

# THE BLACKET ASSOCIATION

(the "Association")

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

(the "Committee")

Held on 23rd March 2021 at 8pm via Zoom

**Apologies:** Anne Henderson – Treasurer ("AH")

**Present:** Ian Chisholm – Chairman and Newsletter Editor ("IC")  
Stanley Bird - Neighbourhood Watch ("SB")  
Mhoraig Blair – Website Co-ordinator ("MB")  
Arlene Doherty – New Residents ("AD")  
Richard Scothorne – Planning ("RS")  
Susan Hezlet - Communications ("SH")  
Hazel Clark – Minutes and Social Convener ("HC")

### 1. APOLOGIES

IC advised that AH had given her apologies as she was unable to attend the meeting.

### 2. MINUTES:

IC opened the meeting and, subject to SH's comments being incorporated, the minutes of the meeting from 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 were discussed and approved.

### 3. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

The list of open actions was discussed. The table of actions at the end of these minutes has been updated accordingly.

In relation to Action Feb21.06, it was agreed that MB should check that the section on the website about types of permitted railings makes it clear that planning permission is still required.

**Action Mar21.01 - MB to check that section on website about types of permitted railings makes it clear that planning permission is still required.**

### 4. COVID-19 RESPONSE

IC advised that there was not much to report as the support networks were now well established.

### 5. PLANNING

RS updated the Committee on the following planning applications:

23 Minto Street Guest House	The owner had carried out a series of extensions but had been refused permission to build a courtyard. They had appealed and permission for the courtyard had now been granted.
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It was agreed that upon receipt of any interesting planning applications going forward, RS would circulate them to the members of the Committee.

#### 6. GRANGE/PRESTONFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (the "GPCC")

IC reported that the GPCC had had their usual monthly meeting and most of the discussions had centred round zoning and cycle lanes, including traffic calming measures. It was proving very difficult to balance the conflicting needs of drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. The GPCC was now carrying out a consultation on the emergency measures which had been brought in at the start of the pandemic. The new layout on Minto St remained a concern, particularly the way it now bends in and out which is rather odd for drivers unfamiliar with the road. People were also concerned about the numerous pot holes in cycle lanes. Discussions about these tricky issues were ongoing. AD remarked that the new layout on Minto Street also made it difficult to pull over to let emergency vehicles past and suggested that all members of the Committee raise their concerns by responding to the consultation. RS confirmed that the consultation period had been extended and was now set to close on 5<sup>th</sup> of April.

#### 7. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

SB reported that there had been no major activity. However, a resident in the Grange had recently been caught out by an online scam and lost a significant amount of money. The Committee agreed that it would be useful to send Blacket residents a link to Grange Association website which outlined the incident.

**Action Mar21.02 - SB to provide SH with communication to send to residents re online scam which caught out Grange resident.**

#### 8. BLACKET SHRUBBERIES WORKING PARTY (the "BSWP")

The Committee discussed a proposal by Robin Waddell of 9 Blacket Place that the Association pay for the removal of the sycamore tree stump beside his house, on the corner of Blacket Avenue. Robin had estimated that the stump removal would cost approximately £250, after which he would pay for and plant a new tree and flowering shrubs, most likely rhododendrons. It was agreed that IC would discuss the matter further with Robin and revert to the Committee.

**Action Mar21.03 - IC to speak to Robin about potential removal of tree stump on corner of Blacket Place and Blacket Avenue.**

#### 9. TREASURER'S REPORT

AH had confirmed to IC in advance of the meeting that there were no issues to report.

#### 10. NEW RESIDENTS

AD advised there was nothing to report but that Committee members should report any new residents they spotted to her.

## 11. SOCIAL EVENTS

It was agreed that due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, it was impossible to plan for any social events. There was still a chance that the Open Gardens event could occur in June, but the decision to proceed with that would have to be taken nearer the time, depending on the restrictions then in place. The Committee agreed that if the restrictions so permitted, that the Open Gardens event could potentially be organised on a short notice, even with just one or two gardens involved. The Committee then discussed the possibility of holding a street party for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2022. HC offered to find out the date and revert to the Committee.

