

Southside Community Council Meeting, Monday 13th May, 6pm, Nelson Hall

Present: Liz Logie (LL), Daniel Fisher (DF), Stephen Rodger Benson (SRB), Betty Offerman (BO)

Councillors: Steve Burgess (SB), Finlay McFarlan (from City Centre) (FMc)

Apologies: Philip Pinsky, Joan Carter, Nicholas Oddy

Public: Catriona McCallum (CMc)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence, declarations of interest.
 - a. Philip Pinsky, Joan Carter & Nicholas Oddy had given apologies in advance
2. Ascertain issues brought by members of the public: determine when and how to deal with them.
 - a. Catriona McCallum brought up bin hubs – to be addressed in the action point
3. Minutes - Nobody had much time to look at them as they had only been distributed today – will discuss possible updates by email
 - a. SRB – wanted to change order of attendees and action points so attendees came first. Had also had contacted people about the litter pick in the East Preston Cemetery, but had heard no response.
4. Councillor's report – Steve Burgess
 - a. Meeting of the Full council last week – places confirmed for Administration, existing arrangement confirmed (Labour Group leading the council with Conservatives and Lib Dems in significant posts).
 - b. New Chief Executive – Paul Lawrence, current director of Place selected to take over from Andrew Kerr
 - c. Community Council supported proposal for Place Based Investment programme for Holyrood Park Road. Supposed to be at next Committee, but postponed and will be decided in November (whole fund relatively small, 1 million or so, but 4 million being asked by various proposals). Looking to possible phase proposals in to make them more manageable.
 - d. Finlay McFarlan - represents City Centre Ward, which includes Dumbiedykes which is represented by Southside
 - i. 27 May Dumbiedykes action week to remove graffiti, amnesty for fly tipping, cleansing squads, lots of jobs that have built up since pandemic.
 1. Community Litter pick on Wednesday 29th
 - a. Philip Pinsky going to try and get to that
 - ii. Community Council boundaries – Dumbiedykes being considered to be added to Old Town – but lot of concern from residents.
 1. DF – the Community Council had discussed it, concerned about it losing representation as Old Town Community Council seems to be defunct
 2. FMc – Old Town CC still going, and think Dumbiedykes might help bring active residents into the CC area
 - e. Reports from Office bearers
 - i. None From Treasurer
 - ii. DC – attending Dumbiedykes meetings, mostly about Braidwood Centre – recruited external consultant to come up with plan for the centre in consultation with local residents. Aiming to be completed by the end of June, not going to get into the building before the end of Summer anyway
 1. BO – Asked about someone who wants to grow poly tunnels

- iii. SRB – objected to a bunch of STLS – including one that was a previous application under a different guise
- f. Meetings attended
 - i. DF – Attended Dumbiedykes Working Group
- g. Planning and licence applications
 - i. None others that stand out that hadn't been covered already
- h. Meadows's Festival
 - i. BO – contacted 4 other CCs in area & FOMBLE, we have response from everybody by Tollcross, but person from Tollcross works at Meadows Festival so likely aware
 - 1. Joan wanted to include students for kid's activity, but not heard any further than that – BO's friend will do face painting for a donation
 - 2. Cover in place for all 2 days of the Festival
 - ii. DC - we should do a banner for generic Community Councils – agreed. BO will contact Alison Neathy (who did the posters for not feeding the birds)
 - 1. Should we have a maps? – SRB said maybe not given we don't know the boundaries yet
 - iii. CMC – asked who will be represented – 5 Community Councils & FOMBLE, try and get engagement, raise Community Councils' profiles.
- i. Boundary Review
 - i. BO – asked about resident's association – FM – no active one at the moment, but had heard from Julie Logan, who organised the Dumbiedykes Matters page
 - 1. Julie's personal view– have more in common culturally, socially and economically with Southside Community than Old Town
 - 2. BO – feels that while it might be good for Dumbiedykes to be in City Centre for City Centre, but also good for Southside as very student heavy area.
 - ii. We will submit the further comments we have received to the consultation.
- j. Dumbiedykes clean up – Wednesday 29th 10am at Bradwood, Philip Pinsky will attend
- k. Bin Hubs – CMC – raised concern about West Newington Place – popular cut though, but now have on 100m with 25 bins on it, very high density for such a small street. Particularly the 8-9 bin hub at westerly end next to Causewayside, which used to be in the vennel – has made a formal complaint, which was at stage 2, looking for a reduction of number of bins, but it has been rejected as council staff are adamant they can't put any on Causewayside
 - i. Has written to councillors
 - ii. Looking for help of community councillors & local councillors (has copied in Steve Burgess into each communication and not heard anything)
 - iii. Really upset by whole process & rigidity of framework criteria, affects the quality of life of people on the street
 - iv. SB – Explaining why not had a reply from him personally – split ward with other by names – thinks it is Simita Kumar – will reach out to see if she has been aware of her email
 - v. FMC – asked about consultation, but CMC said she had made submissions and suggestions at the time, but also didn't envisage the scale of the hubs

