

West End Community Council

8 February 2022 at 1900h

Logie & St Johns Hall, Blackness Avenue

PRESENT:

Russell Pepper (RP) (Chair)	WECC
Sam Crouch (SC)	WECC
Rob Evans (RE)	WECC
Harrison Frame (HF)	WECC
Nick Marra (NJM)	WECC
Crawford Morton (CM)	WECC
Innocent Oriaku (IO)	WECC
Lynsey Penny (LP)	WECC
Ann Prescott (AP)	WECC

Baillie Fraser Macpherson (FM)	DCC
Cllr Donald Hay (DH)	DCC

0 members of the public

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Russell Pepper (RP) welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Anna Day, Elaine Kuwahara, Iain Iveson, Natalie Mackland, Sarah Barham.

2 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Proposed: Russell Pepper

Seconded: Robert Evans

3 MATTERS ARISING

Harris Academy: RP canvassed ideas on WECC Facebook page, but little feedback received. FM stated that a site visit had taken place and further bins were now in place along Perth Road east of Harris Academy.

Traffic Management (Perth Road): NJM reported that the meeting was postponed, but has been rearranged for Friday March 4th with Ewan Gourlay (EG). For broader public consultation, NJM to email EG to see if members of the public can attend.

Action: NJM to email EG about possibility of public involvement in meeting

NJM

Seabraes steps: FM confirmed that the Council have given commitment to fix the steps despite controversy about whose actual responsibility they are. No action has been taken to date. FM to chase up.

Action: FM to chase up DCC with regard to mending Seabraes steps.

FM

Airport noise: Derrick Lang was unable to attend the February meeting, and will be invited to the March meeting.

Action: SC to invite Derrick Lang to attend March WECC meeting.

SC

4 POLICE UPDATE

Sean Petrie provided the following report to WECC.

The below information is a snapshot of the work that has been undertaken by the Lochee Community Policing Team within the West End of the City between 14/12/2021 and 07/02/2022 (inclusive).

Please note that during the time period in question, the Community Policing Team have been assisting our colleagues in response policing during a busy festive period and to backfill in support of COVID-19 absences.

In addition to this, officers from the Community Policing Team have been assisting the ongoing Missing Person Investigation in the West End which has been publicised in local media over the last few weeks and you may have seen an increased high visibility policing presence in the area as a result.

As such, the below update is limited.

Road Safety

Aware there has in recent times been a number of areas identified regarding careless/inconsiderate manner of driving. These areas continue to be patrolled and static checks conducted where resourcing allows however, in the last six weeks it has been difficult to dedicate resourcing to these areas from the Community Team due to above detailed abstractions.

There has also been some concerns raised regarding the manner of cycling on the joint cycle/foot path running along Riverside Drive. Community Officers will extend their foot patrols down to this path and provide suitable advice to cyclists and pedestrians where appropriate.

Licensed Premises

The Community Policing Team continue to carry out licensed premises visits to engage with the public and staff. We will also continue to support the Policing effort of the night time economy ensuring everyone is safe and able to enjoy themselves whilst out in the West End.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The Community Policing Team have conducted some joint visits with the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and private housing associations over the last few weeks to problematic premises in the area with the view of supporting actions taken by these partners and reinforcing the message that ongoing anti-social behaviour by tenants, home owners and their visitors will be dealt with robustly.

There has only been two reported incidents of anti-social behaviour by youths in the West End during the above time period.

Contact Information

Again our contact information is as follows. Please pass the following email address onto anyone who wishes contact information for the West End Community Policing Team - taysidewestendcpt@scotland.pnn.police.uk

This address is not monitored 24/7 however any emails will be picked up when the Community Team are on duty and responded to and actioned (as appropriate).

5 PLANNING AND LICENCING

No licensing reports were presented. RP stated that 71 Brewing (Bellfield St) has proposed an events and artists space, together with a gallery, and a monthly market for artists to sell their wares. No objections were filed. FM reported that DCC decision to refuse the demolition the house at the bottom of Glamis Road/Carseview Gardens has been overturned by the Reporter, which was a shame as it

was a historic building. RP stated that the conversion of offices in South Tay Street into flats was rejected on the grounds that there was not enough storage for bikes.

