

## Granton & District Community Council- Meeting Minutes

Monday 30 April 2018, 7 pm at RWCC

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In Attendance: Fred Marinello (Chair), Donald McDonald, Mizan Rahman (Secretary), Jill Talēyarkhan, Lorna Forsyth (Tresurer) , Suzanne Ebel (Minutes), Cllr George Gordon, PC Tony Lawrence, Anne Reid, Rod Shearer (Trinity CC), Marie-Amélie Viatte and Mel Hindle , The Power of Food Festival; Elizabeth Davies (Salvation Army)

### 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Fred welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Deidre Brock MP, Ben McPherson MSP, Kashif Ather, Cllr Ellie Bird and Martyn Whyte, Adrian Shield and Helen Scammell from Pilton Community Health Project was again unable to attend (due to a family bereavement).

### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

#### a. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

A correction had been received from Granton parish Church and this has been inserted at point 11.

b. The Treasurer indicated that the figures under item 8 had been anticipated but were no finalised and correct balances and details are found in these Minutes under item 8.

c. The Minutes were moved by Jill Talēyarkhan and seconded by Mizan Rahman.

### 4. Guest Speakers: Marie-Amélie Viatte, Founder and Chair of *The Power of Food Festival* and Mel Hindle

a. Marie-Amélie Viatte gave us a short history of the origins of the Festival, which began in 2015. The Festival runs across Edinburgh around the summer solstice (that's 16/17 June this year). It highlights the role of community food growing in helping to tackle some of the issues of poverty and inequality. As well as the well-being benefits that can be derived from gardening, it helps people to appreciate where their food comes from and the impact that this has on the planet.

Community food growing utilises local skills to allow those who wish to try gardening do so without having the responsibility, of say, an allotment. In highlighting the work of these community food growers, in areas that might have a reputation for being disadvantaged, places and spaces in the neighbourhoods are seen in a new light.

Marie-Amélie met Mel Hindle (a television producer) when Mel made a piece about the Festival for STV Edinburgh. Mel also helps with photography and the podcasts about the Festival that are available from the sound cloud through the website.

There are 23 gardens taking part in the 2018 Festival and the final programme will be available from [poweroffoodfestival.wordpress.com](http://poweroffoodfestival.wordpress.com) soon. You will find more information about the Festival there too.

### 5. Police Report

a. PC Lawrence reported the following house-breaking incidents:

- There was an attempted break-in, through a conservatory, in Ferryfield on 24 April.
- A shed was broken into by forcing the door hinges in Ferryfield.
- A pedal buke was stolen from Lower Granton Road (Waterside) garage on 25 April
- An unsecured motorbike was stolen from Granton terrace on 22 April

- Granton Park Avenue North underground carpark doors were apparently forced but no reports of any cars damaged or broken into
- Burrell incident on West Harbour Road – a car was set alight but this is an isolated incident and is being investigated by CID.
- A 24 yo male has been charged with vandalism of a car in Lochinvar Drive.

b. In general, housebreaking is down 22% in north west Edinburgh. The May police focus will be on doorstep crime; sheds and pedal cycles, and a summer focus – making sure that houses are secure when you go on holiday. For example, not ‘advertising’ the fact the facebook, being seen loading cases into the car etc.

c. PC Lawrence also reported on the off-road motorcycle training that he has recently received. These bikes have been purchased to be used where cars cannot go. However, they cannot be used for pursuit (for a variety of reasons). They are quite versatile in that they can be used in the walkways, to search for missing people and so on. They are a distinctive red colour with the Police Scotland blue and yellow markings. The police riders wear black but also hi vis vests with POLICE on them.

