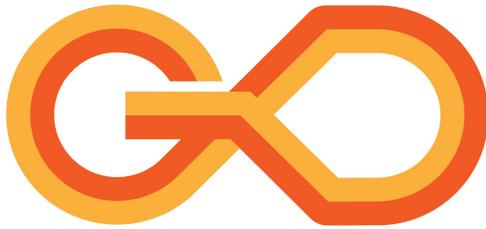


GORGIE



DALRY

Gorgie Dalry
Community Council

Minutes

Monday 1st February 2021

Attendees

GDCC: Joan Gordon (Chair) - JG, Rona Brown (Vice-chair) - RB, Laura Wise (Communications) - LW, Alex McKendrick (Treasurer) - AM, Matthew Reilly (Engagement) - MR, Angela Astor - AA, Alex Ortiz - AO, Susanne Mueller (Gorgie Collective rep) - SM, David MacLennon (GDS Church rep) - DM

CEC: Catherine Fullerton - CF, Denis Dixon - DD, Gavin Brown - Network Enforcement Manager - GB, Murray Black - Waste and Cleansing Operations Manager - MB

Local Residents: Henry Hudson (GDS Church) - HH, Nancy MacDonald (Garvald) - NM, Katriona Gillespie (Gorgie Collective) - KG, Chris McGowan (James Square) - CM

Welcome

JG opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and facilitating introductions.

Quorum and Apologies

No apologies

The meeting was quorate.

Previous Minute and Matters Arising

The minute was proposed as accurate by AM and seconded by LW

The actions were reviewed, with the open matters arising detailed as follows:-

AM no reply from Police, he will continue to pursue, also contact Edinburgh County Council Association to see who gets Police reports. If no response we should approach Councillors for support.

Correspondence

1 - Pansy Walk - discussion on reinstating allotments. AM in contact with neighbouring Community Councils and Lord Provost about the issue. Cllrs Fullerton and Dixon have been very proactive also. A vote was taken to support this.

2 - Roseburn Cycle Route - exploratory work has started. Local resident Barry Clarke had emailed re the preserving of wildlife there. LW to distribute to the group.

3 - HNDA3 had sent stats re housing in SE Scotland. AM has details and can distribute.

4 - Priority Projects Draft schedule for funding and ideas to improve Gorgie Dalry town centre. AM has the details.

5 - Edinburgh Thriving Green spaces - there is funding for biodiversity, tree planning etc. Discussion suggested that Westfield Park be nominated for improvement. RB would pursue restarting the "Friends of Westfield Park". AM,LW to put on social media.

6 - Murieston and Dalry Road. AM had received very basic stats re speeding in these areas. He had asked for an improvement in information.

7 - A local resident had reported that building works at student accommodation in Murieston was continuing on Saturdays and Sundays. DD was involved with H&S re noise and vibrations etc. LW had walked round that way and reported to the meeting that proper safety barriers were in place for pedestrians.

Communications

LW had been passing on information of where locals could report flytipping etc directly many times.

Tynecastle High School Parent and Carers group had asked for our list of food banks etc so that they can share with their contact. SM to undertake this.

The first councillors reports had been put on the CC website.

Items for Discussion

Flytipping - JG welcomed Gavin Brown and Murray Black to the meeting.

JG asked what do they need us to send in so they can tackle the flytippers? She had great concerns that brave locals were filming incidents and reporting this to the Council and police - showing individuals and vehicle registrations - but we get no feedback.

GB reported that he can contact the DVLA and European partners about registration numbers but often they are false or unregistered number plates.

LW reported that many locals were concerned that because we actively report flytipping we are, almost, offering a service to the offenders because they know there are no CCTV's and that their activities will be reported and their rubbish will be collected for free.

MB asked that we continued to report incidents.

SM reported that the Collective were being proactive in gearing a free uplift for the area.

GB and MB were asked if they had strategies that had worked in other areas eg Leith? MB responded that, because of all the reporting, 2 Street Enforcement Officers had been allocated to us, 7 days per week for 2 months. They were working on lamppost wraps for the worst streets. But would be careful not to add to the street clutter.

Improvements come mainly because of reporting.

Gorgie Dalry has generated the highest number of Domestic Waste Enforcement notices and the Trade Notices are the 3rd or 4th highest outside the City Centre.

Often reported items were actually booked for uplift. The waiting time for special bulky uplifts is down to 2 or 3 days. Our top ten streets generate 50% of call outs in the whole area.

AM asked if this data for the area could be shared. MB would be happy to share.

MR asked if landlords/letting agents could be contacted as the main items left by the bins were mattresses, wardrobes etc - like a flat being flipped. Perhaps information on flytipping could go out with Council Tax leaflets?