**Action Mar21.04 - HC to find out date of Queen's Diamond jubilee in 2022 with a view to having a Blacket Street Party.**

## 12. COMMUNICATIONS WITH RESIDENTS

SH advised that she was checking with IC on a regular basis whether there were any matters of interest worth forwarding on to residents and this system was working well.

## 13. WEBSITE UPDATE

SH advised that Hugh Mackay had been interviewing people who had lived in the Blackets in the 1950s about their lives here with a view to them being published on the website. It was agreed that IC should check that the interviewees were aware that their responses would be on the website, to ensure there were no data protection issues.

**Action Mar21.05 - IC to check with Hugh McKay that the people he's interviewing about their time living in the Blackets are aware that their responses will be uploaded to the website.**

Discussions then turned to where such documents should be placed on the website with MB advising that it was much easier to add in a 'Read more' link than to create a whole new page. MB reported that the link to the document about the architectural trail was now on the website.

It was agreed that MB should add the Blacket History document into the History section of the website and upload the 'Five Streets' document as another sub-section, ensuring it is clear that it was written by Hugh McKay.

**Action Mar21.06 - MB to upload Blacket History document into the History section of the website.**

**Action Mar21.07 - MB to upload the Five Streets document as another sub-section of the History section and to ensure it is clear that Hugh McKay wrote the piece.**

## 14. NEWSLETTER

The Committee then discussed various topics which could be included in an upcoming Newsletter, such as online scams, a request for a neighbourhood watch volunteer, potential forthcoming social events and the fact that the history section of the website has been extended. It was agreed that IC would consider the potential contents and revert to the Committee at the next meeting.

**Action Mar21.08 - IC to consider potential contents of a Newsletter to be issued in May.**

MB advised that in relation to the residents' database, there were still lots of gaps and the email addresses given by the owners of 21 and 24 Mayfield were bouncing back as incorrect. HC offered to put a note through the door of those houses, requesting their correct email address.

**Action Mar21.09 - HC to put note through the door of 21 and 24 Mayfield Terrace, requesting their correct email address.**

#### 15. DISCUSSION RE OUTDATED ASSOCIATION MATERIALS HELD BY IC

IC advised that the materials he held relating to planning matters were all in the public domain and so he had decided to bin them. He had kept the documents relating to the foundation of the Association.

It was agreed that with respect to the rest of the materials, it was best for the Committee to meet in person, once permitted, and decide what to keep.

**Action Mar21.10 - IC to bring the old Association documents to the next meeting held in person, so the Committee can decide what should be kept.**

#### 16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

IC informed the Committee that he had received an email from Bobby Smith concerning the overhanging trees in Dryden Place which were owned by the nursing home. The birds in the trees were leaving droppings over the cars parked below. IC agreed to speak to the nursing home about the matter.

**Action Mar21.11 - IC to speak to the nursing home re the complaint by Bobby Smith about overhanging trees in Dryden Place.**

#### 17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the Committee should hold its next meeting on Tuesday 4th May 2021 at 8pm.

#### SUMMARY of OPEN ACTIONS:

<b>REF</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RESP</b>	<b>Status</b>
Nov16.10	<i>Painted signs: Follow up with quotes from painters known to the Committee.</i>	SB	2/2/21 – SB has taken photos and will take measurements this weekend.
Jan17.04	<i>Committee members to email AD with details of new residents for follow up.</i>	All	Ongoing. Ritchie and Helen Kitt had been identified as new residents.
Jan19.05	<i>Blacket Awards proposal concept to be developed further.</i>	RS	RS will have ready for next meeting.
Sep19.05	<i>Review the website and provide MB with updated content.</i>	All	Ongoing.

