

Minutes of the Leith Harbour and Newhaven Community Council meeting, held at Leith Community Centre on Tuesday 24 January 2017 at 7.00pm

Actions and decisions are RED ITALIC UNDERLINED SMALLCAPS. *Nem con* means that no-one spoke or voted against an item.

1 Attendance and apologies

1.1 Attendance

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Stewart Auld | LHNCC | Robert Weir | LHNCC chair |
| Colin Brown | LHNCC | Arthur Young | LHNCC |
| Elaine Dick | LHNCC | Bruce Ryan | Minutes secretary |
| James F Duff | LHNCC | Heather Ford | resident |
| Rob Levick | LHNCC vice-chair | Michael Traill | Leith Links CC |
| Blyth A McLucas | LHNCC | Sgt Niven Bull | Police Scotland |
| Jennifer Marlborough | LHNCC | PC Joseph Kennedy | Police Scotland |
| Evie Murray | LHNCC | Cllr Chas Booth | Leith ward (Green) |
| Bonita Preacher | LHNCC treasurer | Don Giles | Friends of the Water of Leith Basin |
| Douglas Tharby | LHNCC | | |

1.2 Apologies for absence

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|
| Allan Mackie | LHNCC secretary | Gillian Meek | Victoria Primary school parent council |
| Cllr Gordon Munro | Leith ward (Labour) | Ben Macpherson MSP | Edinburgh Northern and Leith |

2 Minutes of previous meeting (22 November 2016)

Adopted *nem con*

3 Matters arising

3.1 Waterfront Plaza

J Marlborough reported that

- The site visit will now take place on 7 February.
- The matter will then go before CEC's development management subcommittee on 22 February.
- A final decision is due by 25 August.
- The delay is due to considerations of developer contributions (DCs). A [current consultation](#) on DC guidance closes on 3 February.

ACTIONS: B RYAN TO ADD THIS CONSULTATION TO LHNCC'S WEBSITE, LHNCC MEMBERS TO SUBMIT THEIR OWN COMMENTS.

- She has found a letter from the 'Housing and development manager' (an enabling and partnership group). They are pleased that the plans include affordable housing (AH), but that plans must integrate AH well. (They currently do not: the AH flats are concentrated together and look different to the other flats.)

It was noted that LHNCC has submitted its opinions on the actual development – these are unchanged.

3.2 Victoria Primary School tree lighting

LHNCC thanks Ben Macpherson MSP for performing the switching-on ceremony.

R Weir reported that this event was successful, despite the lights needing to be turned off so they could be officially turned on at this occasion. Costs are noted in item 4.2 below.

ACTION: CLLR BOOTH TO WORK WITH CEC TO AVOID REPETITION OF PREMATURE LIGHTING.

3.3 Handrail at Western Harbour

Cllr Booth reported that he had checked with CEC; there is some corrosion but it's not currently a safety issue. However, further corrosion will cause safety issues, so CEC will perform the necessary maintenance.

4 Reports

4.1 Police

PC Kennedy and Sgt Bull reported that

- Leith community police officers (CPOs) have dealt with frequent anti-muslim graffiti in Cables Wynd. A suspect was arrested and charged on 2nd January. The graffiti has been removed.
- CPOs have executed several warrants on drug offences, based on drugs intelligence. They encourage the community to bring forward such evidence.
- CPO priorities are tackling violent crime, antisocial behaviour, thefts from homes and cars.
- November crime statistics are
 - 13 house-break-ins (consisting of 6 to dwelling-houses, 2 to non-dwellings, 5 to other premises)

- 58 assaults, 1 serious assault, 0 assault and robberies
- 4 drink driving arrests, 2 disqualified drivers, 2 driving without licence, 4 driving without insurance
- 31 common thefts reported, 29 shoplifting thefts, 3 breaking into cars, 5 thefts of motor vehicles, 6 thefts from motor vehicles, 6 attempted thefts of motor vehicles
- 2 reported racially aggravated conducts (1 of these solved, thanks to a report from a witness)
- CPOs are patrolling Ocean Terminal to act on 'boy racers'. In connection with this, the 20mph limit is not in force here yet. (It will go live on 20 February.) B Preacher will provide feedback from the Britannia Quay owners association. No ASBOs have been issued yet concerning this issue.
- 2 males charged in connection with a murder on New Year's morning in Great Junction St.

It was reported that drug and security issues abound in a certain part of LHNCC's area; that in this location, there is no security on the stair; drug paraphernalia abound; that residents are too scared to report issues, and that the stair is being used as a urinal by private-hire taxi drivers. The police responded that residents should report such issues so the police can act on them, and that 2 CPOs patrol the area.

In response to a request for information, it was noted that cycling on the pavement is an offence unless the pavement is designated as dual-use. Delays in obtaining CCTV evidence are possibly due to data protection concerns. ***ACTION: SGT BULL TO EXPEDITE REQUESTS FOR CCTV FOOTAGE COVERING AN ASSAULT BY A PAVEMENT-CYCLIST.***

4.2 Treasurer

LHNCC currently has £1449.79. The Christmas tree lighting (item 3.2 above) event had cost £150 (selection boxes) + £123 (lighting costs) + £36 (first aiders).

4.3 Planning

J Marlborough noted that a new application for a hotel at Ocean Terminal has been submitted. However, there are apparently no significant differences from the previous application.

She also noted that the Aldi application is at appeal. LHNCC has been invited to join the site visit.

5 Developments at Western Harbour

J Marlborough noted that the potential new school here is in the consultation mentioned in item 3.1 above. Cllr Booth reported that CEC's education committee had approved in principle the new school, that no budget is yet available for it, that consultation is imminent, that if the school is built it will be Victoria Primary School's new home. Action: Cllr Booth to supply consultation dates, LHNCC members to respond to consultation.

6 Speeding on Ocean Drive

See Police report (item 4.1) above

7 AOCB

7.1 'Gentrification and prostitution in Leith' research

It was noted that a student wished to talk with Leith Cllrs as part of her research into this subject. It was agreed that LHNCC had no opinion on this matter because prostitution has not been an issue in its area since Coburg Street sex workers were moved on, and that individual LHNCC members could respond to her if they wished. The Police Scotland representatives noted that PS has two prostitute liaison officers – they will meet this student to share their policy and inferences. ***ACTION: B RYAN TO SEND THE STUDENT A LINK TO LHNCC MINUTES PAGE AND TELL HER THAT VQ WAS CHOSEN FOR THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT IN PART TO INCREASE LEITH'S ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.***

7.2 Raising LHNCC's profile

E Dick circulated a draft flyer. In general, this design was received well, but some minor changes were suggested. B McLucas reported how Queensferry CC organises and publicises itself. (QCC has small teams of CCLIs focussing on individual issues, then reporting to QCC secretary in advance of monthly meetings. One team focusses on comms.) M Trill suggested leafleting every dwelling in Leith. (Potential costs are under £600.) ***ACTIONS: SECRETARY TO INCLUDE COMMUNICATIONS ON LHNCC'S NEXT AGENDA, M TRILL TO ASCERTAIN EXACT COSTS***

M Trill offered some training in the use of LHNCC's social media channels (blog-based website [<https://lhnc.co.uk>], Twitter feed [<https://twitter.com/leithhnc>])

Advertising in *The Leither* was also suggested.

7.3 Holyrood conference (the [Next steps for community engagement seminar](#))

LHNCC did not attend this.

8 Date of next Meeting

28 February 2017