

West End Community Council
Tuesday September 12, 2023 at 1900h
Study Room, Blackness Library, Perth Road DD2 1EJ

PRESENT:

Gary Langlands (GL) (Chair)	WECC	Cllr Michael Crichton (MC)	DCC Elected
Sam Crouch (SC)	WECC	Cllr Fraser Macpherson (FM)	DCC Elected
Rob Evans (RE)	WECC	Cllr Nadia El-Nakla (NEN)	DCC Elected
Iain Iveson (II)	WECC	5 Members of the Public (MOP)	
Ann Prescott (AP)	WECC		

1	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</p> <p>Gary Langlands (GL) welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Elaine Kuwahara (EK), Neil McLeod and Crawford Morton.</p>	
2	<p>APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</p> <p>Proposed: Ann Prescott (AP) Seconded: Rob Evans (RE)</p>	
3	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p><u>20 mph roundels</u>: Fraser Macpherson (FM) has assurance that the roundels will be reinstated <u>LCPP</u>: date of next meeting (23 November 2023) has been announced <u>Picnic Tables</u>: FM has assurance that a number of picnic tables with metal protectors have been earmarked. Whilst progress has been made, specific sites have yet to be decided.</p>	
4	<p>POLICE UPDATE</p> <p>Despite a request, no update was received. GL to follow up with Sgt Stuart Paton.</p> <p>Action: GL to follow up.</p>	GL
5	<p>PLANNING AND LICENSING</p> <p>No updates received. EK has resigned from WECC. Details of Licensing and Planning need to be picked up by someone on WECC.</p>	
6	<p>WECC CONSTITUTION</p> <p>There is currently a conflict between DCC and WECC rules regarding the number of people who can be co-opted onto a committee. WECC constitution states " <i>the filling of a vacancy by co-opted with voting rights to a maximum of one quarter of the total membership of the community council as governed by paragraph 7 of the scheme of establishment of community councils.</i>", whilst the Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils state "<i>The number of co-opted members may not exceed a third of the current elected (general and interim) community council membership.</i>" As there were few WECC members present at the meeting, it was decided that SC should email members to see whether they are happy to align to DCC guidelines for co-option.</p> <p>Action: SC to email members.</p>	SC
7	<p>LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP (LCPP)</p> <p>Nadia El-Nakla (NEN) explained that LCPP oversees the development and delivery of the local community plan for a given area in Dundee, and should feed information, including grant funding availability, into the community council. Representatives from NHS, Fire, Police etc are in attendance at LCPP, who should be able to answer specific questions. NEN said LCPP meetings are poorly attended, but suggested that the LCPP meetings which are held quarterly could be held before WECC and as such, feed into the community council business. FM pointed out that there is poor co-ordination between meetings as LCPP meetings clash with other events. General agreement that this could be beneficial to WECC, and AP suggested the meetings could be used to discuss grant funding and which charity funds are available.</p> <p>A member of the public (MOP) raised the issue of WECC transparency and how WECC should involve the whole West End. WECC councillors should be transparent, with photos on the website. She felt her questions were not answered on FaceBook, which should be used more effectively to communicate. Another MOP raised the issue of Minutes, which he acknowledged are found on the WECC website. Sam Crouch (SC) pointed out that the only minutes that are not available are those that have to be ratified at WECC. There were varied suggestions about how WECC could function and engage with the community e.g. shops, pop up groups, school reps, DUSA, dedicated youth workers etc, however, a major limitation to all of these is the number of effective people on WECC and their level of commitment. Iain Iveson (II) pointed out that all are volunteers and meetings are advertised on FB and notice boards. NEN suggested that the £18K budget which is currently available could be used to bring people in. FM pointed out that when there is a contentious local issue,</p>	

