

Minutes for meeting of Leith Central Community Council held in the McDonald Road Library on Monday 19th March 2012 at 7.00-9.00pm

Attendance

John Hein	Acting Chair LCCC
Roland Reid	Secretary LCCC
Anne Munro	Treasurer LCCC
Jenny MacKenzie	Communication and minutes LCCC
Harald Tobermann	LCCC
Martin. Patrick	LCCC
Julian Siann	LCCC
Ann Stark	Friends of Hillside Crescent Association
Charlotte Encombe	LCCC and Greener Leith
Phil Attridge	Pilmey Youth Centre
Jim Scanlon	Chair of Leith Links CC
MSP Malcolm Chisholm	Lab. North Edinburgh
Cllr Deidre Brock	Leith Walk ward (SNP)
PC Simon Daley	Lothian and Borders Police
Kevin Duguid	Journalist, The Sun
Nick Gardner	Labour candidate

1.0 Introductions and Announcements

2.0 Apologies for absence

Annette O'Carroll	Convenor Planning sub-committee LCCC
Juan Gardia Navarro	LCCC
Stan Eadie	LCCC
Harald Tobermann	LCCC
Cllr Louise Lang	Leith Walk ward (Lib Dem)

3.0 Approval of Minutes of Meeting of 20th February 2012

Approved by Anne Munro
Seconded by Roland Reid.

4.0 Community Police Officer's Report

PC Simon Daly reported that in connection with a murder enquiry being conducted in the area, a Polish man has been arrested in Poland. Regarding a missing person case, police have concerns for the woman's welfare.

A Street Week conducted in Albert Street was very successful and well received by residents. A further similar programme will be carried out in the vicinity of Hopetoun Street in the near future.

5.0 Leith Festival

- The application for the Leith Gala Parade to return to Leith Walk again this year has been approved.
- The joint booking of the triple pitch at Leith Gala on June 9th, in conjunction with the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership, has been confirmed.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the erection of the gazebo early on that day.

- Topics should be considered for the annual LCCC survey conducted at the Gala. All suggestion would be appreciated.

6.0 Matters Arising

6.1 Leith Walk Neighbourhood Partnership Public Meeting

This meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 21st at 7.00pm in the gym hall at Lorne Primary School. City Development planner Ricardo Marrini is the guest speaker. The topic is the Future of Leith Walk.

(A report of this meeting can be found at leithcentralcc.com)

6.2 Leith Decides -- report on event and successful bids.

Congratulations were extended to all the groups that successfully won funding. A report of the event and successful applicants can be found at the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership website. Some concerns were raised about marginalised groups who found the venue (upper floor at Ocean Terminal) inaccessible for older and disabled people. It was agreed however that the event successfully achieved the goal of engaging local people in the decision making about allocated funding.

6.3 London Road -- Commercial Vehicle Lay up

Cllr Brock reported that a meeting has been set up with the Police Inspector responsible for taxi licensing, the principal solicitor for licensing and the Community Safety team. Several residents are in communication with Cllr Brock. Community Safety are aware of the late-night noise issue. Cllr Brock is to meet with the managing director of Lothian Buses. The problem with bus noise in the area is hopefully being resolved but the cabs idling their engines late at night is still a problem. PC Daly noted that as a result of the meeting the Police are also now aware of the problem.

6.4 Report on Big Debate on Criminal Justice

Nick Gardner and Roland Reid reported on the EACC event held on March 3rd from 10am to 12 noon at City Chambers. Almost 50 people attended from a wide range of community groups, community councils, Scottish Government and City of Edinburgh Councils. The five panellists were lead by Procurator Fiscal for Edinburgh and East Lothian Stephen McGowan. Jenny MacKenzie is the Leith Central CC rep on the EACC. As secretary to the association she wrote up the notes of the event, which will be circulated to all LCCC members, LA councillors and Edinburgh Ccs. The notes will be used as a source of recommendations to be made to the Edinburgh Partnership, which funded the event.

6.5 Sauna/Massage Parlour 278 Bonnington Road

This application has been approved but with restricted hours to those requested and discreet signage. Hours will be 10am to 10pm. .

6.6 Stanwell Street -- Street Trader Application.

This application has been withdrawn.

7.0 Open Forum

Anne Munro of Pilmeny Development Project (PDP) announced that PDP and Citadel Youth Centre were joint winners for a National Youth Worker of the Year Award,

with emphasis on the Intergenerational project, Spin, which brings together older people and young people from the area.
LCCC congratulated PDP on the achievement.

8.0 Officers' and Councillors' Reports.

Treasurer's report.

The balance stands at £666 pounds, with the remainder of the former (2010) Leith Decides grant returned to Leith Neighbourhood Partnership as agreed for action at a previous meeting.

Planning sub-group report (Reported by Roland Reid)

This report can be read in full at leithcentralcc.com.

- One item noted was that work on the front of the house at 6 Cambridge Avenue appears to have started without planning permission. The Planning Department response was that it was not uncommon for applicants to start work prior to a formal decision and this was entirely at their own risk. If planning permission was eventually refused formal enforcement action might be taken against the landowner.
- Two members of psc had attended a meeting with CEC officials to discuss possible conservation area status for Pilrig. The first step was to prepare a Character Appraisal for the Pilrig area.

Malcolm Chisholm MSP

A question was asked in Parliament of Alex Salmond regarding plans to impose Public Entertainment Licenses. There was a risk that even small-scale exhibitions and events might require a licence but that has now been substantially avoided. Malcolm Chisholm congratulates Pilmeny Development Project and Citadel Youth Group on their joint success in winning a National Youth Award and has widely drawn attention to the importance of this intergenerational work.

Cllr Deidre Brock:

- A meeting was set up with the Convenor for Health and Social Care, Cllr Paul Eadie, who visited the Older Men's Group organised by Pilmeny Development Project. Cllr Eadie expressed interest in the project and praised the level of engagement amongst the group members.
- The Library Strategy was passed at the last full council meeting. This included no Sunday closing (as had been feared) and also an extra eight hours per week of opening time at McDonald Road library.
- The conference was attended organised by Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council (ELREC). The charity works across the City of Edinburgh, Midlothian, East and West Lothian councils to eliminate discrimination and promote good relations between persons of 'protected characteristics' as defined in the 2010 Equality Act. These include without distinction on grounds of colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, age and creed. One conference topic was the injustice created by the practice of Female Genital Mutilation, an illegal practice, which can incur a 14 year prison term for abetting this crime.
- Contact has been made with Saheliya, a charity based in McDonald Road that

supports the mental health and well-being of Black, Minority and Ethnic women in Edinburgh. The service works in the areas of prevention and support to help women overcome isolation, racism, unemployment, abuse, ill-health, bereavement and relationship issues.

Charlotte and Annette participated in a CEC bus tour for the Housing and Built Environment sub-group set up to identify an area of environmental development. Charlotte noted that some of the green spaces in the area are very badly maintained.

9. Date of next meeting.

Monday 23rd April, 2012 7.00pm