

Craiglockhart Community Council

Minutes of the Public Meeting

Time: 7pm

Date: 20 July 2026

Venue: In person at Craiglockhart Campus Room 1/09

Chair: Nick Stewart

1. Welcome, apologies for absence and any declarations of interest

Unfortunately, once again, Nick Stewart (NS) introduced the meeting with an apology: it was not possible to physically connect our laptop to the Campus internet. The correct piece of hardware to allow this connection will be sourced to ensure people can dial into the next public meeting.

NS also apologised for the cancellation of the 18 May 2026 public meeting. NS reminded people of the update prepared at the same time and available on the Craiglockhart Community Council (CCC) website: www.craiglockhart.org

Apologies:

City of Edinburgh Councillors - David Keys and Chris Cowdy

Police Scotland - Community Policing Team

Community Councillors - Paul Pia

In Attendance:

Constituency MSP: Sumita Kumar (Edinburgh South Western)

City of Edinburgh Councillor - Kevin McKay

Community Councillors - Nick Stewart (chair), John Corbett, Chris Phillips, Robbie Law, Paul Pia, Neena Agarwal, Eleanor Young, Stevie Douglas and Hilda Henderson.

Residents - circa 10 (in person)

Declarations of interest:

None

Welcome:

NS welcomed Sumita Kumar, elected MSP in May 2026, to the meeting. As well as representing the interests of Craiglockhart, along with MSP Daniel Johnson, Sumita is the Scottish Government Minister for Equality & International Development. Setting up her constituency office is an immediate priority as well as transitioning into her role as a MSP. Being approachable and accessible to the community was a key theme reinforced by Sumita.

2. Minutes from previous meetings

Subject to the following restatement (below), approval of the minutes from the public meeting held on 16 March 2026 was proposed by Eleanor Young (EY) and seconded by Stevie Douglas (SD).

The previous minute for agenda item 7 c. 'Paties Pavillion Car Park Lighting - Katesmill Road' should be disregarded and restated as, "The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) accepts that liability for the Katesmill Road car park rests entirely with them but the matter of lighting for this space is unlikely to be resolved until new leases for the principal users of the car park are formalised."

3. Community Police

No items to report on behalf of the Community Police Team (CPT).

Continued antisocial behaviour by youths on e-bikes was highlighted at the meeting. The meeting acknowledged that the tactics open to the police are restricted in practical terms due to a lack of resources, and on safety grounds. For example: police will only pursue riders in good road conditions when riders have helmets on.

Where incidents are seen by residents It was felt that the Police Scotland on-line reporting facility should be used. Based on peoples experiences, calling 101 was considered less effective.

EY will modify our website content to reinforce the use of the Police Scotland Website, and online reporting for incidents of a non-serious nature using their [Contact Us form](#) .

4. Planning - Update

No planning applications were raised by John Corbett (JC).

Two developments were highlighted where no formal planning application has been registered with the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) but will be subject to review and feedback by JC when this happens.

- Proposal for development of existing Kayak Storage Units, Meggetland Wynd: A preliminary approach to CEC has been made. The ground area in the Site Plan (Ref No. [26/02051/PPP](#)) appears to be larger than their current footprint since the kayak club wish to create changing rooms and other facilities as well as storage. The removal of the unsightly containers would be welcomed as well as the creation of a formal sports facility for the benefit of others. However, pedestrian and cycle access to the canal from the Wynd, the loss of additional green space, as well as any encroachment on the canal towpath would be some, but not all, of the additional factors considered when formal planning permission is sought by the club.
- Bridgeview Apartments, 1-3 Lanark Road: The Merchant Company Endowments Trust (MCET) is proposing to acquire the remaining 38 units, out of the total of 50, not sold by the developer. Since the intention is to let these units to means tested tenants a revised 'S75 Agreement' is required, and an application has been submitted to CEC (Ref No. [26/02152/OBL](#)). Struan Property (Alan Robertson) is advising MCET on their search for an affordable housing project. Since the property technically sits within Craiglockhart, NS is meeting with Alan Robertson and Alan Gordon (Longstone CC Secretary) to better understand the proposal for Bridgeview. Based on the information available, the meeting reinforced its support for the MCET project.

5. Train Trams For Edinburgh - South Suburban Railway

NS drew peoples attention to his May 2026 update, and 'Tram Trains for Edinburgh' (TTFE) launched in October 2025. They are a voluntary group of Edinburgh residents who believe that the south of the city deserves better public transport. They have no political affiliation and no commercial interest — just a shared conviction that hybrid vehicles (i.e. tram-trains) running on a reopened South Suburban Railway (South Sub) and the existing tram network would be transformative.

Further information can be found on the website tfe.org.uk . The website also offers members of the public the opportunity to complete a short survey (takes 5 minutes to complete). Completing the sort survey was encouraged by NS. TTFE are undertaking further consultation and seeking buy-in from other stakeholders (e.g. CEC, Network Rail, South East of Scotland Partnership)

Securing funds from the Scottish Government to undertake a Feasibility Study is the next milestone for TTFE and other stakeholders.

6. Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Framework

NS introduced the new Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Framework, approved by CEC.

