

Minutes of the Leith Harbour and Newhaven Community Council meeting, held at Leith Community Centre on Tuesday 26 September 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	Bruce Ryan	Minutes secretary
Don Giles	LHNCC/Friends of Water of Leith Basin	PC Colin Spence	Police Scotland
James Duff	LHNCC	Jim Scanlon	Leith Links CC
Rob Levick	LHNCC chair	John Tibbitt	Leith Links CC
Jennifer Marlborough	LHNCC secretary	CLlr Chas Booth	Leith ward
Douglas Tharby	LHNCC treasurer	1 resident	

1.2 Apologies for absence

Elaine Dick	LHNCC	Gillian Meek	Victoria primary school PTA
Allan Mackie	LHNCC	CLlr Adam McVey	Leith ward
Robert Weir	LHNCC	CLlr Gordon Munro	Leith ward
Arthur Young	LHNCC	Deidre Brock MP	Edinburgh North & Leith

2 Minutes of previous meeting

These, including the annual report, were approved without changes, *nem con*. A Mackie was thanked for creating the annual report.

2.1 Matters Arising

In view of R Weir's offer to chair meetings if R Levick is absent: DECISION R WEIR BECOMES VICE-CHAIR (prop R Levick, seconded D Tharby, no other candidates, agreed *nem con*).

3 Chair's comments

- R Levick welcomed the new community council, and looked forward to the next 12 months.
- DECISION: LHNCC WILL MEET IN AUGUST, rather than have a 2-month summer break (agreed *nem con*)
- DECISION: A MACKIE TO CONTINUE CO-ORDINATING XMAS LIGHTS (agreed *nem con*).
- He suggested that, in the next 12 months, LHNCC would work on:
 - planning and licensing (normal CC duties)
 - working in areas where members have interests – he will speak to members individually about this
 - reaching out to more community groups
 - building a relationship with Forth Ports (much of LHNCC's area is underwater)
 - building relationships with neighbouring CCs, especially around issues of common concern.
- He noted that funding other initiatives might be challenging. (See also treasurer's report.)

4 Reports

4.1 Police

PC Spence reported:

- There have been changes in the unit that had provided crime statistics, so he could not bring any to this meeting, for which he apologised.
- A known drug dealer will be evicted tomorrow from Citadel Court.
- A disqualified driver from the Bonnington Road area is being 'dealt with'.
- PS are working in partnership with supermarkets to target underage drinking.
- Police Scotland (PS) are patrolling as much as possible against antisocial driving (ASD) at Ocean Terminal/Drive, trying to do as much patrolling as possible. However, the road-layout is a promoter of ASD.
- Operation Pumpkin will tackle antisocial behaviour around Halloween.
 - D Tharby reported that youths put fireworks in dustbins last year. Neighbours tried to report these incidents by calling 999, but found no relevant option in the automated system. He also asked whether calls for the Fire Brigade (FB) are automatically forwarded to PS, and so receive incident numbers. PC Spence could not comment on the system, but said that FB would call PS if this was worthwhile.
- Concerning ASB near Genting Casino on Ocean Drive (e.g. recently around 20 people fighting in the street), PC Spence has heard of such issues; they are being taken further by the relevant community police officer.
- Asked about initiatives for engaging with youths, PC Spence gave examples.
- The PS operation to remove non-UK homeless people *who have committed crimes* is ongoing.
- Operation Soteria, tackling theft of motorcycles, is also ongoing.

4.2 Secretary

J Marlborough reported

- G Meek, rep for Victoria Primary School Parents' Association, will be unable to attend LHNCC for 2 months.
 - She suggested that an interim replacement rep attends LHNCC but this was not deemed necessary.
- VPSPA fears that the new site will be too small for a 3-stream school, so it wishes to be fully involved in planning. VPSPA is also concerned that the road layout around the school is carefully planned so that children can safely travel to school, and wishes to ensure that playground space at the current school isn't impacted too heavily before vacation of this site. VPSPA has met with CEC to discuss these issues.
 - **ACTION: J MARLBOROUGH TO FORWARD GM/VPSPA COMMUNICATION TO MINUTES SECRETARY**
- Newhaven Heritage is fronting development of a plan to repurpose the old school building as a heritage centre and community hub, via a community buy-out. R Levick will meet NH's Judy Crabb for a full briefing.

4.3 Treasurer

D Tharby reported that

- The 2016-17 accounts have been audited, signed and passed to CEC.
- Changes to bank signatories have been completed.
- Current balance is £1604.68, including £845.64 annual grant from CEC.
- LHNCC had run a deficit last year, so needs to exercise restraint.
- **ACTION: B RYAN TO CONTACT DT SEPARATELY ABOUT OVERDUE INVOICES.**

5 Councillors', MSP's and MP's reports

5.1 Cllr Booth

CEC has voted for phase 2 of development of the case to extend the tram-line to Newhaven, including exploratory work and shoring up the churchyard wall at Constitution St. Work on the extension will go to tender, and the final decision on whether to extend the tramline will be taken next year, based on tenders.

