JUNIPER GREEN (AND BABERTON MAINS) COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Community Council Meeting 23 August 2017

In attendance: Members – Vic Stewart (Chairing), Russell Salton, Alison Walker, Nigel Rickard, Anne Wimberley, Jim Ferguson, Cliff Beevers and Ian Gilmour (attended after 30 minutes)

Visitors: Ken Davies, Lynn Elliott, Cllr Susan Webber, Cllr Neil Gardner, PC Euan Chancellor, Prof Bill Buchanan

Apologies: Cllr Ricky Henderson, Richard Watt

Items

**1 and 2 Minutes of the previous meeting of 21 June** were accepted (prop Anne W, seconded Ali W). Matters arising would be covered under other items

3 Reports and Recent Meetings

**3.1 School Notes.** Anthea explained that the ‘Safe Routes to School’ initiative is being partially successful in controlling anti-social parking on the Baberton side of school. Ali W emphasised that the CC were fully supportive of the school. The issue of rat running on the Juniper Green side is continuing and there are ongoing discussions with councillors and council officials to take this forward. PC Euan mentioned that any road enforcement action will not occur until the school has been seen to take ‘firm action’ on its own behalf first

Action: Ali W to attend future ‘Safe Routes to School’ meeting at JGPS

Anthea also mentioned the success of the ‘mentoring’ project at the school involving members of the community and children from challenging backgrounds. She is hoping to recruit more volunteers for the new school session

Action: Anthea to make appeal through C&B News

**3.2 Secretary.** Russell mentioned that he has been and will continue to routinely send on copies of papers/reports, etc sent to him from the council. CC members are invited to read these and take whatever initiative they deem necessary

**3.3 Treasurer.** Ali expressed her frustration with RBS who are no longer sending out hard copies of bank statements. Furthermore, RBS do not facilitate digital banking for CCs.

Action: JGCC to open new bank accounts with BOS and close RBS accounts. Signatories for new account(s): Ali W, IG, RS

Present account balances: No1 £728.88 No 2 £8839.57.

Edinburgh Council have forwarded the annual grant of £750.22; however, JGCC are now expected to provide their own event insurance

Action: CC to take out insurance

Ken W asked for the conclusion of the account for the Baberton Mains History project

Action: CB and Ali W to liaise and achieve

**3.4 Monthly local planning matters**

There was considerable (at times heated) discussion about the recently awarded planning permission for a new house at 14 Belmont Road. There was great concern that the CC had objected to this application but at the recent planning hearing it was incorrectly mentioned that CC had supported the application. Cllr Neil G mentioned that as this would be the third road access onto the Bloomiehall Park entry drive this might involve other legislation yet unconsidered.

Action: Cllr Susan W and Cllr Neil G to speak to council officials and report back to CC as a matter of urgency. The CC are likely to wish to take this matter to a higher level, possibly in the nature of a formal complaint

**3.5 Neighbourhood Partnership meeting** – attended by VS on 17.8.17

**4 Police Report**

Crime is still low in JG in July/August. One house on Foulis Cres. had been burgled with considerable loss of jewellery. Two motor bikes had been stolen, including one from BM Drive

5 JGCC matters

**5.1 Update on traffic issues**. Ali W repeated she is working closely with JGPS and the councillors to take matters forward. It was decided that it was **not** necessary to consult with residents of St Margaret’s regarding the possible removal of the adjacent bus stop.

CB asked for CC support for Heriot Watt students research project on traffic flows in the area. The following offered to assist: NR, Ali W, Anne W, Lynn Elliott. The CC decided to allocate modest funds from accounts for supporting this activity (max c£100)

Action: CB to liaise as necessary

**5.2 Banking without bankers**. VS sad that JGCC has been granted c£18k by the Land Fund to allow the project to go to the next phase of appointing consultants. CC members were unanimous in supporting the actions of the steering group and asked them to continue in their endeavours. It was pointed out that the project required borrowers as well as depositors to work. It was therefore agreed to allocate funds (up to £2k) to allow for the appointment of an extra professional to consider the involvement of the Wester Hailes community in the scheme

Action: CB VS RS to take forward

**5.3 Football tournament** confirmed for 19,20,22 September in Bloomiehall Park

**5.4 Dementia Project**. CB reported this had started as an initiative by Palm Tree café in Balerno. JG needs a ‘dementia champion’ to support this initiative

Action: NR to publicise in C&B News

**5.5 Pentland Book Festival**. A full programme has been drawn up and CB wished to mention a talk by Neil McLennan at Baberton Golf Club on 13 Oct at 7.30pm (war poet theme)

**5.6 CMP Sports Event**. The date for this ‘cross country’ in Curriemuirend Park has been moved to 30 September at 12 noon

**5.7 War Poets Plaque** 13 October

**5.8 Continuity of CC.** VS raised concern that the committee members are ‘stretched thin’ and that new membership should be sought. In addition there is an urgency to find a permanent Chair and Planning matters secretary. NR suggested that an appeal for new CC membership could be included in the community mail drop in October. In the meantime, he will mention this in the next C&B News

Action: 1. CC to plan for October mail drop. 2 NR to mention in next (October) C&B News

**6 Councillors Corner** – (issues covered previously in minutes)

**7 AOB** (the meeting concluded before addressing the following issues)

**7.1 NEPS progress; 7.2 Resilience, etc. 7.3 Lifelong Learning- Lydia Markham**

**8. Next meeting:** Wednesday 27 September at 7pm in JGVH committee room