

Granton & District Community Council

Monday, 28 January 2019, 18:30-20:30, Royston and Wardieburn Community Centre

In Attendance:

Fred Marinello (Chair), Mizan Rahman (Secretary), Cllr George Gordon, Lorna Forsyth, PC Sarah Hall, Rosemary Abbott, Rod Shearer, Anne Reid, Suzanne Ebel (Minutes)

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Fred welcomed everyone back.

2. Apologies

Jill Taléyarkhan, Donald McDonald, Martyn Whyte, Deidre Brock MP, Ben McPherson MSP, Cllr Ellie Bird, Heather Pugh, Frederick Hessler and Kashif Ather

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

a. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes. The Minutes were moved by Lorna Forsyth and seconded by Fred Marinello.

4. Guest speakers/Presentation

There was no speaker or presentations this month.

5. Police Report

a. PC Hall gave us some key statistics about the work that had been undertaken in Edinburgh Division between 14th and 20th January 2019. There had been 3102 calls, 93 of which were emergencies. There were 636 crimes reported; 59 missing people and 203 calls with concerns for people; 29 neighbour disputes and 172 noise complaints.

b. The current priorities are the Housebreaking Unit and on crimes of theft and robbery (Operation Arable).

c. From 21-27 January 2019 the Road Policing Unit focussed on uninsured drivers and 1 vehicle was seized on Boswall Parkway.

d. PCs Hall and Lawrence had visited Granton Primary to judge the poetry competition and attend the Burns' lunch. They had also visited the Social Bite village to establish a connection there and dealt with numerous abandoned Just Eat hire bikes.

e. A Police Scotland community drop-in will be held in Granton Library, date to be arranged.

Cllr Gordon had a few questions and observations.

I. Someone connected to a clamped car in Granton Place had managed to remove the clamp and left it at the side of the road.

II. He asked if Stop and Search is currently a policy as there had been a recent incident reported to him where a young man had been stopped and left shaken by this experience. As he had stepped out for some fresh air he did not have any ID with him and this had resulted in an unsettling experience. PC Hall said it was not policy and should only happen if it is suspected that a crime had been committed. She suggested that perhaps a crime had been committed in the area and he fitted the description of the suspect(s) and had just been extremely unlucky to be there.

III. Although the parking on pavements law is not yet active there are certain areas in the ward eg. Granton Place, Granton Loan where it is bad and a fire appliance had recently been prevented from reaching a fire quickly due to this.

IV. It was reported that there is a white van regularly parking on Crewe Grove and completely blocking the pavement, causing people to have to walk in the road. Could they perhaps check this out?

V. It was observed that Javits have begun to park their small cars on the corner plot on West Granton Road and could the police ask them to stop doing this.

6. Elected Member Report

a. Cllr Gordon advised that the Budget consultation was open and that people should make their opinions heard.

b. A TRO will apply to Boswall Parkway, for 10 days, as new drainage pipes are being installed. The buses will be diverted. The exact date tba.

c. Mizan asked about the cuts to the PCHP's budget and other north Edinburgh projects. Cllr Gordon responded that they are trying to keep them open for another (transitional) year and appoint a professional fundraiser to help them raise money that will make them self-sustaining. However, applications totalling £7m were received for £1.2m of available funding. He added that an audit is being done to see if north Edinburgh has been disproportionately hit by budget reductions.

7. Secretary's Report

a. Matters Arising from Secretary's Report
There were no matters arising.

b. Mizan advised that he was having some issues with the email system and a decision has been taken to start a new database, with current contact information and compatible with Mailchimp to overcome this.

c. Granton Primary School had been in contact to ask if it was possible to share their newsletter on the GDCC notice boards. It was agreed that GDCC has no objection to this.

d. There is now a link to the useful Council numbers in the North east locality directory from the GDCC website.

e. Granton Youth Centre will be moving to RWCC indefinitely as their building is unsafe. It was suggested that RWCC Management Committee should be satisfied that good arrangements are in place to facilitate this.

f. GDCC's fee for the Information Commission is due for renewal. There was some discussion around the necessity for holding this. There will be an update at February's meeting.

g. Mizan highlighted a few items of interest in the newsletter.

8. Treasurer's Report

a. Matters Arising from Treasurer's Report

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes and no funds had been issued so the balance remains £1866.84.

9. Neighbourhood Partnership/NW Locality

- a. The recent Granton Waterfront Group meeting chaired by Cllr Jim Campbell had morphed into a Neighbourhood Partnership meeting. Spend on the environmental audit was been authorised.
- b. There will be a new Edinburgh Partnership scheme as it is felt that the current Locality scheme is not representative enough. A consultation on the best way to achieve this is currently underway. The new set-up might be 5 politicians plus more community council representation, replacing the Neighbourhood partnerships and meaning, in theory, that a community councillor could chair locality meetings in future.

10. Consultation, Planning and Licensing

- a. It has been decided to look at reworking the conservation areas one by one now instead of as a group. This will make it easier to identify the boundary anomalies/issues and correct these in a structured programme. Cllr Gordon is waiting to hear when Trinity will be done as it should have been looked at in December.
- b. Fred reported that 5 community council representatives had met with a city planner to discuss the Waterfront Regeneration plans (GDCC, Trinity, West Granton, Newhaven and West Pilton). He also reported that the Boswall Green extension application had been stopped. (The cottages are of historical interest.)

11. AOCB

- a. Fred asked Rod Shearer about the objection Trinity Community Council had submitted in relation to the dredging licence for Granton Harbour. Rod responded that one of the major concerns was that 70% of the waste was going to go out by lorries, via Granton Square, at the rate of 6 or 7 lorries per hour. This would clearly add to the current traffic issues.
- b. Cllr Gordon advised that the meeting about the tram extension had been pushed to March so that councillors can look at the consultation responses. A decision has to be made quickly about the Newhaven line as the work must be started before the Scottish Government licence expires. If a reapplication has to be made it could cost £14m. There are no current licences for the spurs.

12. Date and time of next meeting

Monday, 25 February 2019, 18:30 at RWCC.