- JM asked when Leith people would be consulted on this matter. Cllr Booth responded
 - that it is unlikely that a formal consultation would happen, but that views could be submitted to CEC councillors *inter alia* via CCs – this is part of their *raison d'être*.
 - Around 75% of views he has received are in favour of the extension.
 - However, much work is needed to limit effects of construction works, e.g. avoiding piecemeal traffic management because it is costly and difficult for residents to plan around.
 - It is likely that there will be a 3-lane closure of Leith Walk for 18 months, but CEC needs to work out how to reduce impact of this. There will be a compensation scheme for businesses (details to be decided), and logistics hubs for deliveries to businesses.
- D Giles was concerned that other roadworks in the area are completed first, to minimise congestion.
 - Cllr Booth acknowledged mistakes by CEC and Scottish Water about roadworks near Jock's Lodge.
- J Marlborough asked when tram-developer contributions will be taken. **ACTION: CLLR BOOTH TO INVESTIGATE.**
- The terminus will be next to the Port of Leith Housing Association development, near the ASDA store
- Much of Leith Walk will need to be dug up to move utilities. A specific example is Bernard St's water main.

6 Community choices fund

DECISION: LHNCC IS HAPPY TO SUPPORT LEITH LINKS CC'S WORK ON A PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING SCHEME

J Tibbitt described this work:

- Last year, LLCC was awarded £15,000 by the Scottish Government to disburse via [its own PB scheme](#).
- LLCC has now received an offer of £82,200 from SG to disburse in a PB scheme in 2017-18, by March 2018.
- This resulted from a requirement for repeat applicants to show how they will develop their PB schemes.
 - So LLCC will expand its 2017-18 PB scheme to cover all of Leith (hence its wish to work with LHNCC and Leith Central CC), and will focus on themes/priorities for Leith drawn from previous work.
- It is envisaged that admin and publicity will cost around £10,000, so there will be small grants for all-comers (10 grants of £1000) plus £60,000 for larger projects.
- LLCC wishes to establish a core group ASAP to implement the PB scheme, including 2 people from each Leith CC – LLCC will provide the chair and treasurer of this group because it is the grant-holder. The PB money will be kept completely separate from individual CCs' funds.
- There has been discussion with Leith Decides, because its PB scheme will run at the same time as this one. If LD chooses to work with this scheme, it will also provide by 2 core-group members.
- Immediate work includes identification of themes/priorities, and creation of a website, by mid-November.
- The core group will call on other CC members as a 'resource group', partly to be as inclusive as possible.
- **ACTION: LHNCC CORE GROUP MEMBERS TO BE DECIDED BY LHNCC CORE GROUP MEMBERS TO BE DECIDED BY 3 OCTOBER 2017.**
- **ACTION: D GILES TO CIRCULATE RELEVANT DOCUMENTS TO LHNCC.**

7 Planning update

See also [planning report on LHNCC website](#).

7.1 98 Ocean Drive (item 1 of the report)

See also [Evening News article](#)

JM reported receiving a letter from Cala, which assuring secure parking. Cala has submitted a revised plan. This includes 388 units (rather than 425), reducing gable ends to 4 storeys (but some buildings will have 6 storeys) and a road through the development for heavy traffic (in case trams block access to Ocean Terminal).

7.2 Industry lane (item 5 of the report)

- J Marlborough reported that there was no information on CEC's planning portal.
- A resident stated that some units in the current plans do not comply with Edinburgh Council's guidance, but because the site is on private land such compliance is not necessary.
 - She has just been told by the relevant CEC case officer that due to a mistake by CEC, LHNCC was not notified about this application.
 - It was noted that the site is a very small, narrow lane, with just 10 parking spaces planned for 23 units.
 - J Marlborough suggested phoning CEC's lead officer to ask why this matter did not come to LHNCC.
 - It was noted that 28 objections have been submitted, and that revised drawings were submitted by the developers after the relevant deadline, so the case might need to be reopened.
 - Cllr Booth stated that planning officers can take late comments if there are good reasons, and that there is precedent for re-consulting and extending consultation periods.
 - ***ACTION: JM AND RESIDENT TO LIAISE ON SUBMITTING AN OBJECTION***

8 Tram extension to Newhaven

See Cllr Booth's report (item 5.1 above).

9 Newhaven Heritage, Heritage Centre and Community Hub, formation of Development Trust Association

D Tharby noted that LHNCC can not support these matters *financially* at the moment.

ACTION: DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER TO BE CARRIED FORWARD TO THE OCTOBER MEETING.

10 SS Explorer: CC visit

J Duff, as a member of the SS Explorer preservation society, invited LHNCC members to visit the ship.

ACTION: B RYAN TO PUT LINK TO SPS's website ON LHNCC WEBSITE.

11 AOCB

11.1 'Seafield smell'

J Scanlon reported that he and some CEC councillors will soon meet SG about this.

- Scottish Water appointed a consultant in June, after the SG minister ordered SW to review the Seafield site.
- Interim results will be presented on Friday. SG wishes this issue to be minimised/fixed ASAP.
- It was suggested that the smell might be from sewage lying in pipes, so arriving at Seafield pre-fermented.

11.2 Friends of the Water of Leith Basin AGM

D Giles noted that this will take place on Tuesday 17 October, at 7pm at the Malmaison.

11.3 Rubbish in Melrose Drive

J Marlborough reported that this rubbish is not being uplifted by CEC at the PoLHA development. Cllr Booth advised raising this matter with CEC officers.

12 Date of next and future meetings

24 October 2017

ACTION: J MARLBOROUGH TO CIRCULATE LATER MEETING DATES.

12.1 Future meetings

Tuesday 24 October 2017

Tuesday 27 March 2018

Tuesday 28 November 2017

Tuesday 24 April 2018

Tuesday 23 January 2018

Tuesday 22 May 2018

Tuesday 27 February 2018

Tuesday 26 June 2018