemicals sprayed on the street. She said it was only in localised areas and was not widespread.

It was pointed out that railings at the market not been repaired and the path to the McKenzie Bridge was in poor condition. It was unclear how access to this path might be gained and it was noted it was the responsibility of the property owners in Dean Terrace. In response to the observations that buddleia was growing out of the bridge at Stockbridge was now getting a hold in the crevices of the abutment. Cllr Osler would report this to the Council to be cleared.

c. **Chair** Nigel Bagshaw invited Douglas Lowe (representing a company of Grange Members) to update C.C. members on the developments of the court case surrounding the ownership and implications to settlement of a ransom strip that lay between the Accies Development and Comely Bank Road. Mr. Lowe explained the history to the strip that related to an original wall of 1912 between the Accies ground and the carriageway. A court decision is awaited which should decide whether or not Leafrealm Land Ltd will be able to block access to the Accies ground development.

Update on the Accies Development Site:

Pam apprised members that there was a new application from one of the retail tenants who wants permission to put out screens, tables and chairs into the pavement area. Pam said there were grounds to object on the basis that this would encroach on the area of public realm. For clarification it was pointed out that Amarone was applying for external seating for table and chairs and was not part of the Accies Development of the site.

d. **Secretary:** Tannis Dodd said members had been reminded the new updated scheme for Community Councils was published that if they wish to apply for election to the Community Council. They should apply on-line (Gegan to put link to website for forms) or send in completed forms to Cllr Iain Whyte who is overseeing the election process for the S&ICC. It was reinforced at the meeting that names and addresses of candidates shouldn't be publicised.

e. **Treasurer:** David Chamberlain said there was £11,500 in account but invoices relating to Edinburgh Council's support of the Summer Solstice event were still to be processed. Any profit is to be paid back to the Localities account.

David said signatures at the Bank failed to clear cheque of £150 and this had occurred more than once with the Bank failing to clear monies which should have been released. With regard to signatures on the cheques the Bank required updating of names: it was agreed to have three signatories: David Chamberlain; Tannis Dodd and Nigel Clark.

f. **Environment:** Jerry Ozaniec provided a written report and in particular referred to the feasibility study concerning the 'Water of Leith Valley Improvement Proposals – Dean to Stockbridge section. Also: a report from the 'Public Spaces Protocol' (which affects Inverleith Park) is due in December.

g. **Transport:** Jerry Ozaniec said a note of traffic disruptions and Footway improvements and changes have been uploaded to the website. The traffic disruptions were outlined.

h. Licensing and Planning: Penny Richardson will continue but she said succession Planning was required. There needed to be a process to draw up a briefing report for someone to take this forward when she steps down.

i. Planning: Pam Barnes said that there were no local applications to report on but members need to be alert to an aspect of the Botanics development which affects residents who live in the lane. The yard in moving its gate encroaches on their front windows. Although the planning application has gone through it is open to appeal. There is a big planning application placed for the Haymarket site and all citizens should be aware and take a view of this.

It was observed that the Goldenacre development was undergoing a public consultation at this stage on establishing two large artificial pitches. The illumination onto the pitches is anticipated to be very intensive.

Any other Business – John Cowie was to place up in the library photos taken on the day of the Summer Solstice.

Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 16 October 2019 at 7.00pm.

Members of the public are welcome to attend community council meetings. If you cannot attend the meeting but wish to raise a subject, please contact the S&ICC.