

THE BLACKET ASSOCIATION

(the “Association”)

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

(the “Committee”)

Held on 16th September 2024 at 7:30pm

Present: Susan Hezlet - Chairman and Communications (“SH”)
Ian Chisholm –Newsletter Editor (“IC”)
Stanley Bird - Neighbourhood Watch (“SB”)
John Usher – Shrubbery (“JU”)
Arlene Doherty – New Residents (“AD”)
Hazel Clark – Minutes and Social Convener (“HC”)

1. APOLOGIES

Anne Henderson - Treasurer (‘AH’)
Stewart Whiting – Shrubbery (“SW”)
Richard Scothorne – Planning (“RS”)
Colin Blair – Website Co-ordinator (“MB”)

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2024 were 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.

4. AGM NEWSLETTER AND AGM RE-ELECTIONS

RS had made some changes to the draft minutes of last year’s AGM and given them to HC. HC had sent RS his list of actions. Potential dates for the AGM were the 6th, 20th or 27th November. AD advised that she would not be standing for re-election this year. It was agreed that AD’s stock of Blacket Christmas cards could be given away for free at the AGM. SH confirmed that JU and SW would be officially appointed to the Committee at the AGM, however, the Association still needed a volunteer to take over from AH as Treasurer. It was agreed that the position of Treasurer should be advertised in the November Newsletter and SH would find out who the second signatory for the Association’s bank account is.

Action - Sept24-01- SH to find out who second signatory to Blacket Association's bank account is and to advertise for a new Treasurer in the November Newsletter

SH reminded everyone that their draft submissions for inclusion in the AGM November Newsletter needed to be with IC soon. The most important topics were the Chair's report, the website report, the GPCC report, the Planning report, the potential ceilidh, the Shrubbery Working Party update and a request for volunteers to join the Committee.

5. CEILIDH WITH WEST BLACKET ASSOCIATION

SH reported that she was holding a meeting with Lucy and Charles from the West Blacket Association to start organising a ceilidh for residents of both associations. Discussions ensued as to a suitable date for the ceilidh, especially to avoid it clashing it with Six Nations rugby dates. IC had some ideas about potential ceilidh bands. SH confirmed that the main costs would be the band and the rent of the church hall as it would be a BYOB event. The plan was for each Association to spend approximately £400 each on the event. The Committee was happy with the plans discussed.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

RS reported that things were very quiet, with very few applications.

7. GRANGE/PRESTONFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (the "GPCC")

IC advised that the next GPCC meeting was on Wednesday. They had conducted a large study on the role of community councils as people were increasingly frustrated by how little such bodies could actually achieve. Elections would be held early next year. IC would be standing down as Chair of the GPCC but would remain as a member.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ("NW")

SB was pleased to report that there had been no nefarious activities in the area recently.

9. BLACKET SHRUBBERIES WORKING PARTY ("SWP")

JU advised that there had been good weather and therefore a good turnout for the last working party get together and they had achieved a good deal along Blacket Avenue. Inch Nursery had provided £100 worth of shrubs to the Association due to its connection with David Kyle.

10. TREASURER'S REPORT

AH had sent an email reporting that the Association currently had £4,920 in the bank, the only recent expense having been £92 spent on plants.

11. NEW RESIDENTS UPDATE

AD reported that two sets of couples had moved into the area at 1 and 3 Dryden Place.

12. WEBSITE UPDATE

SH reported that CB had removed Doug Thomson from the website and had created a database of the members. The next step was to organise the database according to streets and house numbers. There were still some members who hadn't provided their email addresses. It was noted that the second page of the Association's constitution was missing from the website.

Action - Sept24-02- CB to put second page of the Association's constitution up on the website.

13. AOB

SB asked whether the little sandstone cottage on the other side of Dalkeith Road was within the remit of the Association. SH thought that it was included in the conservation area, but that the Association was only concerned with the "Five Streets." SH suggested that SB check with RS.

Action - Sept24-03- SB to check with RS whether the little sandstone cottage on the other side of Dalkeith Road was within the Association's remit.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was to be held in the new year – time and date to be confirmed.

Hazel Clark
Secretary

SUMMARY of OPEN ACTIONS:

REF	ACTION	RESP	STATUS
Jan17.04	Committee members to email AD with details of new residents for follow up.	All	Ongoing and working well.
Mar20.05	Illegal one-way entry to Mayfield Terrace required – raise with GPCC	IC & SB	Done! Closed.
Feb21.01	IC to raise with GPCC matter of illegal one-way entry to Dalkeith Rd from Blacket Place	IC	Ongoing.
<u>May21.01</u>	Committee members to look at the website and give MB their feedback	All	Ongoing.
<u>Jan22.02</u>	IC to chase up the nursery for a response to his complaint about nursery parents parking on Blacket Avenue.	IC	Situation has improved. Once the street becomes one-way the problem will be solved.
<u>Jan22.04</u>	Japonica shrub to be bought and replanted beside 8 Dryden Place.	IC	Replanted. Closed.
AGM 22.01	SB to ask university residence rep at GPCC meeting to stop blowing leaves onto Blacket Avenue.	SB	Stuart Tully is now Head of Public Affairs at Edinburgh Uni so SB will email him to ask who we should

REF	ACTION	RESP	STATUS
			contact going forward. Still no response from Stuart Tully.
<i>Feb24.03</i>	<i>IC to ask Iain McLeish for the name of the contractor who fixed the fence at Blacket Avenue in the past.</i>	<i>IC</i>	Ongoing.
<i>Feb24.06</i>	<i>SH to inform residents about the West Blackets Eco WhatsApp group.</i>	<i>SH</i>	Done. Closed.
<u><i>Sept24-01</i></u>	<i>SH to find out who second signatory to Blacket Association's bank account is and to advertise for a new Treasurer in the November Newsletter</i>	<i>SH</i>	
<u><i>Sept24-02</i></u>	<i>CB to put second page of the Association's constitution up on the website.</i>	<i>CB</i>	
<u><i>Sept24-03</i></u>	<i>SB to check with RS whether the little sandstone cottage on the other side of Dalkeith Road was within the Association's remit.</i>	<i>SB</i>	