

Longstone Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th June 2024 from 7.30pm to 9pm in Slateford/Longstone Church (Session room)

1. DL welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Attendance / Apologies

Elected members: Des Loughney (Chair)(DL), Alan Gordon (Secretary)(AG), Ray Donnelly (Treasurer)(RD), William Sturgeon (Engagement Officer)(WS), Euan Robertson (ER), Sonya Nemec (SN)

Co-opted members: None

Nominated Representatives: None

Ex Officio: Cllr Ross McKenzie & Cllr Val Walker

In attendance: None

Public Visitors: None

Apologies were received from John Allan & Kenneth Chisholm. Cllr Denis Dixon, Cllr David Key & Cllr Cathy Fullerton.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th May 2024 were approved and adopted.

4. Matter arising from the last minutes

- AG confirmed he had a response from ELGT in relation to activities might be provided locally in the community parks. They are keen to help make an application for funding. Agreed AG should proceed.

- AG confirmed an email has been sent to the agent for the Slateford House 'change of use' application, regarding the whereabouts of the bronze relief of David Chalmers and the incorrect time on the clocks public faces.

- RMcK advised of a response from CEC Shared Repair Services on the structural integrity of Longstone Inn. ESRS attended this address on the 4/12/23. A Council Framework contractor was instructed to perform a tap test to all existing render and to remove all loose sections. ESRS will only attend if there is an immediate building defect therefore are unable to comment on the structural integrity of the building. With regards to youths accessing the building despite the heras fencing in place, this would be a matter for Police Scotland. I will write to the owner of the building advising your concerns and ask them to secure the premises further and to find out what plans they have for the building. RMcK to pursue the poor site security and whether gas/electricity has been disconnected.

5. Police Report

No police report but AG confirmed the police team has advised of two reports from the public of dirt bikes & electric motorbikes being ridden in Redhall and Hailes Quarry Park. They are stepping up patrols in Redhall Park as a result.

6. Community Events / Campaigns / Fundraising

- **Duncan Colquhoun Award** – AG confirmed the primary school need a member to present the £50 book token on 27/06 to the winning pupil. AG to check with members.
- **Proposed Junior Park Run HQP** - AG confirmed the Edinburgh Park Run rep will submit an application to the Community Grant Fund for the one off start up costs. Once funding in place then training of marshals would commence.
- **Millenium Woods – wayfinding sign/bench & planting** - AG confirmed an application has been submitted for funding to provide a proper bench top on the wayfinding plinth at the path junction between Redhall Park & Union Canal.

7. Planning

- a. **Student flats in Slateford on the former Westside motors site.** AG reported no change.

- b. **Smart's proposal to redevelop the former Bookers site.** AG reported no change.
 - c. **Slateford House** Cllr Walker queried how planning permission for a residential apartment development has become a change of use to serviced apartments if they are already being let out on Airbnb? AG to forward further details to Cllr Walker.
 - d. **Inglis Green Gate** – AG confirmed an appeal has been lodged by the developer, requesting permission be granted. WS advised comments now closed. Cllr McK advised the decision will be made at a CEC Local Review Body meeting on 11/09/24.
- 8. Reports from any LCC member attending meetings obo LCC**
- None
- 9. Environment**
- a. **Redhall Grove – Safer School Streets** – Cllr McK confirmed he has invited Mark Symonds (CEC) to attend an LCC meeting. It was suggested that a special meeting be held. SN voiced concerns from residents on Redhall Grove re teacher parking and the ongoing George Leslie contractor parking. AG to liaise with Cllr McK re meeting format.
 - b. **Lanark Rd Pedestrian Crossing** – AG advised a response and apology for delays was received from council officers. Due to parental leave and a lack of resource matters have not progressed further. Resource is expected to be increase in July. AG confirmed he also wrote to MSP Gordon Macdonald to see if he could champion the new crossing.
 - c. **Hailes Quarry Park path lighting to Murrayburn Rd** – No change.
 - d. **Flood Mitigation Works Redhall School/Peatville Terrace** – No Change
 - e. **Scottish Water – Longstone rd & Inglis Green Rd sewer works** – AG confirmed works have taken longer than expected due to archaeological finds and undocumented services. Works expected to complete in Sep 24.
 - f. **Stenhouse Mill Lane Sinkhole** - Cllr McK advised has chased action on diversion, improvements to diversion to make it more accessible but concerned the stabilisation of the path may become an expensive issue. Ownership is unclear. He is trying to gain clarity from Estates Research and will speak with WOLCT as well.
- 10. Ward Councillors' report(s)**
- Cllr McKenzie confirmed most of relevant ward work already covered in items above.
- 11. Treasurers Report**
- RD reported two transactions since the meeting in May (£3.60 for email account, £45 for room hire, leaving a balance of £92.54).
- 12. Questions from the public**
- None
- 13. AOCB**
- ER raised issues with vegetation growing on the former Cross Keys Inn building. AG to contact owner.
 - ER raised issue with overgrown vegetation on the Stenhouse Mill Lane path. AG confirmed the WOLCT and volunteers have since cleared some of this just prior to the sinkhole appearing.
 - AG advised the Parks Officer had confirmed he is pricing up repairs to the steps from Redhall Drive to Redhall Park after a local resident raised the matter.
 - AG advised the Parks Officer had asked what bulb we might like included in his order for Autumn planting. More crocus, daffodils and alliums will be coming.
 - WS raised an issue with local people reporting the presence of 'ticks' on themselves and dogs following visits to Redhall Park.
- 14. Next monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday 9th September 2024 at 7.30pm in Slateford/Longstone Church session room.**