6 PERTH ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Another meeting has been arranged for March 4th.

7 WEST END PARKING

CM reported that three areas of Dundee are being considered for parking zones, Maryfield, Colonside and West End, although no time scale has been established. Suggestions have been received that the parking zone extends further west to Shaftesbury Avenue/Fort Street. FM stated that a report will come to committee in February/March, so any WECC response must be put in as soon as possible as the council are in the process of finalising plans. With respect to time frames, FM has concerns that the West End may not be tackled first despite the fact that the issue has been longest running in the West End. The committee report should provide clarity on that once issued.

CM to follow up with a response.

Action: CM to write to Council with a response to the proposals.

CM

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PERTH ROAD WALKABOUT

Two documents were circulated detailing the results of the Perth Road walkabout. Funding is available for £20K per year for district centre improvements, but the funding is for capital projects only. Areas for improvement were identified such as traffic calming, widening footpaths, increased public spaces and pavement improvements. Four potential projects have been proposed (Sinderins Triangle, Pennycook Lane, Post Office Area, and Millers Wynd). As engagement with local business is important, SB is to canvas their opinions before moving this forward. FM hopes that more than £20K will be available, as the funding has been available to the council for longer than the current financial year.

Action: SB to canvas local businesses for their opinions on these proposals

SB

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MAGDALEN GREEN BIODIVERSITY PROPOSAL

Members of WECC met with DCC officers and FoMG regarding the biodiversity proposal. A summary of the meeting was compiled by Josh Lawton (JL). RE pointed out that WECC were disappointed that we had not been consulted, and felt that the western section could be converted to more naturalised grassland, more hedgerow planting to mitigate against pollution, decreased topsoil removal and the selected meadow flower species may not suit the site. Rod Houston (RH) stated that agreement had been reached and the officers have listened to the concerns of WECC members, however, there is a fine balance between resident access and pushing biodiversity goals. RH stated that future consultation involving all members of the community about areas in the western section of the green which were not figured in the original consultation will be possible.

EK was to approach Barnetts regarding their offer of help at the southern boundary. SC has agreed to help, as did JH.

Action: SC to contact EK with regard to progressing a meeting with Barnetts and Rod Houston.

SC

RP brought up the siting of the concrete bases for benches without consultation with WECC. FM suggests RP write to Tony Boyle (TB) as WECC should have been consulted.

10 **Action:** RP to write to TB regarding siting of concrete bench sites

RP

PUBLIC ART WORKS

AP stated that the bench which was to be at the Western, designed and made in Dundee specifically for the site, has been replaced by an off the shelf bench due to spiralling costs. Despite having a quote from a firm in Newcastle, painting of the gates at the Western Cemetery has been delayed for 2 years.

Action: FM to follow up with Sandy Boyle on the status of the gates.

FM

AP stated that the Taybridge Memorial has been waiting a year for regrouting.

Action: FM to follow up on the status of the regrouting of the Taybridge Memorial.

FM

RP stated that there has been no further movement on the upgrade of the mosaic in Tay Square.

Action: RP to follow up with John Gray regarding the mosaic.

RP

Bins and graffiti at Magdalen Bridge are also in need of refreshing, however, as FM pointed out public art need regular funds for maintenance of the works which is limiting. FM also confirmed he has contacted Calum Robertson with respect to the replacement footbridge (better wheel chair access and more cyclist friendly), however this is ongoing and will require Sustrans funding.

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NATIONAL SCENIC AREA – RIVER TAY

A reply has been received from Lorna Slater MSP (LS) regarding the proposal to designate the Tay River as a National Scenic Area (NSA). LS stated that the Tay already benefits from being designated a Special Area of Conservation, which safeguards the integrity of the river. Currently, the number of NSAs in Scotland is at capacity, and the current focus is on biodiversity/climate crises and the creation of a new National Park.

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AOCB

None received.

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Queries and comment from the Public

No members of the public were present.

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Date of next meeting

Tuesday 8 March 2022, Logie & St Johns Hall, 1900 - 2100h.