JUNIPER GREEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the committee Room at JG Village Hall, Baberton Avenue on Wednesday 26th April 2017 starting at 7pm

Attendees: Ian Gilmour, Cliff Beevers, Alison Walker, PC Ali Murdoch, Russell Salton, Margaret Follon, Nigel Rickard, Vic Stewart, Anthea Grierson and Councillor Dominic Heslop.

Apologies: Jim Ferguson, John McLeish, Gordon Lindhurst MSP, Councillor Ricky Henderson and Joanna Cherry MP.

Visitors: Richard Watt, Ken Davies and Susan Webber (prospective CEC councillor).

2. Minutes of March 22nd Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes were accepted as a true record. All matters arising appear later on the agenda.

 3. Reports and recent meetings

 3.1 School notes: Anthea explained that there were still problems with selfish parking especially at the end of the school day. Alistair agreed to show a presence to deter any wrong doing. Anthea also reported on the P6 initiative to run a cyber café for older people in the community so they could bring along any social media problems like logging into a bank. Richard told the meeting of the Pentlands Book Festival plans to run a short story competition for P7 pupils. Anthea offered that the teachers could help the judges of the competition by filtering the top ten entries.

 3.2 Secretary: Russell had submitted backing for the dementia bid. He had also issued an invitation to representatives of Lothian buses to attend our next meeting which had been accepted. In addition, he had completed a fracking survey. He was asked, on behalf of the committee, to complete the age of taxis survey too though he reminded everyone that they could complete it as individuals too.

 3.3 Treasurer: Alison reported that there remained £728.79 in the no 1 account but that costs of accommodation had yet to be paid. And, in the no 2 account there was £8626.60 but much of that was earmarked either for the Pentlands Book Festival or the Baberton Mains website project.

 3.4 Monthly local planning matters: Archie Clark had compiled the following list:

17/00167/TCO - Oak - Removal, Lime - Removal, Horse Chestnut - Removal, Birch - Removal, Lime - Removal, Horse Chestnut - Removal, Ash - Removal, Lime - Removal, Horse Chestnut - Removal, Black Pine - Removal, Lime – Removal at 491 Lanark Road, Edinburgh. EH14 5DQ. *This was lodged on 23rd January 2017 but I completely missed it. This is for the removal of trees along the west boundary of Lorimer House from Lanark Road southwards on the grounds that the roots are causing damage to the party wall. Granted 29th March 2017.*

16/05909/FUL - Extension of dwelling house, replacement of garage with new and expansion of hard-standing driveway at 28 Baberton Crescent, Edinburgh. EH14 5BP. *Minor works. Granted 4th April 2017.*

**10 April 2017**

No entries.

**17 April 2017**

17/00478/FUL - Form new rooflights to serve attic conversion at 30 Woodhall Millbrae Juniper Green EH14 5BH. *Minor inconsequential proposal. Granted 12th April 2017.*

17/01555/TCO - Application for treework at 50 Baberton Avenue, Juniper Green, Edinburgh. *The site is the Retirement Home between the Primary School and the Golf Course. The applicant, McCarthy & Stone, propose felling three trees and pruning 19 others. A rather inadequate map suggests that the trees to be felled are on the north side. This sounds like prudent maintenance. At 18.4.2017 – Raise no objections. (Decision awaiting publication.)*

Russell noted yesterday in an email that under Planning Applications “Remove existing brand signage, ATM + night safe, infill apertures with stainless steel blanking plate. at 540A Lanark Road Edinburgh EH14 5EL 17/01583/FUL” i.e. removal of the ATM and night safe at RBS. Then, under the Colinton section, “Change of use, Conversion and refurbishment of existing farm steading to form residential cottage. at 154 Woodhall Road Edinburgh EH13 0PJ 17/01599/FUL”

Finally, under Planning Decisions ”16/01515/FUL (Planning Permission), Erection of residential development with associated access, landscaping and open space (as amended). at Land 138 Metres West Of 103 Curriehill Road Currie, Miller Homes Ltd And CALA Management Ltd (c/o Agent)., 115 George Street Edinburgh EH2 4JN, Other Item at Committee, GRANTED 19 April 2017”

 3.5 Meetings: Russell had attended the hustings on April 12. Margaret and Vic had both managed to call in for Louise’s meeting on April 20.

 4. Police report: There had been a serious accident on Lanark Road on Monday 24 April and the committee hoped the individual hit by a lorry would recover. There had been a break in at Iceland but nothing had been taken. A stolen moped had been found in bushes at Curriemuirend Park and the owner had been traced.

 4.1 Safety committee meeting: Any issues please let Vic know.

 5. JGCC matters

 5.1 Update on traffic issues: Alison presented a leaflet for approval which was signed off for printing. Alison asked for volunteers to distribute the leaflets when they were ready.

