

Craiglockhart Community Council

Minutes of the Public Meeting

Time: 7pm

Date: 17 November 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:

Community Councillors: Paul Pia

City of Edinburgh Councillors - Chris Cowdy, Kevin McKay and David Key

In Attendance:

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

Police Scotland - Officer Marian Ewing (Community Policing Team)

Residents - circa 20 (in person & online)

Declarations of interest:

None

2. Minutes from previous meetings

Approval of the minutes from the public meeting held on 15 September 2025 was proposed by Eleanor Young (EY) and seconded by Hilda Henderson (HH).

3. New Members

Following the introduction of Robert (Robbie) Law at the September 2025 public meeting, Nick Stewart (NS) was pleased to introduce another resident Christian (Chris) Phillips as a new member, as well as Stevie Douglas as a local interest group representative from Boroughmuir Rugby and Community Sports Club (BR&CSC).

For over 30 years Chris has been a practicing employment lawyer and a Craiglockhart resident since 2004. He is also a keen cyclist and a trustee of 'Craigmillar Now' an arts and heritage organisation, home to the Craigmillar archives and host a year-round programme of creative activities.

Stevie has been the club president of BR&CSC for the past 8 years. Initially graduating as an engineer he took a career change in 1989 joining the IT division of Standard Life until taking the decision to retire 9 years ago. The overarching aim of BR&CSC is to improve the lives of people in our community through accessible, high quality sporting and recreational facilities. The 'community' focus of BR&CSC provides a very good fit to Craiglockhart Community Council (CCC).

NS formally proposed that Robert (Robbie) Law and Christian (Chris) Phillips become co-opted members of CCC, and Stevie Douglas become a nominated representative member of CCC. As a result of the proposal being seconded, CCC now has a total complement of 9 members.

Post Meeting Note: The volunteer challenges facing the 107th Pentland Scout Group at the present time means that it is very unlikely that they will propose a representative member.

4. Indemnity Insurance

Based on insurance quotes received CCC has decided to purchase cover provided by Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance plc through intermediary, Keegan & Pennykid (Insurance Brokers) Ltd.

Cover took effect from 30/09/2025, valid for 12 months. An outline of CCC's insurance cover will be posted onto the CCC website for information.

5. Community Police

Officer Marian Ewing (ME) outlined current activities. This included foot patrols to mitigate antisocial behaviour on the canal, and foot patrols and car patrols (marked & unmarked cars) to combat house break-ins.

Recent house break ins, resulting in vehicle theft, were highlighted at the meeting. ME would follow these up. ME reinforced the importance of reporting any incident of criminality or resident concern to the police no matter how minor it might seem. Contact options reinforced included:

- Dial 999 in an emergency
- Phone 101 for non-emergencies

Note: calls can arise on matters that are not the responsibility of the police - please refer to this link. <https://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/non-emergencies/read-this-before-you-call-101/>

- Police Scotland Website: for issues of a non-serious nature using their 'Contact Us Form' <https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>
- Community Policing Team: Email EdinburghCPTSouthWest@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

Operation Portaledge was mentioned due to its impact, direct or indirect, on Craiglockhart residents. Police patrols have been performed to provide reassurance to residents. Responsibility for dealing with any criminality identified falls under the remit of the organised crime unit. No matters have been raised for the attention of the Community Policing Team (CPT) by the unit.

The death of a man near Colinton Tunnel last month was also highlighted. In terms of its impact on residents, no concerns were raised by ME.

The outcome of Operation Crackle to manage antisocial fireworks behaviour this year was considered positive: pro-active community engagement by the police, increased temporary powers given to the police (e.g. stop & search) and designated Firework Control Zones together helped to limit any antisocial behaviour to minor incidents.

Recent publicity surrounding early release orders for prison inmates drew comment. ME confirmed that there would be a drip feed of prisoners released, prior notice will be given by the prison service to the police, and the police in turn will monitor the movements and behaviour of individuals as appropriate.

The topic of speeding motorists, including 'boy racers', was raised. NS confirmed that this was a common problem raised by community councils represented at the Ward Forum on 14 November 2025 (i.e. Fairmilehead, Colinton, Longstone, Merchiston and Craiglockhart). The deployment of mobile speed units was noted. The topic of hooded speed cameras also came up.

Post Meeting Note: Sgt. Mark Coull was able to establish that covers are put on speed cameras when a reduction in speeding or accidents have been shown. They are not removed for the next 3 years. If there is any increase in speeding (e.g. monitoring wires across the road or mobile speed camera vans) or accidents over the 3 year period CEC will consider switching them on again.

6. Planning - Update

John Corbett (JC) highlighted the outcome of one planning application which had been declined: proposed telecommunications mast at Happy Valley. Overwhelming resident objection, including CCC, had been registered with the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC).

