

## Longstone Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 from 7.30pm to 9pm in Slateford/Longstone Church (Session room)

---

1. DL welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Attendance / Apologies**

*Elected members:* Des Loughney (Chair)(DL), Alan Gordon (Secretary & Engagement Officer)(AG), John Allan (Vice Chair)(JA), Euan Robertson (ER), Sonya Nemeč (SN), Anastasia Muri (AM)

*Co-opted members:* None

*Nominated Representatives:* None

*Ex Officio:* Cllr Denis Dixon

*In attendance:*

*Public Visitors:* 3 members of the public

Apologies were received from Cllr Ross McKenzie, Cllr Christopher Cowdy, Angela Pearston, Ray Donnelly & William Sturgeon.

3. **Minutes** of the EGM and the normal monthly meeting, both held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were approved and adopted.

4. **Matter arising from the last minutes**

- AG confirmed that the two noticeboards belong to the sheltered housing and the manager is happy to display any useful materials on our behalf. Thanks to Cllr Heap for enquiring.

5. **Police Report**

No update, current quarterly SW Police Newsletter is still available on LCC Website.

6. **Community Events / Campaigns / Fundraising**

- AG confirmed the SW Park Manager is working with the Active Travel team to secure bike racks for both Redhall Park and Hailes Quarry Park.
- AG confirmed he met with the Secretary of Friends of HQP (Sophie) and the Secretary of SW20 (Paul) to better understand how to establish a Kids Park Run in HQP. There is a lead in time during which training is provided by the Park Run organisation. It would run weekly on Sunday mornings. The Park Run rep is very keen on helping establish one in HQP. AG agreed to proceed with initiating and report back.
- It was noted by all present that Redhall Park is full of litter. AG agreed to organise a 'Spring Clean' litter picking event.
- Dog Poo 'dirty protest' at bottom of Bogsmill Rd generated discussion. Disappointment at both the disgusting pile of poo bags left by dog walkers and CECs unwillingness to place a suitable bin here. AG agreed to reach out to CEC as this situation cannot continue.
- AM again mentioned the communal bins at Inglis Green Gait are not being emptied by CEC properly and lack capacity. It was also mentioned there is the same problem with the communal bins (particularly the green-top recycling) for the flats near the Quarry Park entrance and the high rise flats at the end of Redhall Road.
- JA raised the matter of a community hydro electric generation scheme, using the Water of Leith that Cllr Walker is reporting back on. It might be a good fit for Place Based Investment Fund.

7. **Planning**

- a. **Student flats in Slateford on the former Westside motors site.** AG reported no changes but had enquired about 'informatives' on the original decision document.

- b. **Smart's proposal to redevelop the former Bookers site.** AG reported the development has been granted planning permission with the developer now willing to contribute 30% towards the cost of a bridge link. AG confirmed he had made a deputation to the Transport & Environment Committee (TEC) to speak to Cllr McKenzie's motion for council officers to report back via the business bulletin on timescales/costs/specs). Expected at Mar/Apr TEC.
  - c. **Student flats in Inglis Green Gait.** AG reported no change
  - d. **Longstone Inn redevelopment.** AG advised the development has been refused planning permission and good therefore the Burnside Bridge has been re-opened.
- 8. Reports from any LCC member attending meetings obo LCC**
- AG attend the graffiti summit at the City Chambers on behalf of Will Sturgeon who was unwell. Reps from street artists, Historic Environment Scotland, cllrs, utility companies and police debated different approaches to graffiti. Confirmed LCC could obtain more graffiti removal kit from CEC when we need it.
- 9. Environment**
- a. **Redhall Grove – Safer School Streets** – AG confirmed the hedge blocking the pavement now cut back after Cllr McKenzie chased again. AG also met with both school heads and Mark Symonds from CEC to review the school's 'travel plan'.
  - b. **Travelling Safely ETRO scheme** – AG confirmed the ETRO are currently active and valid after questions were submitted at full council relating to them.
  - c. **Hailes Quarry Park path lighting to Murrayburn Rd** – AG reported he met the SW Parks Manager, Friends of HQP, Cllr Dixon and reps from Atkins who are working on the lighting design. As well as lighting the path connection from Longstone to Murrayburn Rd, may also be solar powered spotlights in other path sections and spot lighting of key path juncture points. Further feedback/consultation to come.
  - d. **The Burnside closure and bridge repair** – AG advised the temporary repairs have now been completed.
  - e. **Pavement Parking / Dropped Kerb / Double Parking ban** – AG confirmed since the enforcement began, there has been a huge improvement across Longstone with both 'red flagged' streets (Redhall Place & Kingsknowe Crescent) remaining clear of pavement parked cars.
- 10. Ward Councillors' report(s)**
- None
- 11. Treasurers Report**
- AG reported three transactions since the meeting in Dec (2 x £3.60 for web domain and £45 for room hire leaving a balance of £363.34)
- 12. Questions from the public**
- Kingsknowe Rd North – Concern raised about drivers reaching dangerous speeds – AG agreed to ask Police to initiate speed checks.
  - Ghost Buses & Electronic Bus Stop Displays – Why are there ghost buses that disappear as they are supposed to arrive. A resident complained of waiting over 45mins for a 44 recently and bemoaned the unreliability of the service. Also bemoaned the useless electronic displays.
- 13. AOCB**
- Items carried forward to the next meeting as time ran out. (CEC Community Council Boundary Review / Place Based Investment Fund / Canal Fly Tipping)
- 14. Next monthly meeting scheduled for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm in Slateford/Longstone Church session room.**