 5.2 The War Poets in JG: Neil McLennan’s email regarding the research he had uncovered about the meeting between the war poets Owen, Sassoon and Graves at Baberton Golf Club in 1917 had been circulated ahead of the meeting. Baberton Golf Club are considering whether to erect a blue plaque to honour the event. The committee agreed to support the blue plaque idea and Cliff was asked to let Brian Crystal of Baberton Golf Club know of this support.

 5.3 The new walkabout experience: Russell, Nigel and Ian met with Graham Mearns of CEC on Thursday 20 April at 10.30am. Amongst other things they asked why re-surfacing in BM View and Drive was instigated.  He said he’d checked internally and been told that the inspectors had inspected the area and used their scoring system to assess that to be the piece most in need.  If people think there are more damaged road services then please phone them into the “Clarence” number 0800 23 23 23, <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20089/roads_and_pavements/1070/road_or_pavement_problem>, they’d be reviewed.

We had been informed about the state of pavements on Baberton Mains after cabling. We were told that inspectors were going to be “walking every inch” of work done across the city in order to review the state of the pavements and getting the contractors to put right any substandard work.

As a general point, we were told that, with the current budget, a rough surface on a pavement or a small pothole/indentation on a road would not be sufficient reason to work on them – they would need to be more hazardous/dangerous.  However, he did say that anything phoned in to the 0800 number would be inspected and assessed for need to act.

 5.4 NEPs projects: Russell agreed to coordinate JGCC’s list of issues for funding. Following the meeting the pavement outside St Margaret’s Court, the pavement Baberton Mains Wynd and the seats in Baberton Park were the 3 main projects put forward to PNP. In addition, the pavement from Iceland to the Currie boundary was an extra project for the future. A suggestion that the pavement could be narrowed outside St Margaret’s Court might be an alternative way of dealing with the problem there.

 5.5 Banking without bankers: We have now visited 4 credit unions and are in discussions with two of them with a view to work with one of them. Mark Porteous has offered part of his premises at 553 Lanark Road as office space on a temporary basis until a successful arrangement can be made at the abandoned toilet site. Mark has offered too to host a meeting of the business community in the valley on Tuesday 23 May at 7pm to gauge their views on what provision would suit their needs. A public meeting has also been arranged for the evening of Wednesday 31 May at 8pm in Juniper Green Village Hall. Nigel thought it was worth one more attempt to persuade RBS to change their mind and agreed to send some text to Cliff who would forward to Baroness Noakes, an RBS Board member.

 5.6 JGCC’s social media review: Russell suggested a review of the software that underpins the website. He had been informed by the person who set up the site in 2009 that the software that built the site is to stop being supported. He explained that the Facebook site he maintains is much easier to support. He recognized the need for a website to lodge agendas, minutes and preserve the history legacy material available on the current site. Cliff suggested a review of all our social media needs was an urgent action over the summer.

 5.7 Signs on private land: Dominic’s further email yesterday clarifies the matters and the information had been communicated to Sarah at Mollies.

 5.8 Participatory budgeting ([www.gov.scot/Topics/People/engage/Participatory-budgeting](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/engage/Participatory-budgeting)) Margaret has applied to be part of the network and she will tell us more when she has further details.

 5.9 AGM arrangements: It was agreed to hold our AGM at 2pm on 31 May in JG Parish Church as we did last year. Ian is to check on the alcohol situation in the church.

 5.10 Football tournament 2017: Stephen D Reid who has refereed all the competitions since the tournament started in 2012 has contacted Cliff. He believes that 5 teams are in place and hopes for a sixth to provide 2 round-robin events on the evenings of Tuesday 30 May and Wednesday 31 May with a final on Friday 2 June. If it goes ahead JGCC agreed to cover the necessary insurance for the event.

 6. Councillors’ Corner: Dominic told the meeting that £300k had been spent on signage for 20 mph signs and that removal of 25 signs had cost £6k. He urged JGCC to be more proactive with its demands for improvements as other parts of the area appeared to get more favourable treatment through funding of their projects.

 7. AOCB

 7.1 Proposed hustings by Balerno CC on Monday 29 May in Balerno Parish Church was announced. Cliff to offer support to Balerno CC in their organization of the event.

 7.2 JGVH meeting tomorrow evening, Vic volunteered to attend and explain where we are with finding a solution to the bank closure.

 7.3 Cliff announced that he would be standing down as chair at the forthcoming AGM and would not be seeking re-election. Richard spoke for many when he thanked Dominic for his work on our behalf over the years. Vic explained that anew resilience officer at CEC was settling into her post.

 8. Date and venue of the Next Meeting, walkabouts etc: May 24 at 7pm for our next scheduled meeting with the AGM on May 31 at 2pm in Hall 2 of JG Parish Church.

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