**Longstone Community Council**

Minutes of the Zoom meeting held on Monday 11 October 2021 at 7:30 pm.

**DL welcomed everyone to the meeting**

1. **Attendance and apologies***Elected members:*

Des Loughney (Chair), Steuart Campbell (Secretary/Treasurer), Alan Gordon, Ros Lennie and Margaret Campbell.
*Co-opted members*John Allan (Vice Chair), Lily Campbell (participating by telephone).
*Nominated representatives:*

none

*Ex Officio*

Cllr Denis Dixon
*In attendance*Sam Findlay taking notes for Cllr Graczyk
*Public visitors*

13 max.

There were no apologies but Maria McDonald, former member of Sighthill, Broomhouse and Parkhead CC, was co-opted (proposed by JA and seconded by SC). She had recently moved into our area.

1. **The minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 13 September 2021 were approved
and adopted.
2. **Police crime report**SC referred the meeting to recent Police newsletters. Police cannot use Zoom**.**
3. **Matters arising** from the last minutes but not covered elsewhere in the agenda**:** none

**5 Planning and development**

**5.1** *Redevelopment of the Kingsknowe Roadhouse with housing*:
SC reported approaching both the developer’s architect and the owners themselves to ask about future action. However he received no reply. He is also trying to contact the lessee.

**5.2** *Student flats in Slateford on the former Westside Motors site*:
SC reported that he saw no progress regarding demolition by Chamic and thought it might have stopped. JA pointed out that planning permission is only valid for 3 years.

**5.3** *Conversion of Slateford House and Chalmers Memorial Hall*:
Inside conversion proceeding, but with no sign of constructing separate block of flats at rear.

**5.4** *Smart’s proposal to redevelop the former Booker site*:Still awaiting planning application.

**6 Reports from any LCC member attending meetings obo LCC**

**6.1** *Update on ReDrawing Edinburgh (MC)*. The newly-created film that was projected during the Cinescapes ReDrawing Edinburgh September events is now live. MC gave a link to the film [SC will circulated the link].

**7 Environment**

**7.1** *Redhall Grove traffic control scheme:*
Still waiting on word of a consultation organised by CEC.

**7.2** *Graffiti:*
SC referred to all the graffiti listed on our website and reported that he was chasing various owners to clean up their property.

**7.3** *Subway under the Canal and The Tunnel ownership:*SC still waiting for Estates Sept on ownership transfer. Water samples show that all the water emerging is from a spring, more details at next meeting. SC has asked the Parks Officer to put in a drain to clear the water soaking the bottom of the path.

**7.4** *Cycle lanes and floating parking (Lanark Rd and Inglis Green Rd)*

 SC and AG attended an online meeting with SfP officials on 7 Oct during which they presented a report on their surveys on Lanark Rd. The outcome was that the changes already planned, such as moving the floating parking outside the flats opposite Dovecot Park to the Park side will proceed. They decided against marking ‘slow’ signs on downhill cycle strips. The upcoming meeting of the Transport & Environment Cttee (14 Oct) at which the SfP plans will be determined was noted. SC mentioned a table in the presentation that seemed to show that the number of cyclists on Lanark Rd had decreased over the period 20 Oct to 21 Aug. AG doubted that the numbers were relevant during lockdown. It was reported that the number of vehicles was down over the period.

 There followed a lively discussion with many contributions from public visitors. Some queried the need for the SfP measures and complained that they caused difficulty and hardship. Generally there was a call for the scheme on Lanark Rd to be removed, many believing that local opinion was being ignored. Questions were raised about the reaction of LCC to representations, the constitution of LCC, the safety of the new cycle paths and CEC’s surveys. SC explained the setup of CCs and that, between elections, people can be co-opted (later there was discussion about co-opting more members). LCC is allowed a maximum of 14 elected representatives but usually found it hard to keep the number over the 7 minimum. Less than 7 would put the future of LCC in question. SC asked if anyone in the meeting wanted the SfP scheme on Lanark Rd to continue: no one responded. Subsequently he asked if anyone present supported the removal of the scheme on Lanark Rd: this seemed to meet with overwhelming approval and a request that such a view be presented to CEC. DL invited people to suggest the phrasing of such a motion and SC offered to put a draft on the LCC website for comment. There was some debate as to how this would be done.
 AG raised the question of a signalised pedestrian crossing on Lanark Road, notably by Kingsknowe Park (street), and a discussion followed about the speed of traffic (cars and cyclists). CEC had noted lower speeds generally but some accidents indicated higher speeds occasionally.

 JA wanted to discuss lighting in Hailes Quarry Park, a long-standing issue.

 The meeting closed past the 9pm deadline and further business had to be postponed.

SC/14oct21