**West Pilton and West Granton Community Council**

**Minutes 7th August 2018**

Apologies: None given at meeting

Attendees: Willie Black, Peter Wojcik , Cllr Jim Campbell, Deirdre Brock MP, Lisa Clark , Cllr Eleanor Bird, Keith Richardson, PC Tony Lawrence; Elizabeth Youngs, Peter Faassen de Heer

Minutes from Previous Meeting: These were adopted by PF and Elizabeth as an accurate record except the list of attendees. **WB to follow up with Geri**

Police report: TL provided a quick rundown of figures over the last month:

* One attempted house break-in
* Overall figures down 34% with West Pilton down 60% on last year
* TL asked if WB could attend meeting on 23 August

Discussed the need to get the message out that the situation had markedly improved due to a variety of actions by the police and local community, e.g. people report crime more readily, DNA sprays and so on.

PF asked about plans being put in place for this year’s fireworks night. **TL agreed to report back at the next meeting.**

Chair’s Report

WB spoke about issues uncovered through a walkabout with council officials including George Norval. WB ran through a number of points:

* Concerns raised about raised beds by the new buildings, dog fouling. There will be a meeting on Thursday 9th Aug at 6pm to discuss some of these issues.
* Commented on the need for investment in a building to protect it from the elements (sorry – no idea what building this is!)
* Discussed issues with fly-tipping in the Rise area. This is not really improving. **GM to invite Changeworks to the October meeting to discuss what they can do.**
* Applying NEP funding to improve areas
* Reference to £2.5m of promised funding
* Regeneration of inside of some homes by McGill’s – bathrooms and kitchens
* HEAPS money for insulation work
* Social enterprises – WB mentioned that Fresh Start were taking on premises to run a thrift shop.
* Discussion over mini-allotments with examples of Inchkeith cited as good practice.

Long discussion over ownership of land and how that influences whether people take time to maintain it.

JC explained the nature of the Locality Committee to the meeting. It’s clear that this group is still finding its feet.

WB suggested that the Locality Committee did not in itself provide sufficient feedback of local views on the Waterfront development. He suggested the creation of a pressure group – Waterfront Together and in addition a group modelled on the Improving Muirhouse Pilton (IMP) group to capture the views of councillors and other community representatives. [sorry, but I did not pick up who was taking this forward, how it was happening or timescales]

LC suggested that community councillors should be given training in place-making to help them to articulate feedback to planners. This was agreed by the group but no formal action was taken to follow this up at this stage.

Treasurer’s Report: **WB will ask Audrey to forward the accounts.** Only outstanding amount is £300 to be paid to the West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre for room rental.

Councillors’ Reports:

* EB and JC provided reports on the Locality Committee, walkabout etc.
* EB mentioned engagement with Young People to help them get involved in the planning process
* JC spoke about the Waterfront Working Group and how it might help pull together local views for developers.

MP’s Report

* DB mentioned that Brexit was clogging up lots of parliamentary time
* Mentioned today’s City Deal announcement by the PM and FM
* DB is taking on a new brief re. environment and food, incl. looking at renewable energy sources
* Spoke about a public meeting at Granton Marina – very vocal and large meeting
* Will be meeting the Edinburgh Tennants Association later in the week

Next Meeting

4th September. **GM to invite Cammy Day and other councillors to provide an update on the Waterfront development.**