

Mayfield and Easthouses Community (MECC) Minutes of meeting

5 June 2024 7pm - Meeting held in Mayfield Church

ATTENDEES

Robert Hogg (Chair), Judy Thomson (Treasurer), Theresa Morrison, Craig Gallier, Cllr Peter Smaill, Cllr Bryan Pottinger, Cllr Stuart McKenzie, Gus Morrison, Yvonne Weighand Lyle, Martina Jones, Laura Watson, Mr and Mrs Stevenson, Tam Ferguson, Jennifer Allison.

Apologies

Tracy-Lee Arnit, Michael Hogg, Sharon Hill, George Jackson.

1. Welcome and Apologies

RH welcomed everyone and noted the apologies (noted above). AGM to be put back to August as the paperwork wasn't available. Last month's meeting minutes were approved by CG and TM.

2. War Memorial in Easthouses

- RH gave an update about all the work that has been done.
- More money has been raised, including from Retired Miners.
- Confirmation that the project has received funds from the Councilors' environmental funds.

3. Police Report Highlights

- RH read out highlights of the police report for the month of May.
- The safety aspects of the gala day were mentioned, including cars accessing the park.

4. Correspondence

- Yvonne Weighand Lyle is co-creating the Remembering Midlothian memorial, and will feature benches. Midlothian Council have given permission to install one of the benches in Easthouses Park. The location will be approx. 52m along left side of path leading to the left of the car park when accessed from the Easthouses Road entrance. Approval was sought from the Community Council and this was agreed.

5. Planning

- New Head Teacher from Easthouses Primary School, Jennifer Allison, was in attendance to give a verbal update on new school. All is going well and on schedule. They get the keys on 5th August. New uniform is available, and the badge was designed by local school kids. It was asked for nursery kids to have more time for transition.
- There was a site visit concerning the safe route to Easthouses School. There was general agreement that the path is needed, both from the Kippielaw end to Lothian Drive and then Lothian Drive round the back of Roanshead Crescent to the school. There are extending 'well worn' paths but they need to be upgraded. Permission needs to be sought from land owner too. Council officers said there were materials that could be sources for no cost. Councillors asked to monitor this project for the opening of the new school in August.
- Mayfield Campus will be ready in 2025. Developers will start over the school holiday period.
- Colin Beattie has been as yet unavailable to meet with the group to discuss the Town Centre Regeneration project.
- Rishi Sunak has pledged £20million for Mayfield, but this of course is dependent on the

result of the upcoming general election. This would be very useful for the Town Centre project if it came about.

- NWH have placed a planning application to relocate the recycling part of their business from Mayfield to Middleton. There were previous concerns regarding noise and dust for the Springfield development.
- SL asked the Councillors to get involved with traffic audit and proposed safeguarded route for Crawlees Road.
- SL spoke about the MLDP2 housing target for 2026-2036

6. Environment

- CG gave the meeting an update on fly tipping in the area.
- RH requested a meeting with the three Councillors regarding the state of the community in terms of grass cutting or lack of it. There were comments about this from community member TF who raised concerns about grass not being cut at Hawthorn crescent plus the state of the pathway down to Easthouses on main road with overhanging trees. Cllr Smaill said he had already raised this issue with Council officers. A walkabout was suggested.
- There is an issue with flooding all over due to recent heavy rain. Drains are all blocked and not getting cleaned which is causing this issue.

7. Councillors Report

- Cllr McKenzie mentioned there are two education consultations going on at the moment.
- Cllr Pottinger reported the vans that Scotmid had complained about in their car park had been dealt with.
- Cllr Smaill was excited about the potential £20million funding and what could be done with it.
- Several questions were asked to each Councillor on their reports by members in attendance at meeting.

8. Treasurer Report

- There has been a grant of £500 for the war memorial from Scotmid. This has been paid out to David Bishop for the work that has been carried out.
- The fee to hire the church for CC meeting was paid at £30.
- There was a payment of £39.11 for the website hosting and the balance at the end of May was £7108.88.

9. Other Business:

- Gala Day was fantastic with a massive crowd and brilliant weather. Volunteers will be sought for next year as there were many comments/feedback. Cllr Smaill added thanks to the Gala Day Committee for a great day.
- RH thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed. Next meeting will be August and will include the postponed AGM.