

**New Town & Broughton Community Council
Minutes of the meeting on
Monday 5th December 2011
(Broughton St Mary's Church, Bellevue Crescent)**

Members Present: Ian Mowat (Chair), Audrey Cavaye (Secretary), John Knight, , Gaby Holden, Alan Welsh, Jonathan Finn (Treasurer), Richard Corral, Anne Casson, Judy Conn, Jo Nove. Patrick Hutton,

Ex officio members present: PC Derek Barbour, Cllr Deidre Brock, Cllr Joanna Mowat

Members of the public present: Alan McIntosh

1) Apologies for absence received from: Bill Dunlop. Also advised that Jo Nove would be moving to work abroad, and that there would be a replacement in February.

2) Minutes of Meeting and matters arising

Minutes from 7th November 2011 were approved by John Knight, and seconded by Alan Welsh.

3) Police Report

PC Barbour advised on Housebreaking – there was one solved and 12 unsolved. However the 12 unsolved related to a hotel locker break-in where each locker counted as a single incident. Anne Casson pointed out that one attempted break in on Carlton Terrace was not included in the report. Noted that there had been a spate of workman's tool thefts. Advised that extra patrols had been arranged for the Christmas period. Alan Welsh suggested that improved street lighting in Forth Street and Union Street would be beneficial. Cllr Mowat then advised that the Grassmarket had been targeted and a lot of work had been done to improve lighting in that area. There was a rolling programme to replace lighting.

Ian Mowat asked that crime statistics be included in future Police reports, and also if possible motoring and bicycle offences in the MacDonald Road/Leith Walk area.

Also advised that PC Dane Morrison had moved from Community Policing onto other duties. Confirmed that PC Karen Reid was the Licensing Officer.

Hotel on York Place had been granted a late license until 1.00am, and additional sound proofing was in place. It was noted that the Committee had not had sight of this application.

4) Planning

John Knight presented his report (which is available separately if required). In addition to his report:

4 Bellevue Terrace – removing part of roof and putting in balustrade – noted that in 2010 an application for this was refused. This application is all but identical and it will reveal a great deal of the roof over the bedroom below.

28 Howe Street – There was some confusion as 2 similar Planning applications were in existence and John Knight had responded to one, but the other turned out to be the planning application Ref. 11/02842/FUL which was going forward – so our objections were not recorded but the revised drawings appeared to show the changes that we recommended. Cllr Mowat asked that John Knight email the letter to her.

SES Plan – John Knight requested assistance with a response from the Planning Committee.

Discussion on Lighting Strategy – Picardy Place highlighted as City Centre entrance. World Heritage to have no sodium lighting and use cool white bulbs. Also discussion on the lighting of public buildings. Jonathan Finn asked if the report included 'turn off' times. Cllr Mowat advised that the report will include further details at the next stage. John Knight advised that comments were needed by the end of the year. Cllr Mowat advised that LED lighting was to

be used, costs and maintenance were to be reviewed – all of which was discussed at Planning prior to Strategy going to the consultation process. Ian Mowat asked that comments be emailed to John Knight.

5) Transport

Ian Mowat advised that he would like to arrange to have Andy Conway back to update us on tram developments in 2012.

Alan Welsh raised the issue of buses going along George Street after the tram was running and the view that it would be best to remove the central reservation parking. Ian Mowat felt they could co-exist. Cllr Mowat advised there was no evidence that all buses would go along George Street when the tram was running, or the need to remove parking.

Jo Nove suggested that the priority was to improve the relationship and communication between the City Council and the local residents groups given that the Moray Feuars had arranged their tram mitigating measures meeting at the same time as our November meeting, which Council tram official Andy Conway had already arranged to attend. Also advised that the Moray Feuars wished to target the removal of buses from Charlotte Square.

Jonathan Finn questioned whether there was any consideration in making George Street one way, but Cllr Mowat advised this had been reviewed years ago to make Princes Street one way and George Street the other.

6) Environment

Bio-Mass – Judy Conn advised that plans were in abeyance and that further investigations were to be carried out regarding air quality.

7) Licensing

Jonathan Finn to take forward and set up a meeting of the Licensing Committee in January.

8) Neighbourhood Partnership

John Knight had attended the Budget Meeting. Had raised the suggestion of raising hotel “bed” tax which had received support. However Cllr Mowat advised that the Local Edinburgh Council do not have powers to do this.

Also mentioned that smaller coins eg 5p and 10p would no longer be usable in parking meters.

9) Chairs Report

No items raised.

10) Treasurers Report

Spring event – further ideas are needed

Alan Welsh suggested we could have a stall at the Market outside the Cathedral on Picardy Place. This was shutting down over the winter but the Community Council could target the Spring.

George V Park – asked whether CC become a member – **Judy Conn to check and confirm.**

CC agreed to make priorities for allocating Community Council funds an agenda item at next meeting **Jonathan Finn to progress.**

Letter head –was now with the printers. Jonathan Finn to circulate. Asked that everyone who uses the letterhead should use the new style from now on.

11) Activities of Local Street or Amenity Associations

Royal High School – building is to be sold for the Art School

St James Quarter – queried whether this was going ahead? Advised 2016 is the expected date.

12) Any Other Business

Query raised regarding the booking of the church for future meetings. Ian Mowat to arrange for February onwards.

13) Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 6th February at the Drummond Room, Broughton St Mary's Church, Bellevue Crescent.