

Craigiebuckler and Seafield Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday 6th August 2024 at 7pm in the Douglas Lounge, Springfield Church

Present.

- William Sell (WS), Robert Frost (RF), Cameron Campbell (CC), Karen Reilly (KR), Margaret Meikle (MM), Keith Watson (KW).
- Councillor Martin Greig (MG), Councillor Ken McLeod (KM)

Apologies.

- Donna Blyth (DB). Craig Melville (CM), Jane Ormerod (JO)
- Councillor John Cooke (JC)
- Sergeant Ricky Burr (RB)

Police Report.

There was no report this month and RB was not present at the meeting. The following actions are outstanding from the February Meeting

- KW requested an update on the police follow-up on the circumstances relating to the pedestrian fatality on Seafield Road on 6th March, 2024. RB advised that this was with the Procurator Fiscal and consequently the details cannot be shared or discussed at this stage.
Action: RB to share details once it is appropriate to do so along with any action proposed by ACC or the police as a result.
- CM referred to the part of the police report which stated, 'There are the usual low level collision reports across the Community Council area on various roads, most meeting the non-attendance criteria for officers not to attend'. He asked if it was possible to identify the locations in future reports so that any 'hot spots' could be identified e.g. the pedestrian refuge adjacent to the BP garage on Springfield Road.
Action: RB to include additional details in his report where possible.

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of 4th June 2024

- The minutes of the meeting of 4th June were adopted on a proposal by CC, seconded by RF with the following corrections; apologies were not noted in the Minutes for MM and KW who both provided advanced notification that they were unable to attend.

Treasurer's Report

CC advised the meeting that he and WS had both attended RBS approximately 6 weeks ago to set-up digital banking and this is now active. All that remains is for WS to set-up/activate his PIN.

Expenditure since the last meeting;

- Reimbursement to CC for Dog Waste Bags at a cost of £32.80
- Honorarium for the independent annual account audit by Catherine McKay at £30.00

Current commitments as follows;

- Zurich Insurance at a cost of £97.20 (to be reimbursed to WS)
- Zoom Video Conferencing account renewal at a cost of £121.98. It was agreed to review this in the next meeting as the CSCC could become dormant in October depending on membership.

The account balance currently stands at **£1604.42** which includes the Zoom costs.

A discussion ensued on the replacement of the 2012 Jubilee Tree in the grounds of Springfield Church that had died. CC advised the meeting that he had made enquiries on a suitable replacement and had identified an ex-display tree in a local nursery that was reduced from £650.00 to £100. All present agreed that this was a good deal and supported the expenditure. However, the old tree had to be removed and the new tree planted preferably at the end September/beginning of October. The possibility of utilising a council digger or a Malcolm Allan digger were raised and MG agreed to follow-up.

Action: MG to make enquiries within the Council and approach Malcolm Allan to see if they can support.

Correspondence.

WS reported that all emailed items of correspondence had been forwarded to the membership.

Matters arising from the Virtual Meeting of Tuesday 7th May 2024

- CSCC members to propose locations within the area that would benefit from tree planting.
Two areas have been identified; Culter Bypass/Springfield Meadows and the area opposite Craigiebuckler Church where mature Cypress Trees were felled a couple of years ago. Two separate onsite meetings have been held with Richard Nicholson who agreed to provide plans and budget costs for each area. In the meantime, potential funding options are being reviewed.
Action: MG to liaise with Richard Nicholson with respect to the plans and approximate costs
- CSCC Members to propose a prioritised list of path upgrades in the area (see Minutes of May meeting) by using data from the 2022 survey. WS and CC to apply for lottery funding for the upgrade.
It was acknowledged that there is a finite amount of money available, but having a prioritised list of paths that require upgrade in the area would be very useful to ensure upgrades are completed whenever funds become available.
Action: MM agreed to review the data from the community path survey and pull together a list for review and agreement by the CSCC.
- Issue of Speeding on Springfield Road
Status in May 2024: *"Recent speed surveys have been carried out with the results attached for your information. As the data shows a slight increase in speed compared to previous surveys, these results have been sent to both the local policing*

unit for assessment as to whether this site qualifies for particular attention as and when resources permit and the Scottish Safety Camera Partnership to assess whether they would consider the site for a mobile camera. If this site falls within the criteria laid down by the guidance for enforcement, then it may be possible to add this site to the existing sites within the city."