## **6. Elected Member Report**

As the CEC has been in recess, there has not been much activity but Cllr Gordon had a few updates.

a. Review of the rejected planning application for the Granton Road/Lower Granton Road house. The Local Review Body will meet on 27 June 2018, 10:00 in the Dean of Guild Room, City Chambers. This will not affect proposals to bring Lower Granton Road and Granton Square into the Trinity Conservation Area but may stall progress. Further, this application and ongoing issues with this plot have triggered other councillors to look at their wards and see if similar action could be taken. There is a city-wide review of conservation areas now.

b. GDCC commends the Fire Service for reaching the West Harbour Road blaze so promptly and minimising the damage to the surrounding area.

c. It is 2 months since the new refuse arrangements were introduced in Granton Crescent and they seem to be working as there is much improvement. An evaluation will be undertaken in another 6 months. Meanwhile it is hoped that the trial will be extended to Royston and Wardieburn next.

d. Trinity Academy is trying to build a strong business case for improvements to its current buildings and Bangholm playing field. This has cross-party agreement from local members and Cllr Jim Campbell asked the relevant Community Councils to put their weight behind the push to influence the Resource Committee.

e. Cllr Gordon noted that the repairs to the road beside the Granton Primary School bus stops had been done but this was all churned up again. Discuss will be had with Lothian Buses about a possible solution.

f. Donald McDonald asked if there was any chance that the now vacant Credit Union space could be adopted by the community. Cllr Gordon responded that it was a commercial space and so this was not possible.

g. Donald also asked which stage the new Granton Primary classrooms were at and Cllr Gordon replied that building was underway. He added that as the roll was not quite at full capacity, the excess space would be utilised while other parts of the school were being renovated. Trinity and Wardie Primaries are also getting more classroom space.

## **7. Secretary's Report**

Matters Arising from Secretary's Report

- a. There have been two requests for paper copies of the newsletter to be delivered to residents and this is now being done.
- b. It was agreed that we would spread out our news items rather than using a single page for the wildlife tips.
- c. Ramadan begins on 15 May so Eid is likely to be the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> of June and there will probably be celebrations that are open to the general public.
- d. Mizan attended the launch of the Shoreline Project at the Botanic Gardens. This is funded by the RBGE and the Big Lottery Fund. From July the RBGE will host and publicise groups who wish to work on projects about the heritage of the area and the connection to the sea. Any group from Cramond to Portobello can apply for this.
- e. RWCC Management Committee is looking for new volunteer members.

## **8. Treasurer's Report**

Matters Arising from Treasurer's Report

All bills and expense claims are now up to date. The three cheques issued were for £65 and £60 RWCC room rent and £63.15 to the Secretary. The current balance is £1336.80.

## **9. North East Locality/Granton Waterfront/ Neighbourhood Partnership Report**

- a. There was some discussion about community engagement --or lack of—and the North West Locality. Cllr Gordon pointed out that the most natural fit was for community councils to act as the link between the Locality offices, CEC and the public. Although there is no direct community council representation on the NWL Committee, it would be possible to join the sub-groups. Further, it might be that community councils could take over the Neighbourhood Partnerships until they are disbanded. The next Neighbourhood Partnership meeting is on 12 June and will offer an opportunity for discussion and questions.
- b. Fred Marinello asked if we had all seen and read the Waterfront Regeneration Plan and if it was worth discussing this. As few people had done this and the meeting was past, it was not possible to comment but the Secretary has resent the link for Community Councillors to read now as a point of interest.

## **10. Consultation, Planning and Licensing**

- a. Both Morrisons supermarkets have applied for a variation to their liquor licence as they wish to serve alcohol in their cafes and give out samples of alcohol within the store. GDCC will object to this application on the grounds that there are many current venues where it is possible to drink and a café that encourages families in should not become one of them.

## **11. AOCB**

- a. Granton Waterfront Regeneration Strategy – see item 9b.
- b. Proposal to reroute Lothian buses 21 service  
A number of Community Councils have asked Lothian Buses to consider rerouting the 21 service to add a stop at the Western General Hospital. Deidre Brock MP has also written to support this change. An official response from Lothian Buses is awaited.
- c. Supporting Trinity Academy's business case – see item 6d.

## **12. Date and time of next meeting**

28 May 2018, RWCC at 19:00.