- vi. BO agreed on the difficulty to envisage the scale of bin hubs, shared by other residents
- vii. DF – some areas bin hubs are much smaller – agreed the number of bins seems to be too many
- viii. LL – people are moving bins around
- ix. SB – had received emails on 8th April – Asked CMc that the written response from the officers be forwarded to the ward councillors, and will make sure that she will receive a response from councillors
 - 1. Street a victim of the policy to take the bins off the main streets and put them on side streets, as it is on the intersection of several major streets and ended up with some of the bins for each
 - 2. Thought it would be beneficial to get officers to review it, but otherwise it would take a change in policy at Transport & Environment Committee
 - 3. FMc – Suggested it is possible that once the policy is rolled out there may be resources to reassess the placements – but just a theory
- x. BO – We had a complaint from Tapas3 last time and they felt that the placement was illegal
 - 1. Tim Pogson had said he thought that the bins would be moved in October, but after the meeting came back to say that was not the case.
 - 2. SB – TRO required to resite bins, legal requirement, and usually takes a year
- xi. SB – Officers can only implement policy of the Committee, but in shorter term will try and get a meeting with the officers on the site
- xii. LL – asked councillors how many complaints have there been? Also issues in Rankeillor Street
- xiii. FM – review several years ago was to try and find way to drive up recycling – lack of glass recycling, split of dry recycling, reduce distances for walking
 - 1. Policy has been reviewed and amended
 - 2. What SB suggested would be the same approach he would take
- xiv. DF – asked to be copied into the responses
- xv. LL – East Cross Causeway bollard has been knocked over again.
- I. Ice Cream Van on meadows and cracked pavement –
 - i. Philip brought it up, lots of photos of it on grass not hard standing – entrance on Buccleuch place damaged due to vehicles
 - ii. BO doesn't believe it should be on grass
 - 1. SB – it would need licence & permission, asked if someone had made a complaint?
 - a. Philip had just wanted to include it on the agenda
 - 2. DF – who should we persue it with? – SB suggested it was Steven Cuthill with Parks (oversees parks), if not him, should know. Suggested that we copy in SB.
 - iii. BO – cracked pavement will be someone else?
 - 1. SB – asked BO to send the photograph of broken pavement
- m. AOB
 - i. LL - Deliveroo using electric bikes now, and very quiet, and more and more of them, can anything to be done to encourage use of bells?

1. DF – venues increasingly complaining about the drivers as well
 2. BO - isn't illegal to be on pavement – yes
 3. FMc – motivated by trying to deliveries as quickly as much possible, which means they cut more corners, might take industry updates to improve
- ii. Elections – shouldn't they be held soon – FM – will want to wait until boundary review is complete, which has still got a stage to go.
- n. Date of Next meeting – Monday 10th June 2024