'I have contacted the Police for their feedback and help. I also have been in discussions with the Council team about any further action that can be taken. I will report back.'

MG confirmed that the road does not qualify for any intervention from the police or ACC at this time.

KW advised the meeting that the temporary relocation of the bus stops from Craigiebuckler Avenue to Springfield Road along with the lane closure associated with the Tree Tops development was having a positive (traffic calming) impact, but the issue of speeding motorists and e-bikes remain.

Action: Continue to monitor this and other roads in the area.

- Protected trees felled by developer on the site of the former Treetops Hotel. William Sell to follow-up with David Dunne, ACC's Chief Office for Strategic Planning

Minute from May Meeting; Concern was raised by MG concerning the volume of trees that had been removed by Malcolm Allan (MA) in the Treetops site. An ACC inspection was subsequently requested, and it was identified that MA are in breach of their planning permission and a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

It was noted that MA had previously breached a TPO and planning permission when the hotel was demolished, and the site was cleared a couple of years ago. No enforcement action was taken following the first breach and ACC are not proposing enforcement action for this second breach.

Those present were very disappointed that this should have been allowed to happen, not once but twice and the consensus view was that enforcement action should be pursued. It was subsequently agreed that WS would follow-up directly with David Dunne, Chief Officer for Strategic Planning in ACC to establish the details.

WS advised the meeting that he had emailed Mr Dunne on the 12th May and received no response and as a result sent him a letter. An acknowledgement email and an apology were subsequently received, and a detailed response will hopefully be forthcoming.

Action: WS to continue to pursue and forward any response when received

Planning Officer's Report.

RF reported that the planning request from the James Hutton Institute link extension (new

extension to the restaurant) at the back of the institute had a 24th September determination deadline. He advised the meeting that the extension was due to start when the new link road is opened.

A question was raised regarding a name for the new Link Road, but it was confirmed that because it is a private access road, there is no need to name it.

Also in the area was a conservatory planning request for Macauley Drive and a planning request for Dormer Window installation in Woodburn Avenue.

Matters for Discussion with Ward Councillors

Craigiebuckler Avenue.

MM asked for details of the scope of the works being completed on Craigiebuckler Avenue which had resulted in; the road closure for an extended period, the redirection of the No. 11 bus service and the relocation of the bus stops to Springfield Road (opposite the church). It was confirmed that road, pavement and lamp post upgrades were being completed which was welcomed as they are in a poor state.

Hazlehead Play Park

RF stated that the new play park in Hazlehead was a very positive and popular addition to park and commended ACC for doing a good job and catering for children with physical disabilities.

Sale of Land in Hazlehead Park

MM referred to an action earlier in the year regarding the sale of land in Hazlehead Park. The sale had been rejected by ACC with support from MG, but it was subsequently agreed that CSCC should write to ACC and recommend (as part of the Local Development Plan process) that the land is redesignated as Green Belt.

WS confirmed that this had not been done and undertook to write to Andrew Brownrigg in ACC.

Action: WS to write to ACC requesting that the land be redesignated as Green Belt and a crucial part of the public green space of Denwood and Hazlehead.

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A.O.C.B.

Community Council Information Sessions

WS confirmed that a joint information session with Braeside and Mannofield CC was planned for the 19th August in Airyhall Community Centre and he would attend. MM offered to support him, and this was agreed.

Community Council Nominations

Nomination Forms for CC election were circulated to those present and an electronic copy and an email address was subsequently emailed to all Community Councillors.

Nomination Forms must be submitted by the **5th September** Closing Date.

Action: All Community Councillors who wish to be nominated must return a completed nomination form by the 5th September closing date.

Future CSCC Meetings

It was suggested that the Airyhall Library might be a more convenient location for having future CC meetings as an alternative to Springfield Church. MM confirmed that they had a room available, but it wasn't clear if there were staff and costs involved.

Action: No action required at present, but this could be considered later along with the James Hutton Institute as alternative venues.

There being no further business, WS thanked all present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

Date of Next Meeting.

Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 7pm in the Douglas Lounge, Springfield Church