SM asked about getting feedback daily as to progress. GB for a couple of weeks so that he and MB could collate the data.

LW suggested that we celebrate that we are getting things done.

AM was thanked for his work on collating the stats.

JG thanked everyone for their input to this very interesting and busy discussion.

Resignation

Sadly it is noted that Moira MacKirdy had resigned from her post as secretary.

JG suggested a redistribution of *chores* as her job had been divided into 3. AM was happy to continue with checking the emails as well as being treasurer.

There is a need to recruit a minute secretary. Community Council funds can be used to pay such a person. We could advertise on Social Media/ the Volunteer Exchange. JG, RB, LW and MR to liaise to make an advertisement. RB to check with Governance if a paid secretary would need to be background checked.

It was agreed that £20 could be used from funds to buy a present and card for Moira. MR to arrange.

Teams

LW and AM to work together to set up Teams for future meetings.

DM offered the use of the church's Zoom facility.

AM reported that the Edinburgh Community Council Association have a Zoom account that we could use. A discussion ensued but agreement was made that we stick with the change to Teams for the close captioning facility.

HH suggested that the church's Zoom would not be easy for us to access for technical reasons. DM gave in to HH's superior knowledge.

MR and SM offered to help LW to get members on to Teams.

AM to contact Cllr Graczyk about our change to Teams.

It was agreed to pay the Zoom fee for the February meeting as MM had allowed us to use her personal account. £15.99

Recruitment

JG suggested recruiting some more people to join the CC eg Craig Smail, Michael Main. RB suggested Tony(?) from BMG who has shown an interest in the CC, it would be good to have a business on hand.

RB suggested JG check with Governance about the number of extra people we could bring in. LW asked about recruiting volunteers. RB stated we would need a task eg. park litter pick to offer volunteers.

SM suggested putting positive news sharing on advertising for new helpers, as well as flytipping and good news with inviting community groups to speak at our meetings. She will make a pdf.

SM and MR will do on-line recruitment. We must make a list of where we need help SM will make an email chain.

Social Media Policy

It was agreed to stay with the Council's policy. JG to arrange a training session - open to all Community Councils - by the Council on Code of Conduct and Social Media Policy. There was a vote to reaffirm our commitment to the Code of Conduct and Social Media Policy.

Community Relations

SM proposed that a different community group or business be asked to come and tell us about themselves for 5 mins. at the beginning of the meeting. They would then be free to leave the meeting if they wished. If each CC member contacts 2 groups to invite one to come to speak. We have a list of some groups on our website. RB suggested contacting EVOK for groups.

RB reminded us that we will be meeting again in person after lockdown and suggested a large gathering, a community lunch, gala day where groups can come and set up stalls. The Gorgie Forum came from a community lunch at St Brides.

Suggested that SM be the first to speak about the Gorgie Collective

Planning

1 item - the upgrade of the telecom mast at West Park Place.

Treasurer's Report

No Christmas donation had been given as AM wanted to wait until all of the commitments were paid. If there were funds a spring time gift will be made.

Police Report

None

Parks and Events

None at present due to lockdown.

AOCB

CG concerned about comments made on social media. Was there a minute of the meeting the CC had had? SM had felt the meeting had been positive. CG was concerned there had been no response from the CC.

JG said there was no minute as it had been a face to face meeting - over Zoom - of our messenger group tomorrow things out. It was a private meeting.

JG committed to writing to the Gorgie Collective.

CG thanked JG for the update.

LW intimated that there would be a CC statement with agreed phrasing from the group. The comments had been personal and not the view of the CC.

All wanted positively going forward.

CM cars were being damaged since the asphalt had been removed from the street in 2018! It was to have been resurfaced it three weeks. LW would send him Cllr DD's details for help CM asked about the disappearance of the defibrillator from St Brides. RB introduced herself and said it had been taken in at the start of lockdown as a weatherproof cabinet was to be made to house it. It will be back. His group were thinking of getting one in the James Square development

DM intimated that the Edinburgh Presbytery of the Church of Scotland were proposing to site one at the Saltyard.

AM had had an email from Marie Atkinson, a youth development officer. She is hoping to get out for detached work around d Saughton Park and would like to know where there are "hotspots" so that she and her colleagues can engage with young people.

AM would like to reorganise the mailing list. All agreed.

SM intimated she was holding a *make a pom-pom garland* workshop. Details on Gorgie Collective website. All welcome from 8 or 9 years up.

Parks

There is now a Friends of White Park group on twitter.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 1st March 2021 at 7pm on Teams.