

Craiglockhart Community Council

Minutes of the Public Meeting

Time: 7pm

Date: 21 July 2025

Venue: Online via Microsoft Teams & In person at Craiglockhart Campus Room 1/09

Chair: Nick Stewart

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

Apologies:

City of Edinburgh Councillor - Chris Cowdy and David Key

Police Scotland - Community Policing Team

In Attendance:

Community Councillors - Nick Stewart (chair), Neena Agarwal, John Corbett, Hilda Henderson, Paul Pia, Eleanor Young

City of Edinburgh Councillor - Kevin McKay

Residents - circa 10 (in person & online)

Declarations of interest:

None

2. Resignation - Kevin McKay

The 27 June 2025 Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart by-election confirmed that Kevin McKay (KMck) was elected to serve in the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) as a member for the Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart ward.

KMcK has formally tendered his resignation as a member of Craiglockhart Community Council (CCC) to Nick Stewart (NS). The meeting and NS acknowledged the positive contribution KMck has made to the Craiglockhart community over the years. Wearing a different hat this contribution will continue with KMck playing a key role representing his constituents on matters affecting the ward and the wider city as a councillor.

Post meeting: The role of Treasurer for CCC will be assumed by John Corbett on an interim basis.

3. Minutes from previous meetings

Approval of the minutes from the public meeting held on 19 May 2025 was proposed by Eleanor Young (EY) and seconded by Hilda Henderson (HH).

4. Community Police

NS confirmed that there were no matters highlighted to him, in advance of the meeting, by the Police Scotland Community Policing Team (CPT).

The theft of bicycles seems to be a persistent issue. NS to highlight to the CPT.

HH highlighted that the police will be one of the statutory consultees under the first stage of the Lockharton Priority Parking Area Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) consultation process due to commence from 25 July 2025.

The meeting noted that the Community Neighbourhood Watch teams have received academic research from a resident that helps people understand the implications of taking drugs.

5. Planning - Update

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

A planning application, recorded in the minutes of the previous CCC public meeting, to erect entrance gates and a wall to the garden at 10 Glenlockhart Bank has been rejected.

6. Engagement - Update

Feedback at and after the “Health & Wellbeing” event held on Saturday 5 July 2025 confirmed that it was judged to be a success. The total cost for the event was approximately £700.

The variety of activities and cross section of contributors was a plus factor. Acknowledgements have been sent to the contributors, with only a couple outstanding.

Despite publicity surrounding the event being identified as an area for improvement attendance numbers on the day were estimated to have been between 150-250.

Our ward councillors (Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart) were in attendance and appreciated the opportunity to get first hand feedback from people.

A report on the event has been prepared by NMCK and is accessible on the CCC website. The option exists to repeat a “Health & Wellbeing” themed event next year.

The participation of Networking Key Services Ltd (NKS) - a health and welfare organisation working with South Asian (Bangladeshi; Indian; Pakistani) women and their families living in Edinburgh - at the event was highlighted at the meeting. Neena Agarwal (NA) also shared expressions of interest from others to approach NKS as a result of their contribution.

7. Local Place Plans and City Plan 2040

[Local Place Plans](#) (LPP) are community-led plans which outline a community’s vision and proposals for their area. Registered Local Place Plans will be taken into account when we prepare [City Plan 2040](#).

There is still time for Community Councils and other community groups to produce and register a LPP - **deadline June 2026**. A LPP does not need to be a professionally produced document. Unfortunately, there is no specific funding for LPPs.

The lack of a centre, natural congregation area within Craiglockhart was raised at the meeting. Additionally, the rich history of Craiglockhart dating back to the bronze age was another feature. The scope and nature of local improvements was unclear - NS to clarify with the CEC Development Planning team.

8. Issues & Actions

8 a. Lockhartons Parking Issue - Update

Further to agenda item 4, HH confirmed that once the statutory consultation process (e.g. public bodies such as the police and fire service) has been completed, residents will be formally consulted.