	<p>more people do attend. A MOP suggested coffee and biscuits during the meeting would be more engaging and interactive. RE suggested attending MOPs should consider joining WECC. AP suggested the library was the wrong venue, and Logie & St Johns (L&StJ) had a better network which could be fed into. FM and GL will be meeting Rev Grant Maclaughlan at L&StJ in the near future, although SC pointed out there was a substantial cost issue.</p>	
8	<p>CHRISTMAS FORTNIGHT</p> <p>FM stated the fortnight is organised by a subgroup of the community council, including AP, who should be commended for her long term commitment. A mix of businesses, charitable organisations, schools are involved which has grown from a one off event in 2001 due to its success. Starting on November 23, 2023, events will include a Christmas concert, Christmas Market in Millers Wynd, illuminations, P6 football competitions, kids craft morning, Harris Christmas morning to name a few events. No fireworks will be involved due to health and safety, noise concerns and public opposition. WestFest proposed an event to light up the whole of the Perth Road, however, funding was not available in 2023 and hopefully this will happen in 2024. AP highlighted the business and community awards at the Vine which has increased in participation over the years.</p>	
9	<p>PERTH ROAD BANKING HUB</p> <p>FM and GL met with LINK, the people organising local banking hubs, but their rules preclude a hub on Perth Road. FM pointed out that LINK appear to be looking more at district shopping centres. This was also followed up by NEN, however, LINK were not prepared to change the rules. A MOP stated that generally banks do not want to interact with customers. NEN thanked GL and FM for taking this forward. It is hoped the rules may change in the future.</p>	
10	<p>DUNDEE COVID MEMORIAL</p> <p>GL attended Coldside Community Forum, where the Dundee Covid Memorial was discussed. It will be at Fiveways opposite the Library at Strathmartine Road, opening in 2024. SC pointed out that there was a Covid Memorial in the Botanic Gardens, which a MOP said was inspiring and worth a visit, with large obelisks, pathways, sandstone etc providing a peaceful, reflective communal space.</p>	
11	<p>RIVERSIDE PAVILION (update from open meeting on 26 August 2023)</p> <p>GL described two issues which will be addressed: (1) what locals would want (2) which operators would take their project forward. A MOP queried the validity of WECC's consultation and feedback. SC described the feedback form, which has been widely distributed throughout Dundee, the open meeting advertised through through an article in the Courier by GL, DVAA (carers groups, Princes Trust, Maxwell Centre etc), on FaceBook, library consultation, letters to businesses, posters at least 3 weeks in advance of the open meeting to name a few. NEN clarified that it is not up to WECC to decide what to do, it will be up to the developer. GL pointed out that WECC are just the catalyst to take an empty building back into productive use for the benefit of the community. It was noted that asset transfers are difficult and as such, few examples exist. A MOP stated that WECC are naive in driving this forward and DCC needs to think hard about this, due to traffic and other significant issues that might arise. NEN suggested a nature walk and a MOP suggested a community orchard. FM stated that as the changing rooms are not used, it will be a change of use. NEN asked if Barnetts may buy it as they use it as a parking lot. FM stated that previously Eastern Western had been approached about the site for parking space, but they were not interested. GL thanked NEN who was responsible for kicking the project off, and all the hard work that has gone on since. FM stated that in terms of asset transfer, he would also like to see the Mitchell Street Centre developed, although it is a very large bulding to consider repurposing.</p>	
11	<p>CO-OPTION</p> <p>Gail Stirling (GS) was co-opted onto WECC.</p>	
12	<p>AOCB</p> <p><u>Ninewells (NW) Parking:</u> A MOP raised the issue of inability to park at NW. FM has met with Head of Soft Facilities at NHS Tayside, Billy Alexander, but nothing will change as it works to best of their ability. MOP pointed out the system is abused. Parking now extends further from NW, but this is outwith NW's control. It should be noted there are good bus links. A MOP pointed out there appears to be no deterrent or policing, although NW say it is policed. Il pointed out that some car parking is for staff only, all parking is free of charge. Parking is controlled by Saba, and some times of the day are more difficult. FM also raised the issue of the swimming pool at Ninewells, which needs investment. FM suggested Billy Alexander could attend WECC.</p> <p>Action: FM to give contact details to SC/GL to invite Billy Alexander to the next WECC meeting.</p> <p><u>Blackness Road Traffic:</u> A MOP raised the issue of dangerous speeding traffic, which is a regular and ongoing problem, and needs a solution. NEN pointed out that it has been identified as an</p>	SC/GL

	<p>accident hotspot and signs were put up. GS stated that only physical barriers and enforcement work. FM stated that Ewan Gourlay, DCC safety tesam leader manager. DCC is reluctant to place speed bumps near residential houses for noise and other environmental reasons. FM pointed out that rumble strips are only used in rural areas and one way streets do not work as people just drive faster. It was agreed to invite Sgt Stuart Paton to the next meeting.</p> <p>Action: GL to invite Stuart Paton to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Balgay Hill:</u> GL provided an update that there has been no progress due to lack of resource. A MOP suggested community payback (CP) schemes may solve this issue, but FM has had limited success as CP schemes are busy and so issues were passed on to Environment.</p>	GL
13	<p>QUERIES & COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC See under AOCB.</p>	
14	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday October 10, 2023, Blackness Library (Study Room), 1900 - 2100h</p>	