People can make a request for a pedestrian crossing using an online mapping tool [Request a Pedestrian Crossing](#) to indicate the location where people would like a crossing to be installed.

Requests will be collated and assessed by the Road Safety Team on a quarterly basis. If the application is successful, a crossing will be prioritised according to its score and updates will be reported on the [Road Safety](#) website on a yearly basis.

7. Engagement - Update

Robbie Law (RL) and Neena Agarwal (NA) confirmed that preparations are progressing well for this year's community "Health & Wellbeing" event - **Saturday 8 August 2026**, at Craiglockhart Parish Church, between 11:00am - 2:30pm.

Participants and 'taster sessions' on the day have been confirmed. A leaflet to promote the event is nearing completion, as are modifications to the banner sourced for last year's event.

Networking Key Services (NKS) will, once again, contribute to this year's event providing refreshments and snacks, as well as sharing healthy eating recipes at the event.

By the end of July 2026 the promotion of the event will be visible: leaflet produced, CCC website content, and a communication to the CCC email distribution list. The banner will be positioned on the railings outside the church - the Wednesday or Thursday before the event seems an appropriate timing, after permission from the church has been secured.

NS encouraged people to use word of mouth to help raise awareness about the event.

8. Shape the Future of Craiglockhart

The analysis of the survey responses is almost complete. To manually understand and process the volume of qualitative feedback content has proved extremely challenging and time consuming. Gaining access to someone with 'AI' expertise has been essential to process the data and make sense it. Validating the 'AI' output and preparing a report is currently in progress.

NS is aiming to share the output and themes arising from the survey by end July 2026.

Although **not** a complete list, a flavour of some of the themes follows.

- Fixing roads and pavements: stand out request across respondents (i.e. pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, etc.)
- Protecting existing green space: improve maintenance
- Cyclist & E-bike antisocial behaviour: Union Canal towpath and Craiglockhart/ Colinton Dell users
- Cycle routes: upkeep and extension of designated routes / active travel routes
- Congestion, parking, rat runs: two hotspots - Craiglockhart Avenue/Colinton Road (Napier students) and Myreside Road (Watsons drop off including weekends)
- Accessing a GP: tackling the 8am phone call lottery
- Bus connectivity: services to Bruntsfield/Morningside and East/West connections across the city
- Local cafe/ community hub: improve the sense of community
- Play area: Paties road recreation area
- Pedestrian Crossing: Craiglockhart Ave. ... etc.

The final output will form the basis of our Local Place Plan (LPP). The LPP submission date to CEC appears to have changed from June 2026 to December 2026.

9. Issues & Actions

9 a. Lockhartons Parking

The Priority Parking Area (PPA) for the Lockhartons, the adjoining stretch of Colinton Road, Colinton Grove, Craiglockhart Road North, and Craiglockhart View came into effect on 22 June.

Early indications suggest that the parking pressure issue has improved. After the Summer holiday season has finished a more realistic picture will become clearer. Linked to this CEC will also be evaluating the situation over the next 3-6 months.

A resident did raise concerns affecting Craiglockhart View. NS suggested that the resident formally report, raise, their concerns with the appropriate CEC department/team. In the event of an unsatisfactory response or outcome from CEC the opportunity exists for the resident to subsequently share their issue or concern with CCC and/or our elected ward councillors.

With parking spaces at a premium an abandoned campervan is proving to be a frustration. Steps have been initiated by CEC to have the vehicle removed.

9 b. Rat Run - Craiglockhart Avenue to/from Colinton Road

No update to report.

It should be noted that a resident at the meeting does make use Craiglockhart Road, Craiglockhart Park and Elliot Place to access their home on Colinton Rd as well as other purposes. Blocking off the streets named would be unwelcome by the resident. NS agreed with this comment and stressed that a more subtle, alternative, approach to tackle the rat run issue should be considered if, when, CEC decides to take ownership of the issue.

9 c. Paties Pavillion Car Park Lighting & Overflow Car Park Signage - Katesmill Road

No update to report in relation to car park lighting.

Based on feedback from a Broomyknowe resident, 'overflow car park signage' has been added to this issue. Current signage is obscured by bushes and easily overlooked by motorists. Accessing the newly graded overflow car park across from the Pavilion compounds the problem further when sports events are on since residents have trouble accessing their homes because of cars parking along Katesmill Rd, as well as the grass verge outside what was Colinton Castle squash club.

9 d. Blind Junction - Craiglockhart Gardens & Craiglockhart Avenue

No update to report - timing of a new 20mph limit on Craiglockhart Avenue is unclear.

10. AOCB

10.1 CCC Annual Accounts

Annual Accounts for the 12months ended 31/03/2026 must be lodged with CEC by 31 August 2026. Once again, Gail Loukes has kindly offered to prepare our Community Council accounts.

10.2 Cycle Hire Scheme - Bikes left @ Morningside

10.3 Car Advertisements - Car positioned near Tesco roundabout, Oxfangs

Both items, above, will be referred by NS to Merchiston and Oxfangs CCs, respectively.

Date of Next Public Meeting

Date: **Monday 21 September 2026**

Time: 7pm

Venue: Online & In person @ Craiglockhart Campus.

The meeting was closed.