It was agreed that this would be the appropriate point at which to escalate resident concerns and enlist the help of our MSP (Daniel Johnson) and MP (Scott Arthur), as well as CEC's Gareth Barwell (Interim Executive Director of Place) and Paul Lawrence (Chief Executive).

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

There has still been no update received from the CEC Road Safety team or CEC Local Traffic Improvement (LTI) team. An update has been requested from both teams.

8 c. Paties Pavillion Car Park Lighting - Katesmill Road

No progress to report.

8 d. Blind Junction - Craiglockhart Gardens & Craiglockhart Avenue

A response has been received from CEC Road Safety. It confirmed that the Council does not erect, or permit others to erect, mirrors on its road network due to a number of road safety concerns.

The option of erecting a mirror on private property (e.g. BT Exchange) was a possible option to explore. NS to follow up.

8 e. Mission Statement

A 3rd version of the draft Mission Statement was presented at the meeting: please refer to the following extract.

Make Craiglockhart the best possible place to live

- Be a Voice of our Community:
Represent Craiglockhart by gathering, coordinating and articulating the opinions, concerns and needs of Craiglockhart residents.
- Act as a Bridge:
Serve as a link between our community and various agencies, including the City of Edinburgh Council, other public bodies, and private agencies.
- Advocate for our Community:
Support and progress the interests of Craiglockhart, making representations and taking action as appropriate.
- Promote Well-being and Community Spirit:
Enhance the overall well-being of our multicultural community and encourage everyone to join us in fostering a strong sense of community and social cohesion.

Final feedback from CCC members was requested by NS.

9. AOCB

9 a. Dog Fouling

An increase in the amount of dog fouling was raised by a resident in advance of the meeting. The issue is evident in the Dell, pavements and grass areas around Craiglockhart. NS to raise with the CEC Parks and CEC Cleansing departments.

9 b. Road Signs - Entry to Craiglockhart

In advance of the meeting a resident drew attention to a previously raised proposal, rejected by CEC, for pillared street signs to be erected at four locations visible to vehicles and cyclists coming into Craiglockhart. It was agreed that CCC would resubmit the resident's proposal to CEC.

9 c. Roads Department - Plan Implementation

Delayed implementation of various initiatives by the Roads Dept. (e.g. 20mph roads) was raised by JC. The delayed implementation of Roads Dept. plans will be followed through by JC.

9 d. New Members - Welcome to Join

The resignation of KMCK raises the profile of the number of CCC members: six the minimum stipulated by CEC. There is an urgent need to attract new members.

As well as a mention in The Steeple initiated by EY, NS will approach local sports clubs (identified by JC), schools & Napier University, and Local Interest Groups (for a second time) to stimulate interest. More broadly NS encouraged any interested residents to contact the CCC mailbox.

9e. Redhall House - Recent Fire

Extensive work is required by the developer to repair fire and water damage to the building. There is no indication that the work will not be completed despite an expected 6 month delay.

9f. Weeds - Streets & Pavements

The annual issue of street weeds has reappeared. Requesting a commitment from people subject to a Community Payback Order (CPO) via the CEC website is possible. EY to share a link with NS.

In the absence of any action from CEC, a plea for residents to tackle any weeds bordering their homes was reinforced by NS.

9g. Food Bins - Damage

An increased incidence of food bins being damaged or dislodged by animals was mentioned. NS to raise with CEC Cleansing Dept.

9h. Cyclists - Dell & Old Railway

Post Meeting: the issue of cyclist speeds and behaviour failing to respect the presence and space needed by pedestrians and dog walkers using the dell and old railway should have been raised with Caroline Patterson (CEC - National Heritage Officer). NS to follow up.

9i. Community Council Insurance

Post Meeting: all community councils should have their own insurance arrangements in place. CCC has no insurance: this gap needs to be addressed, in particular third party liability insurance and officers insurance. NS to follow up.

Date of Next Public Meeting

Date: **Monday 15 September 2025**

Time: 7pm

Venue: Online via Microsoft Teams & In person at Craiglockhart Campus.

NS thanked all attendees.

The meeting was closed