



Gorgie Dalry Community Council

Minutes

April 5th 2021

Attendees

GDCC: Angela Astor - AA, Rona Brown (Vice Chair) - RB, Joan Gordon (Chair) - JG, Alex McKendrick (Treasurer) - AM, Mathew Reilly (Engagement Officer) - MR.

Local Residents: Judith Sijstermans - JS, Nancy MacDonald (Garvald) - NM, Aiden Collins - AC, David McLennan (GDS Church) - DM, Gregor Barrie - GB, Ian Doig (Chair Merchiston CC) - ID, Liz ? (Tollcross CC) - L?, Andrea Price (St. Michael's Church) - AP, Duncan Bain (Architect from New Practice) - DB, Aaron P - AP, Samantha Finlay for Cllr. Graczyk - SF

Welcome:

JG and AM opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and facilitating introductions.

Quorum and Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllr. Denis Dixon.
The meeting was quorate.

Previous Minutes and Matters Arising:

AM asked that pedestrians be added to his point about cyclists poor sightlines at junction at Murieston Park.

The minute was proposed as accurate with the above addition by AM and seconded by DM.
The actions were reviewed, with the open matters arising detailed below:

March: Training for Social Media and Code of Conduct TBC - JG

April: Contact Councillors re - bins blocking tactile crossings - AM
Contact Councillors re - bulders blocking roads and pavements especially at Murieston - AM
Contact Tynecastle Developers for a presentation - MR
Send round information about High Street Tweaks - MR

Correspondence:

Street bins blocking pedestrian tactile crossings

Builders blocking roads and pavements at Ardmillan and Murieston. There are work cabins on the road at Murieston and pedestrians and cyclists can't be seen.

Tree felling at the student accommodation at Murieston by the builders up to the Western Approach Road - Councillors already attending to this.

Planning:

Tynecastle developers are required to contact the GDCC to set up public consultations as per the Planning Conditions. The PAM has been approved and we are now on to the Planning Application stage. The developer is required to put round flyers about the proposed works.

NM asked about the change of contractors for the student builds beyond Diadem and the Westfield site.

DM stated this makes 2 developments on either side of the Gorgie Road bridge.

MR explained that it was not unusual for the ownership to change to the contractor who is doing the building work.

NM noted that ELS House is to become all student accommodation, not just the top 2 floors.

There was a discussion about plans to open a nightclub at Fountainpark. Historically there had been noise and nonsense when the clubbers came out at the end of the night. RB recalled how they came through the subway and did some damage to wing mirrors on cars etc. AA recalled how the streets were very busy at the end of the night. RB stated that the legislation had changed about alcohol deals. AM felt it was a better place for a nightclub than other places that could have been chosen.

MR had attended an online meeting on Planning Democracy but his question about why, after local consultation, we reject a plan the Government passes it? His question was not answered. This meeting was filmed and is available on Youtube.

Engagement and Communication:

Laura Wise is leaving us as she is moving to Fife - GorgieDalry's loss is Kirkcaldy's gain! MR had really been helped by her in the setting up of the CC website. We have no one at present to be in charge of social media. MR is very comfortable using Facebook but not Twitter.

The communications side has been very quiet with nothing coming in about consultations. MR continues to share information on Facebook.

Councillor's Reports:

AM had set up a page on the website for these reports to be publicly available.

DD had submitted his report. SF reported that AG had been busy with Community Outreach re- flytipping, putting up posters, ensuring glass was removed from children's playpark and campaigning about the Tynecastle Development.

Treasurer's Report:

AM reported that all the money from the Community Park fund is now spent

There was still some money from the Tesco grant left.

A donation was made to the Bethany Trust night shelter. The leaving gift for Laura still has to be done. The gift for Moira had been paid for by leftover Christmas money that AA had left over.

Items for Discussion:

High Street Tweak

Report from DB on the *High Street Tweak* Covid recovery initiative which is being delivered by the Edinburgh Futures Institute of Edinburgh University. Two areas have been chosen for this study - Dalkeith and Gorgie Dalry. £20,000 is available for each area from the Scottish Government to help the High Street to rebound after the Covid pandemic. The study is now at the stage of local community engagement and involvement, to find out how Gorgie Dalry residents want to use the High Street. They are very keen to engage with young people - rather difficult at this time of lockdown. Small interventions are to be built and tested over the summer, this is experimental but designed to respond to Covid. There will be workshop activities in April, detailed designs in May for installation in June.

See www.highstreettweak.co.uk for all information.

JS - it seems a very quick turnaround to spend the money, what will the follow through be?

The quick turnaround is due to the Government Finance cycle. The University will be monitoring the Public Life Street Assessment. Such an assessment was last done in 2017.

DB will have a better idea how the High Street is used and is eager to find local

organisations who will take on stewardship. Some of the funds will be used for this.

DB will share details with MR who will share this information.

Suggestion that some of the fund could be used to set up a small business directory..

SESRTA

AM had been sent information from SESRTA a public transport consultation for investment 'til 2035. The area covered is from Fife to the Borders and East, West and Midlothian.

Edinburgh is well served by public transport and it is fitting that rural areas are well served too. It would be good to contribute at this stage.

ID (MCC) Planning Advice Scotland suggested an in depth session with neighbouring CC's about planning. There are excellent slides on the MCC website.

Hustings

A Chair/Moderator is being sought to Chair an online hustings for the upcoming elections.

AM can deal with the technology but felt the CC should not chair as we represent everybody in the locality. 5 candidates will be selected to speak and the Moderator must be completely neutral. AM to check with Governance and AP will check the Church of Scotland website for guidance.

Parks:

Saturday 17th April was chosen for a litter pick at Dalry Community Park. 10am -12noon. RB to arrange supplies and pickup of litter at the end of the day.

AM has ordered snowdrop bulbs for the park and will plant that day too.

AOCB

Aaron P has asked to be co-opted on to the CC. We will do this at the next meeting.

The meeting was closed and JG thanked everyone for their contributions.

Date of Next Meeting - TUESDAY 4th May 2021 - the 3rd being the Mayday Bank Holiday

Recruitment:

JS and AC were co-opted to the CC. Welcome.

Minute Secretary - the person who was suggested to us cannot take us on but did intimate to JG that he charged £30. We are allowed to use some of our funds for this.

IB Merchiston CC told us that they have set up a rota for minute taking as they are very short of members also.