

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING on 26 August 2013 at 42 Blacket Place

Apologies : Patricia Alston (PA); Ian Lewis (IL); & (after meeting) Ray Footman (RF)

Present : *Chair* - Hazel Fletcher (HF); Bob Cupples (BC); Alison Mowat (AM);
Becky Colegrave (Bec); Sheila McLeish (SMcL); Richard Seligman (RS);
Hugh Mackay (HMac) & Ian Chisholm (IC).

MINUTES : Minutes of 13 May 2013 were reviewed and an approved copy will be circulated.

NEW COMMITTEE ARRANGEMENTS :

BC/HF are still to meet to define detailed breakdown of required tasks & roles, with particular regard to BC stepping down as Secretary at 2014 AGM. IL has intimated that he will be stepping down as Treasurer and HF announced that Bec has agreed to take over the role. AM reported that IC is in the process of taking over from her as Neighbourhood Watch convener.

New Action 26Aug13(a): BC – to supply list of Committee members with re-election dates for AGM.

PLANNING : **THRUMS HOTEL** : As noted in the 13 May 2013 (and before the AS & HMac subcommittee could get started), the proprietor of the Thrums Hotel decided to pay for the restitution of the wall and the reinstatement of the fence.

BC reported that James Allanson of Planning had indicated that suppliers were being asked to cost the removal of the containers as part of the Enforcement process but no information had been received on current status.

ROYAL COMMONWEALTH POOL : **Street Market**: IC understood that the trial had been unsuccessful and that the market will not be pursued BC to confirm as part of the watching brief.

New Action 26Aug13(b): BC – to contact Southside Ass to confirm that market is not being pursued..

NEW PLANNING MATTERS : **7 Dryden Place**: An application (13/03003/FUL) had been submitted to turn the loft space into additional accommodation. Several Dryden Place residents had objected to some aspects of the application, as had the Association.

7a Dryden Place: A retrospective application (13/01977/FUL) was accepted to alter the colour of the conservatory built under application 12/01175/FUL.

7a Blacket Place: The owners would like to make some internal reorganisation to their property but are keen to discuss any changes with the Association before submitting a planning application.

New Action 26Aug13(c): RS – to contact owner of 7a Blacket Place re application.

EXISTING PLANNING MATTERS : **23 Minto Street** : Decision expected on Variation for application 07/04533/FUL but BC and RS were very concerned that the almost complete building would be seen by Planning as a fait accompli and that the Variation would be approved.

New Action 26Aug13(c): RS – to contact owner of 7a Blacket Place re application.

8 Alfred Place : Planning have refused permission for the treehouse. Owners may appeal.

NEW EDINBURGH DEVELOPMENT PLAN : RS had provided information at last meeting.

GRANGE/PRESTONFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (GPCC) : No report. HF will take over as the Association nominee and any queries to be raised should be forwarded to her.

OTHER CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS : No reports.

BC had circulated 18 eMAILs received since the last meeting containing information from various organisations offering services and funding or seeking volunteers or comments. It was agreed that the next newsletter would contain an article indicating that a trial from October to end of December would be held. During this time, a copy of each eMAIL received would be sent out to each household for whom eMAIL addresses were held. In January, a questionnaire would be issued to see if there were a majority in favour.

WEBSITE : HF indicated that a more user accessible (as regard to adding content) was required and will be implemented - she will join RF in meeting with KFO. It was also reported that RF had identified and agreed terms with technical individual to provide support.

New Action 26Aug13(d): HF/RF – to meet KFO re website and agree upgrade process.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH : <<< electronic copy to be supplied >>>

New Action 26Aug13(e): AM/IC – to meet with WPC Collins

New Action 26Aug13(f): AM/IC – to raise issue of tramp in Mayfield Terrace shrubbery

BLACKET AVENUE WORKING PARTY : HMac reported that there was the usual tidying up and tree trimming were taking place. IMcL has asked original supplier to quote for replacing some of the posts in the restored fence at Blacket Avenue entrance. HMac sought authorisation to spend up to £150 which was given. HMac has bluebells which he is going to donate for inclusion in the beds where the crocosmia has not been successful. RS undertook to clear out shrubbery at Mayfield Terrace being used by the tramp.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING : ***Resident Parking*** : BC will circulate consultation TRO from Council with regard to this. IC will write to Council to get clarification about dual purpose parking (cf West Mayfield) and the possibility of visitor permits for Zone 7.

New Action 26Aug13(g): BC – to circulate Resident Parking consultation document.

New Action 26Aug13(h): IC – to write to Council re upgrading Zone 7 parking facilities.

COMMUNICATIONS : ***Next Newsletter:*** It was agreed that this would be issued in early October, having been drafted in time for the next meeting (7th October). It would include items on AGM; eMAIL trial; Social evening with Owen Dudley Edwards; Working Party volunteers; Picking up of litter; & Rights & responsibilities of residents in Conservation Areas.

Use of eMAIL for distribution: Continuing to build up the eMAIL address coverage which is now in excess of 70%.

New Resident information: SMcL indicated that she felt that a brief handout was all that was required – she will draft. This would point the new residents to the more complete set of information held in the website. The handout would request that the new residents supply their eMAIL addresses and suggest that they would like to join the Association with a subscription form included.

SOCIAL EVENTS : **Open Gardens** : The Open Gardens evening was held on 14th June and was seen as very successful, particularly the closing party held at 20 Mayfield Terrace. A profit of << to be supplied>> was made.

AGM : The date of Monday 18th November was suggested and HF/Bec will seek out a suitable venue. This may again be the Salisbury Arms but the issues from last year's AGM would require to be addressed. BC undertook to issue a draft agenda for the AGM before the next meeting.

New Action 26Aug13(i): HF/Bec – to identify and organise venue..

New Action 26Aug13(j): BC – to draft agenda for AGM.

Other events : It was agreed that the Owen Dudley-Edwards evening (comprising of a social evening with a talk on Joseph Bell or Conan Doyle) would be best done in February 2014 at a venue yet to be agreed. This would be included in October newsletter as an early bird notification.

OTHER BUSINESS : **Street signs** : SMcL stated that Ian McL had been impressed with the quality of signage in Lauder. There was discussion about whether or not the Council would be cooperative in replacing existing signs with higher quality signs similar to those for the Blacket Are Neighbourhood Watch.