

Craiglockhart Community Council

Minutes of the Public Meeting

Time: 7pm

Date: 23 May 2022

Venue: Online using Microsoft Teams & In person at Craiglockhart Campus Room 2/05

Chair: Peter Mavor

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

- Apologies received from Eleanor Young, Hilda Henderson *, Anni McLeod ** and Bryce Morrison ***

* Friends of Easter Craiglockhart Hill representative

** Friends of Wester Craiglockhart Hill and Greenbank Community Woodland representative

*** Water of Leith Conservation Trust representative

- Apologies received from City of Edinburgh Councillors: David Key, Val Walker and Christopher Cowdy

- No declarations of interest were made

In Attendance:

Community Councillors - Peter Mavor, Neena Agarwal, John Corbett , Kevin McKay and Nick Stewart.

Residents - circa 10

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Approval of the minutes from the public meeting held on 25 April 2022 was proposed by John Corbett (JC) and seconded by Neena Agarwal (NA).

Peter Mavor (PM) advised that action points from the last minutes would be covered by the agenda items for this meeting.

3. Community Police Report

Apologies received from Police Community Officer James May.

The February, March and April 2022 reports have been received and are/will be available on our website. People are reminded that police contact details are also shown on these reports.

Two actions from our previous meeting will be carried forward.

Action Point - JM, to assess the location(s) of road traffic incidents.

Action Point - JM, to continue to request up-to-date reports for future public meetings. (note: future public meeting dates for 2022 are 18 July, 19 September, 21 November).

4. New Local Councillors for Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart

PM confirmed the outcome of the recent local council elections on 5 May 2022: David Key (SNP), Val Walker (Labour) and Christopher Cowdy (Conservative).

5. Planning Update recent

Similar to last month's public meeting, JC advised that there was nothing of note to report on Planning.

The meeting was made aware of changes in the regulations affecting short term let accommodation that could potentially lead to a substantial number of planning applications being submitted to the Council. Were this to happen, the capacity of the Council's planning department to process planning applications on a timely basis would be stretched.

6. Engagement Update

April 2022 Engagement Survey: responses to the survey have risen to 129 from 120 reported at our last public meeting.

Suggestions previously made to improve the number of responses by sending an additional email to existing and 'new' email addresses received, as well as approaching the editors of The Dell and Canalside have been actioned.

Action Point - NS, to leave copies at the Kilted Pig, hairdressers, dental practice and tailor.

Action Point - NS, to get Public Noticeboard keys from NA and display a copy of the flyer.

Responses to two of the three ancillary questions people were asked to answer in the April 2022 Engagement Survey were summarised at the meeting.

Question: How would you prefer to communicate with CCC?

'Email Request' Survey - 96% Email, 4% Facebook, 0% Twitter, and 0% Other

'Input Request' Survey - 98% Email, 2% Facebook, 0% Twitter, and 0% Other

Question: How well do you understand the role and purpose of CCC?

'Email Request' Survey - 26% satisfied, 53% some but could be better, and 21% not very well

'Input Request' Survey - 72% satisfied, 28% some but could be better, and 0% not very well

Based on the above Email is the favoured communication channel people would like to use to communicate with CCC.

There is also an opportunity to improve peoples understanding in relation to the role and purpose of CCC. Alan Gordon (resident) suggested inserting some additional text in The Dell and Canalside. NS accepted this suggestion but highlighted that publishing timescales may prevent this from being possible.

Action Point - NS, to approach the editors of The Dell and Canalside.

Action Point - NS, to speak to other neighbouring Community Council Engagement Officers.

Responses to the third ancillary question: 'What key change would make Craiglockhart a better place to live or work?' are being assessed and collated. This analysis will be published shortly.

Preparation of The Annual Engagement Report for the year ended 31/03/2022 is also in progress. The report will be tabled at the AGM of CCC our next public meeting on Monday 18 July 2022.

7. Landslip on Easter Craiglockhart Hill - Update

The meeting noted that the Qmile stabilisation work & ecological survey is now complete. It appears that an end to this issue is in sight.

The contractor, VHE, will now set up and undertake the clear up required before commencing the necessary reinstatement works, scheduled for 24/06/2022.

An official re-opening target date has been set for 1/07/2022 (approximately).

Woodland replanting will be ongoing after re-opening.

8. Water of Leith - Dell Bridges and Paths - Update

Another update, dated 16/5/2022, has been received from the City of Edinburgh Council.

"I wanted to reassure you that we are seeing progress in the delivery of the various outstanding projects in the Dells and I will summarise those for you.

