



Committee Minutes

South Central Neighbourhood Partnership

Edinburgh, 12 May 2008

Present:- Councillors Godzik, Johnstone, Mackenzie and Rose; Josh McAlister (EUSA President), Robert Aitken (Astley Ainslie Hospital, NHS Lothian), Alastair Philp (Marchmont/Sciennes Community Council), Bridget Stevens (Merchiston Community Council), Ann Wigglesworth (Tollcross Community Council), Jean Thompson (Morningside Community Council), Jo Scott (Southside Community Council) and Sue Tritton (Grange/Prestonfield Community Council).

1 Chair

Decision

In the absence of the Convener, Councillor McInnes, Councillor Rose assumed the Chair.

2 Motion

Motion by Councillor Mackenzie

The following motion by Councillor Mackenzie was submitted in terms of Standing Order 28:

“Following a recent attempted ‘ram raid’ on Blackford Avenue Post Office, the Partnership recommends that the Director of Services for Communities arrange for the installation of pavement bollards outside the Post Office and to consult with local residents and shopkeepers on what other safety or crime prevention measures may be appropriate around this location.”

Decision

To approve the motion.

3 Minute

The minute of meeting of 10 March 2008 was approved as a correct record subject to amendment of the second sentence of item 5 to read '...Force Communications Centre' rather than 'Police Control Centre'.

Matters Arising

Car Parking in the Merchiston Area – Members of the public and officials from the City development Department had attended a meeting to discuss the parking proposals for the area. The community outlined local opposition to the plans. Officials were now considering other options and were to report back to the Community Council.

HMO Policy – A briefing note by the Senior Manager, Housing Property Services, was circulated which updated the Committee on the position. It was agreed to consider the issue further at a future meeting.

CCTV – Councillor Godzik reported that he had asked a question concerning the extension of CCTV at the Council meeting on 1 May 2008. The Convener of the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee had answered that a report was to be considered by the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee at their meeting on 20 May 2008. Additionally, it was anticipated that an annual report on CCTV would be put to Council later in May. The partnership agreed to receive further information at future meeting.

4 Development of the Neighbourhood Partnership Workplan

Susan Bruce updated the meeting on a number of issues in relation to the Development of the Neighbourhood Partnership Workplan, as follows:-

Environmental Forums 1 & 2

The forums were evaluating previous action plans with a view to identifying current priorities for action.

Forum 1 was due to meet on 26 May 2008

Forum 2 was due to meet on 28 May 2008

Housing Area Board

The Housing Area Board would be considering master planning at their next meeting on 28 May 2008.

TAC (Tasking and Co-ordination Group)

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The NH Manager circulated a draft newsletter for the TAC and invited comments on its content – susan.bruce@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tollcross Short Life Working Group

The group met on 29 April 2008 and discussed options for the King's Theatre.

They were next due to meet on the 17 June 2008.

Meadows and Bruntsfield Links Short Life Working Group

The group met on 8 May and discussed the following:-

- Management of the Meadows and events during the Festival period.
- Improvements to drainage
- Use of the cricket pitch
- Large litter bins and cycling issues were also considered

It would meet again on 3 July 2008.

Local Community Plan

The NH sub-groups had their Away Day on 7 May 2008. 9 outcomes had been identified by the Officer Support Group. These were considered and their priority decided upon by the attendees.

Development Programme

Dates and times of the proposed development/training sessions were provided. Invites would be sent out soon.

Roads and Footway Investment 2008/11

NPs had been allocated £100K discretionary spending and would be consulted on the proposed maintenance schemes over the next 3 years.

5 Housing Area Boards Presentation

Archie Enwood, Property Team leader, Neighbourhood Improvement Programme, gave a presentation on the South/Central Area Board, explaining how the Boards were formed and the criteria for qualifying for funding from the Neighbourhood Investment Programme.

He outlined some of the successful projects from 2007/08, including the completion of Phase 4 of the Dumbiedykes Masterplan, which led to the area

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being 'highly commended for community inspired regeneration' in the British Urban Regeneration Association Community Award.

It was explained that members of the Area Board had identified projects for funding for this year, including Phase 5 of the Dumbiedykes Masterplan, upgrading drying area to the rear of sheltered accommodation at Prestonfield, new refuse storage facility at Carnegie Court, and new fencing and landscaping at Prestonfield Road and Priestfield Road. The Partnership would be updated of progress.

Decision

To note the presentation.

6 Streetscape Works Update – Roseneath Street and Argyle Place

The partnership had considered a report at its 10 September 2007 meeting which advised of planned Streetscape works to Roseneath Street and Argyle Place. An update on the works was now provided.

Decision

To note the report.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

7 Tollcross Improvement Project

Simon Lievesley, Project Manager, reported on progress made with the Tollcross Improvement Project.

A consultation with stakeholders had identified strengths, weaknesses and key issues for the area. An action plan had been drawn up, and a working group established to deliver the Plan.

The chief priorities for the area included enhancing retail vitality by improving the mix of shops, encouraging people to shop through parking and pedestrian access and enhancing the quality of place by refurbishment and cleansing.

Information was also provided on other improvements made to the area, which included improved arrangements for trade waste and recycling and a co-ordinated approach across the City on fly-posting.

Further updates would be presented to the Neighbourhood Partnership in due course.

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Decision

- 1) To note the presentation.
- 2) To ask Community Councils to consider other areas within the NP boundary which may benefit from similar work.

8 Neighbourhood Partnership Community Grants

Details were provided of applications for grants from the Community Grants Fund, together with a list of grants recommended for approval.

Comments about the review of the Community Grants Fund criteria and the balance available for future allocation in 2008/09 were noted.

Decision

- 1) To award a grant of £948 to the Scottish pensions Association Southside Branch.
- 2) To award a grant of £521 to the Green Team.
- 3) To award a grant of £1200 to the Sunnyside Court Tenants and Residents' Association.
- 4) To note the pending applications from the west Crosscauseway Association and The Merchiston Tennis and Bowling Club.
- 5) To note the comments about the review of the Community Grants Fund criteria.
- 6) To note the balance available for future allocation in 2008/09, and
- 7) To agree to the award of up to £5K, in principle, to the Meadows Festival Association for their festival from 6-9 June 2008.

(Reference – report by the Director of Services for Communities, submitted.)

9 Public Question Time

Members of the public attending the meeting had been invited to submit questions on matters of local concern. The following issues were raised:-

- a) Speed restrictions in Glen Street and Leven Terrace
- b) Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion

- c) temporary traffic lights and pedestrian crossings

Decision

To note that a written answer would be given to question a) and b).

10 Potential Topics for Future Meetings

Decision

To note that the following matters had been suggested for future meetings:-

- Pedestrian Safety
- Environmental Wardens
- Post Office Closures

11 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be 11 August 2008 at 7.00 pm, venue to be confirmed.