There were no other planning applications raised by JC.

7. Engagement - Update

Neena Argarwal (NA) requested assistance from another member of CCC to help define and scope the next community engagement event in 2026. NS to progress.

8. Governance Update & Council Matters

Payment of administrative expenses allowance

NS confirmed that the CEC grant for 2025/26 has been received by CCC.

Road Safety Delivery Plan 2025/26 - 6 month update

JC confirmed that the document confirmed that new 20mph speed limits will be introduced on: Craiglockhart Avenue, Colinton Road and Glenlockhart Road (note: CEC allocation to Merchiston)

Road Reports - significant ongoing and planned roadworks and events

NS drew attention to the following link which captures information which residents may find useful
<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/13464/road-reports>

City Plan 2040

- Local Place Plans- deadline June 2026

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/local-development-plan-guidance-1/local-place-plans>

Points raised at the September public meeting were reinforced. The meeting agreed that a bespoke meeting of CCC members was required to progress any Local Place Plan for Craiglockhart. NS to arrange.

- Place Engagement: Tell us about where you live - closes 23 January 2026

<https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/place/>

CEC have issued a questionnaire. The output will feed into CEC plans about how Edinburgh changes and develops in the future. People are encouraged to answer the questions. According to the CEC consultation hub, "It will take 10 minutes to complete".

9. Issues & Actions

9 a. Lockhartons Parking

The public consultation by CEC on the Proposed Priority Parking Area (PPA) affecting the Lockharton area opened on 14 November and **will run until 5 December 2025**. Everyone has the opportunity to feedback directly to CEC. It was noted that CCC will submit its own response.

The proposals can be viewed online at <https://streets.appyway.com/edinburgh-city>, following the link to "Proposals in consultation" under reference TRO/24/30. Feedback will be reviewed at the Transport Traffic Regulation Orders committee on 17 March 2026. The decision to approve the proposal, with or without changes, or reject it will be taken by the committee at this meeting.

If approved the PPA will be put in place on the ground. Unfortunately there is the absence of a clear timeline from CEC as to when this might happen. Our September 2025 public meeting noted that the Transport & Environment Committee (T&E) had agreed that the Lockhartons be given

greater priority and included in Phase 3 & 4 of PPA implementation - not Phase 5. This commitment continues to be under the scrutiny of Scott Arthur (MP Edinburgh South West).

The Lockartons Parking Coordinating Group are still seeking to establish a timeline for the implementation of the PPA and to get reassurance that the implementation will be prioritised and moved swiftly forward without the delaying there has been for this whole year.

The implementation of the PPA will unfortunately result in parking issues spilling over onto streets and residents beyond the Lockhartons (e.g. Colinton Grove, Craiglockhart Road North, Craiglockhart View). Residents at the meeting highlighted issues specific to their street and location. NS suggested that any unsatisfactory parking measure(s) proposed by CEC should be raised by residents with CEC, our ward counsellors (Kevin McKay, Chris Cowdy and David Key) and Stephen Jenkinson in his capacity as Chair of Transport and Environment Committee.

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As a general rule of thumb, NS confirmed that the standard protocol applied by CCC towards any issue or concern a Craiglockhart resident has is that it should be formally reported, raised, in the first instance by the resident 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.

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

In the absence of any update from the CEC Road Safety team and Local Traffic Improvement (LTI) team NS has enlisted the help of Chris Cowdy (CC) and Kevin McKay (KMck). No progress to report.

9 c. Paties Pavillion Car Park Lighting - Katesmill Road

No progress to report.

9 d. Blind Junction - Craiglockhart Gardens & Craiglockhart Avenue

No progress to report.

9h. Cyclists - Dell & Old Railway

Scott Arthur (MP Edinburgh South West) hosted a community "Anti-Social Bike Event" on Thursday 13 November at Broomhouse Hub covering the anti-social use of bikes in Edinburgh, and incidents of people feeling unsafe or witnessing anti-social behaviour taking place.

NS will request, and circulate, any output arising out of the event.

10. Meeting Dates 2026 : Monday 7pm , Craiglockhart Campus

The following six dates were confirmed for 2026:

- 19 January
- 16 March
- 18 May

- 20 July
- 21 September
- 16 November

These dates have been posted onto the CCC website.

11. AOCB

Rev. Gordon Kennedy - Minister at Craiglockhart Parish Church

The meeting welcomed the recent appointment of Rev. Gordon Kennedy as the next Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Date of Next Public Meeting

Date: **Monday 19 January 2026**

Time: 7pm

Venue: Online & In person @ Craiglockhart Campus.

NS thanked all attendees. The meeting was closed