Dell's road path closure:

This path is closed due to a landslip and the Council have commissioned Geotechnical Consultants SWECO to monitor, survey and advise on solutions for stabilisation. The design has been finalised and the tender package is being prepared. The tender process takes around three weeks.

Following a house refurbishment project due to start in June on Dell's Road until end of September, it is anticipated for the work to take place in Autumn/winter 2022, depending on the winning contractor's availability. Once on site, we expect works to take 4-6 weeks to complete.

Dells 2 bridges replacement:

The Council have an agreement in principle to the designs and our consultant engineers are developing a full specification of works to allow both projects to be taken to tender. These details are expected within the next couple of months and thereafter the works will be advertised and a competitive tendering exercise progressed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued patience and support in the delivery of these complex pieces of work."

Despite extreme frustration with the amount of time this issue has been allowed to go unresolved by the Council, the meeting was relieved to see the attention being given to the repairs required. Optimistically, the necessary works will be complete by the end of 2022.

9. Litter Bin at Bogsmill Bridge, Craiglockhart Dell

Council Officer Andy Hunter will contact PM to arrange a meeting between them and the West Edinburgh Council Waste team.

10. AOCB

Redhall House Road - Road Adoption

Miller Homes has reported that all remedials for the adoption of the road are now complete and they await acceptance from the Council Roads Department. Alan Gordon (resident) stressed his rejection of any road adoption until the rainwater gully issue and flooding risk is addressed. The issue was formally logged with the Council some 6 months ago by another resident. Alan will also formally log the issue using the Council's on-line road and pavement issue form.

Action Point - PM, to approach a Councillor to assist with this issue.

Travelling Safely/ SW20

Action point from the last public meeting carried forward - suggestion to invite various parties such as SW20, Edinburgh Nature Network, Council Officials to discuss how ideas and initiatives could be linked for the benefit of Craiglockhart.

Action Point - PM, to ensure item discussed at the next internal meeting of CCC.

Lothian Buses

Action point raised Nov'21 public meeting carried forward - concern about deteriorating service, with some services having a reduced frequency despite the numbers of passengers appearing to rise. Lothian Buses have been asked to comment.

Action Point - PM, to approach a Councillor to assist with this action.

Transport

Action point raised Nov'21 public meeting carried forward - CCC approached by both Heriot Watt University and Merchiston Community Council on the subject of "Transport". CCC needs to establish what they require and how it fits with Craiglockhart.

Action Point - PM, to continue dialogue with Merchiston CC.

Mela Community Event

PM reinforced the holding a multicultural event. Planning for the event is needed.

Action Point - PM, to ensure item discussed at the next internal meeting of CCC.

City Fibre Disruption

Complaints from residents continue to arise covering topics such as debris, grit and gravel swept into drains, signs lying around, pathways difficult to navigate, etc. A City Fibre contact has been open to hearing these complaints and some corrective action has been taken. The potential for problems when the Autumn weather returns remains a possibility.

11. Other Items Raised

Friends of Easter Craiglockhart Hill - AGM, 20/06/2022, Meggetland Sports Complex

People are invited to attend the AGM on Monday the 20th of June, 7pm for 7:30pm.

After 2 years it is the chance for us all to meet up again and find out what has been happening on the hill, and what is being planned for the future.

Craiglockhart Tennis Centre - Collapsed Fencing, Street Side

Action Point - PM, to raise with the manager at the tennis centre

Graffiti

Ursula Adams (resident) mentioned that her experience of the response by utility companies to reports of graffiti had been positive. This contrasts with the response to reports sent to City of Edinburgh Council.

Action Point - PM, to approach a Councillor to assist with this issue.

Oxgangs Primary School

At the previous public meeting the Chair of Oxgangs Primary School extended an invitation for a representative of the Community Council to attend parent council meetings.

Action Point - PM, to contact the Chair (Ben), in the absence of any email to craiglockhartcc@gmail.com regarding meeting dates.

Social Occasion

NA reminded people of the proposal to hold a social get together to mark the fact that Andrew Johnston, Gavin Corbett and Jim Bryson had moved on from their Edinburgh Council and Community Council roles.

Action Point - PM, to ensure item discussed at the next internal meeting of CCC.

Meeting Audio Visual Equipment

Action Point - Kevin McKay (KMck) & PM, to explore additional equipment requirements.

Craiglockhart Community Council - AGM, 18/07/2022

PM reminded the Community Councillors and other organisation representatives of the need to provide an appropriate update at the AGM.

Action Point - PM, KMck, NS, Hilda Henderson, Anni McLeod and Bryce Morrison to assess updates to be provided for the AGM.

PM thanked all attendees and the meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting & AGM - Monday 18 July 2022.

Venue/ format to be confirmed.