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**#Draft Minutes for Leith Central Community Council Meeting held on 16th
January 2012 at MacDonald Road Library, 7.30-9.00pm**

Attendance

John Hein	Acting Chair LCCC
Roland Reid	Secretary LCCC
Anne Munro	Treasurer LCCC
Jenny MacKenzie	Communication and minutes LCCC,
Harald Tobermann	LCCC
Annette O'Carroll	Convenor Planning sub-committee LCCC
Jim Scanlon	Chair of Leith Links CC
Ann Stark	Friends of Hillside Crescent Association
Jim Scanlon	Chair of Leith Links Community Council
MSP Malcolm Chisholm	Lab. North Edinburgh
Lorraine Duckworth	City of Edinburgh Council
Charlotte Encombe	LCCC and Greener Leith
PC Mark Hamilton	Lothian and Borders Police
Julian Siann	LCCC
Juan Gardia Navarro	LCCC
Sarah Marsh	Resident
Peter Mellors	Resident
Phil Attridge	Pilmeny Youth Centre.
Seamus Skinner	SNP candidate
Nick Gardner	Labour candidate

1.0 Introductions and Announcements.

2.0 Apologies for absence

Cllr Deidre Brock	City Councillor Leith Walk (SNP)
Stan Eadie	Convenor Transport sub-committee LCCC

3.0 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of 12th December 2011.

Approved by Anne Munro
Seconded by Nick Gardner

4. Community Police Officer's Report.

PC Mark Hamilton provided a brief summary as follows:

There were five assaults in the area, one of which was an attempted murder and two of which included robbery with assault. There were 17 house-breaking attempts.

Julian Siann asked that the entrance/exit to Shrubhill/Dryden Place be secured. PC Hamilton agreed to follow-up this request.

Anne Munro of Pilmeny Development Project noted that youth patrol workers

would appreciate being informed of any young people in the local area who might benefit from knowing about the local youth club provision.

5. Matters Arising

5.1 Splashback: Campaign against closure of Leith Water World.

Seamus Skinner reported on behalf of Cllr Deidre Brock in response to the first motion carried at the last meeting (December 12th) ‘that Leith Water World should be kept open until the opening of the RCP’. Seamus reported that the council voted to continue with the previous plan as staff have already been deployed to other CEC sites.

5.2 Seafield Community Wind Turbine Funding Bid

Charlotte Encombe for Greener Leith reported that discussion and negotiation continues with the landowners Scottish Water about how the turbine could be operated safely within the current use of the Seafield site. The company is responsible for the safe use of the site for the next 25 years.

5.3 Future of the transport sub-committee (tsc) following curtailment of the tram route.

Juan Garcia suggested that the tsc be dissolved for the present time. He will make enquiries about other Ccs’ transport sub-committees, their remit and ways of working and report back to LCCC. Agreed. The matter of a tsc will be raised again at the new elections.

5.4 Web Site Development

LeithcentralCC site/blog is now functioning and up to date. Jenny has posted recent minutes, Psc meeting reports, dates of meetings for 2012 and several stories about recent new and events. Jenny welcomes all submissions or articles for publication on the site

6. Open Forum

- The secretary mentioned concerns about the shop-front of the building owned by Crawfords and used for storage by the business, which is in a semi-derelict site. Compulsory purchase orders can only be pursued if buildings pose a danger to the public. Leith Business Association has not held recent meetings. It was suggested that contact be made with a newly established Leith Chamber of Commerce to seek guidance about plans to regenerate some of the shop fronts in Leith Walk. Town centre co-ordinator Sarah Woodford could also be contacted.
- Nick Gardner drew members’ attention to the consultation on the change to library services and the proposed closure of all libraries, including McDonald Road library, on Sundays. Pilmeny Development Project director Anne Munro emphasized that access to library services is vital in a multi-ethnic community. She said that Sunday closing would be a loss to many Leith families who see McDonald Road library as an important part of their social and leisure activity. Former Leith councillor Phil Attridge said that the most recent improvements in services are often the first to be cut when money is tight. Secretary to circulate details of the consultation and the online questionnaire, with closing date for the consultation to be the end of January 2012. City of Edinburgh Council officer

Lorraine Duckworth urged members to make their concerns known via the link to the consultation document. She said that this month is still a consultation period and members have an opportunity to make your views known and possibly affect the final recommendations.

- Greener Leith reported that they had been consulted regarding tree planting in Pilrig Park. The trees need to be replanted across the park. Members raised concerns about the CC not also having been included in this consultation. Nick Gardner and Seamus Skinner to ask respective local councillors to investigate this.
- Annette O'Carroll will attend the next meeting of the Housing and Built Environment sub-group on behalf of LCCC.

7. 278 Bonnington Road

The secretary noted that LCCC has submitted an objection to the application for this site to be licensed as a massage parlour. The objection has been acknowledged. The objection was deemed inappropriate in view of the recent approval of nearby Bonnington Primary School to be reopened as a Gaelic School in the near future.

8. Succession planning of CC officers.

The secretary drew members' attention to the CC nomination-for-election period that will take place for three weeks in September. Candidates for elected and nominated places may be put forward. A maximum 24 members makes up a community council, with 16 of those required to be elected members and eight nominated members. If elections prove necessary, that is, applications for membership exceed the places available, elections would be held in October. The first CC meeting to be held after the election would be the meeting at which post holders would be nominated and appointed. The AGM in 2013 would then be the next meeting at which post-holders' positions would again be open to election. Ccs may reappoint new post holders every year at their AGMs, but they are not required to do so. The secretary asked member to encourage new members to join the CC if possible.

9. Officer and Councillor Reports

The Chair had nothing to report

Secretary's Report

The secretary will re-circulate the consultation document on revised library services as mentioned above, and investigate the usage figures for Sunday library service and report to LCCC.

Treasurer's Report. The account reflects a balance of just over £1641. The treasurer reported that, as agreed at the previous meeting, arrangements have been made to return the remaining approximate £600 of the Leith Decides money to the Neighbourhood Partnership. Four signatures have been approved for the CC account, two of which are required at any one time for cheques to be valid.

Planning

No meeting of the planning sub-committee has been held over the Christmas period. Two items to be reported:

- A community council objection has been lodged to an application made for a big extension to number 6 Cambridge Gardens.
- A previous CC objection has been made to an application for a late-night supermarket at number 8 McDonald Road. An application has been re-submitted with revised opening hours. LCCC has objected to longer opening hours.

10. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 20th February 2012

Further 2012 meeting dates are as follows:

March 19th, April 23rd, May 14th (AGM), June 18th, August 20th, September 24th,
November 19th, December 17th.