

New Town & Broughton Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Drummond Community High School, Monday 6th September 2010

Community Council Members Present: Ian Mowat (Chair), Judy Conn, Jonathan Finn, Anne Casson, Gaby Holden, Alan Welsh, Audrey Cavaye, Patrick Hutton.

Members of public present Alan Mackintosh, John Ross Maclean. Mike Penny , Neighbourhood Partnership Manager, 2 members of the Lord Moray Feuars

Ex officio members present: Cllr Joanna Mowat

Apologies: Bill Dunlop (Treasurer), John Knight, Henry Sutherland, Diane Willis, Cllr D Beckett, Cllr Stuart McIvor, Cllr Charles Dundas, Mark Lazarowicz MP , Iain McGill, Jo Simpson, Cllr Maggie Chapman, Cllr Louise Lang, Cllr Angela Blacklock, Cllr Deidre Brock, Henry Sutherland, Robert Lagneau

1. Apologies for absence - as stated.

Minutes of meeting:

July's minutes were accepted. Proposed by Judy Conn and seconded by Alan Welsh

Presentation by GVA Grimley

A presentation was given by the Developers and Architects for the proposed development of 10-15 Princes Street. Points of note:

- Basement to 1st floor level to remain as retail units
- Building 2 additional floors on the building, although stated as only 1.5 floors in height.
- Dismantling and rebuilding the tower
- Building is Category C Listed
- 4 floors will be hotel accommodation
- Glass canopy on Princes Street to be removed
- Entry to hotel would be from corner of West Register Street
- No interest in site at present, this is a speculative development
- Overall new height of the building will be 14 feet higher than existing structure.
- Building currently owned by Barclays Pension Fund and Aberdeen Asset Management

2. Chair's report: Ian Mowat

- Notice was given of the resignation of Robert Langneau due to work commitments, and was accepted.
- IM attended the Edinburgh Association of Community Councils – advised there will be meetings about the budget, but no dates or information is available.
- The next EACC Q & A Session is 11th September on Planning– IM to speak to JK.
- An online newsletter is also to be made available by the EACC. IM suggested that someone from the CC might want to write an article for that.
- The Drummond Civic Association had written a notice on gulls/bins which had been put up on the Community Council Notice Board without permission from a Community Council member. Whilst its comment was informative, IM had been unaware of this and asked that he be notified in future if anyone wanted to place a leaflet in our Notice Board.

3. Police report: PC Dane Harrison

Dane advised that crime figures were on a par with July, although shoplifting was almost double, which may be down to the Festival. MP pointed out that figures may be higher but visitor numbers were also up.

Safer Neighborhood Teams – Dane highlighted this new initiative which would set up teams to cover the City Centre. This would consist of 2 sergeants in charge of 18 officers across the 3 wards. This should

result in more visibility of community officers. 4 teams would be split working 3 beats. MP advised that this will focus on when the City requires more visibility on the streets. Planning groups are to be established to take forward community driven tasks. Shifts will be 8pm to 4am in the City Centre.

4. Neighbourhood partnership

Mike Penny, City Centre Neighbourhood Partnership manager, provided an update on the NP. Waste Management –he confirmed that a consultation would be carried out, although realistically changes would not be implemented until next year. Bag collections are not sustainable in the long term. MP wants to discuss the options with a small number of local groups, although noted that there is a level to the depth that this can go.

The target was to tackle more recycling and particularly the waste which is still going in the bags, which all goes to landfill. This would mean introducing food waste recycling, etc. It was recommended that MP keeps the CC up to date with his findings from these consultations. MP also confirmed that a trial of gull proof bags will not happen until 2011.

There was discussion around advising community of the consultation – RBS notice board – IM to speak to the Council re the possibility of siting a 2nd Notice board outside the RBS office on Dundas St; and to someone at Broughton Primary School, and Greenside Church re displaying a Notice of meetings.

Action – MP to send a list of his target organisations to JC.

5. Environment: Judy Conn

JC mentioned the new Edinburgh World Heritage draft Management Plan. IM also mentioned a communication from an employee of Sustrans to Mark Turley of Edinburgh City Council which the community council was copied into, which listed businesses in Union Street and immediately surroundings streets in favour of containerization.

7: Planning Convener: John Knight

Report given by JC in JK's absence.

- JK was reasonably happy with the Princes Street development, and knew that height would be an issue.
- St James Centre development – demolition to begin in 2011.

Action - Edinburgh World Heritage draft management plan – to be added to the Agenda for the October meeting.

Findings of the CC following GVA Grimley presentation:

- Overall there were no concerns about the design of the building
- A number of concerns were raised regarding the height of the new building in contrast to that of Register House.
- Narrowness of West Register Street to deal with service vehicles
- Noted that the majority on the Committee wanted the tower kept
- All were in favour of the conservation of the Thomas Hamilton element.

8. Licensing: Iain McGill

In Iain's absence, IM advised that an email dated May 2010 had been received regarding a pub in Rose Street – El Barrio. It was suggested that this person should be put in touch with JF.

9. Traffic and Transport: Patrick Hutton

PH advised that the community council had today received notification that objections to Tram TRO1 was to be considered by the City Council's Transport, Environment and Infrastructure Committee on 21st September. TIE were holding an open door event on 14th/15th September in St Paul's and George's Church which would be a Q&A session only. The letter also said that the committee may decide to not hear deputations because of legal advice it had received.

Community Councillors voiced concern regarding report that the tram may only be constructed to York

Place and the route/reversal of trams around there and St Andrew Square. AW stated that York Place was the main east to west route through the City, and that having an empty tram using that route would not work well. It was suggested that the tram could reverse at St Andrew Square. JM advised that there was the possibility for deputations to be made on TRO1/revision and TRO2. CC stance was that the trams should not go on to York Place just to turn around and that the CC should not make a decision on TRO1 until the bigger picture was known.

Action - IM requested that the Transport Sub-Committee be convened to discuss whether the CC should make more of the deputation issue.

10. Treasurer's report: Bill Dunlop

IM confirmed that a grant of £868.82 had been received, and that provides a balance of £1,600.73. There were increased costs due to the web and Spurtle advertising. The web site was to be updated, but noted that it was now available. The content can be added to or amended, but Bill Dunlop is the only key holder.

11. Notice Board

Not discussed

12. Activities of Local Street and Amenity Associations

Not discussed

13. Any Other Business

None

14. Details of next meeting:

Monday 1st November 2010. 7:30, Drummond High School Library.