<b>REF</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RESP</b>	<b>Status</b>
Mar20.04	<i>Reconfirm local Neighbourhood watch reps' interest in continuing, and re-establish group.</i>	SB	Next Newsletter will ask for a volunteer to take this forward.
Mar20.05	<i>Illegal one-way entry to Mayfield Terrace – raise with GPCC</i>	IC & SB	Issue with the sign being difficult to understand and see has been raised. Ongoing.
May20.03	<i>Committee members to review website and submit any changes to MB by the end of June.</i>	All	Ongoing.
May20.04	<i>PP to respond with sympathies to the residents re death notices</i>	PP	Closed as too difficult in case some deaths are missed.
<b>Feb21.01</b>	<b><i>IC to raise with GPCC matter of illegal one-way entry to Blacket Place from Dalkeith Road</i></b>	<b>IC</b>	IC will raise at next GPCC meeting.
<b>Feb 21.02</b>	<b><i>RS to update 'The Blacket Association: Aims and Activities' paper and send to MB for uploading to website</i></b>	<b>RS &amp; MB</b>	RS will send to MB at the weekend.
<b>Feb 21.03</b>	<b><i>IC to request grit box at next GPCC meeting</i></b>	<b>IC</b>	Was discussed at GPCC meeting but needs to be followed up.
<b>Feb 21.04</b>	<b><i>MB to organise transfer of ownership of database into the name of the Association</i></b>	<b>MB</b>	MB has emailed Becky Colgrave but has not yet received a response.
<b>Feb21.05</b>	<b><i>MB to remove out-of-date information from database</i></b>	<b>MB</b>	Completed. Old documents are now hidden from view.
<b>Feb21.06</b>	<b><i>MB to add note on website that residents thinking of changing their railings first ask AH for the hard copy of the report on acceptable types of railings</i></b>	<b>MB</b>	Completed.
<b>Feb21.07</b>	<b><i>MB to arrange a quote from an IT company to build large documents into the website</i></b>	<b>MB</b>	Ongoing. MB and IC to discuss.
<b>Mar21.01</b>	<b><i>MB to check that section on website about types of permitted railings makes it clear that planning permission is still required.</i></b>	<b>MB</b>	
<b>Mar21.02</b>	<b><i>SB to provide SH with communication to send to residents re online scam which caught out Grange resident.</i></b>	<b>SB</b>	
<b>Mar21.03</b>	<b><i>IC to speak to Robin about potential removal of tree stump on corner of Blacket Place and Blacket Avenue.</i></b>	<b>IC</b>	
<b>Mar21.04</b>	<b><i>HC to find out date of Queen's Diamond jubilee in 2022 with a view to having a Blacket Street Party.</i></b>	<b>HC</b>	

<b>REF</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>RESP</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Mar21.05</b>	<b>IC to check with Hugh McKay that the people he's interviewing about their time living in the Blackets are aware that their responses will be uploaded to the website</b>	<b>IC</b>	
<b>Mar21.06</b>	<b>MB to upload Blacket History document into the History section of the website</b>	<b>MB</b>	
<b>Mar21.07</b>	<b>MB to upload the Five Streets document as another sub-section of the History section and to ensure it is clear that Hugh McKay wrote the piece</b>	<b>MB</b>	
<b>Mar21.08</b>	<b>IC to consider potential contents of a Newsletter to be issued in May</b>	<b>IC</b>	
<b>Mar21.09</b>	<b>HC to put note through the door of 21 and 24 Mayfield Terrace, requesting their correct email address.</b>	<b>HC</b>	
<b>Mar21.10</b>	<b>IC to bring the old Association documents to the next meeting held in person, so the Committee can decide what should be kept</b>	<b>All</b>	
<b>Mar21.11</b>	<b>IC to speak to the nursing home re the complaint by Bobby Smith about overhanging trees in Dryden Place</b>	<b>IC</b>	