**Minutes of the meeting of Longstone Community Council at 7:30 pm in Slateford/Longstone Church on 17 August 2015.**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Representatives:**Jean Marr; Grace Hughes (Secretary); Steuart Campbell (ViceChair); Jim Scott (Chair/Treasurer); Bob Gardiner.

**Co-opted:**Lily Campbell

**Ex Officio:**Cllr Dennis Dixon.

**Members of the public:** 2

1. **Apologies:**

Apologies were noted from Ann Watt, Ros Lennie, Cllr Fullerton and Rev. Mike Frew.

1. **Chairman’s remarks**

Jim Scott welcomed everyone

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2015**

Approved subject to the change of the date in item 3 to ‘9 March 2015’.

1. **Matter arising**:
   1. **Police report**

No police attended.

* 1. **Planning report:**

Steuart Campbell explained that the premises at 102 Kingsknowe Road North had not become a day nursery as expected but were now in use as the registered office of Helica Instruments Ltd, who make, supply and maintain a specialised hospital instrument. He had notified Planning about the change and expected the company to display an identifying sign.

He then explained that an application had been submitted for the construction on 157 houses and flats for the Castle Rock Edinvar Housing Association Ltd on land adjacent to the Prison. There were 74 documents associated with the application including assessments by CEC’s Traffic dept. and a consultant’s report on flooding, which the Scottish Environment Protection Agency thought inadequate. There were 13 public comments. Although all the construction will be outwith our area, we have a neighbourly interest, if only in flooding from the Murray Burn. The application is presently under consideration.

He went on to explain that the application to construct 54 flats on the site at 69-97 Inglis Green Rd had been provisionally approved subject to legal agreements, some of which he outlined (mainly about the stopping-up of Millbrae Wynd, the introduction of one-way working on Graysknowe and its adoption).

Cllr Dixon promise to look at the application and the agreements.

**4.3 Neighbourhood Partnerships:**It was noted that Jim Scott and Steuart Campbell will attend forthcoming meetings on our behalf.

**4.4 Environmental issues:**

The failure of CEC to proceed with repair of a gulley in Redhall Road was discussed and was the failure to get Carillion to deal with weeds spreading from the gardens of their houses in Redhall Rd. Steuart Campbell explained how Virgin Media was responding to requests to deal with graffiti on the street cabinets. There was confusion as to whether or not Scottish Canals had dealt with the leak from the aqueduct at Inglis Green Rd (the Secretary was asked to find out).

**5 Proposed ward boundary changes:**

Steuart Campbell explained the latest proposals from the Local Government Boundaries Commission as they affect the LCC area. He explained that the whole of our area presently in Pentland Hills ward would be moved into the Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart ward and also part of it presently in Sighthill/Gorgie ward would be moved into Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart (he circulated a plan showing the boundary of this incursion). This proposal puts both Peatvilles, about half of Kingsknowe Road North, Kingsknowe Place and Kingsknowe Court into Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart (also about half of Hailes Quarry Park). He advised that the proposals, announced on 30 July, were out for consultation until 22 October and pointed to the obligation put on the Commission, not only to ensure that each councillor represents the same to the incursion and that the task should be remitted to the officers.

1. **Treasurer’s report:**

**Date Details Amount (£)**

11.5.2015 Balance 3215.76

Secretary’s expenses -18.75

03.6.2015 Return of grant from CEC\* -1700.00

08.7.2015 Room hire (May+June 2015) -63.20

08.7.2015 Annual grant (part) 537.64

11.8.2015 Balance 1971.45  
\*Mr Scott explained how it had not been possible to get CEC to erect an information board at the entrance to Hailes Quarry Park from Murrayburn Road and that the allocate funds had been returned.

1. **Correspondence:** 
   1. Letter from Edinburgh Tenants Federation requesting a contribution (matter remitted to next meeting);
   2. Email from Cllr Fullerton re Community Payback Orders;
   3. Email from Breid Croal re trusted trader;
   4. Road works on Chesser Ave to do with new shopping area;
   5. Removal of street vegetation in certain areas.
2. **AOBC**

Bob Gardiner reported weeds growing on the newly refurbished roundabout by the bus garage (someone reported that they had seen them being removed) and he also mentioned that several trees in Redhall Park were dead. He was annoyed that no one seemed to take responsibility for the upkeep of things planted in the area. Why plant trees (which are quite an expensive item) and then give no further attention.

**9 Next meeting** 14 September 2015.