

Minutes of the Leith Harbour and Newhaven Community Council ordinary meeting, held at Persevere Room, Leith Community Centre, Kirkgate on Tuesday 26 January 2016 at 7.00pm

Actions and decisions are **RED ITALIC UNDERLINED SMALLCAPS.** **NEM CON** means that no-one spoke or voted against a decision.

1 Introductions

1.1 Attendance

Heather Ford	LHNCC treasurer	Don Giles	Resident
Allan Mackie	LHNCC secretary	Adrian Graham	Resident
Evie Murray	LHNCC	Gilleen Paterson	Resident
Robert Weir	LHNCC chair	Jonathan Paterson	Resident
Bruce Ryan	Minutes secretary	Bonita Preacher	Resident
Cllr Chas Booth	Leith Ward (Green)	Seumas Skinner	Resident
Malcolm Chisholm MSP	Edinburgh North & Leith (Labour)	PC Tom Winser	Police Scotland
Gillian Meek	Resident/Victoria Primary School parent council	PS Richard Emerson	Police Scotland
Caroline Anderson	Resident		

1.2 Apologies for absence

Denis Jones	LHNCC	Cllr Gordon Munro	Leith ward (Labour)
Neil Wilson	LHNCC (FOWL B rep)	Fiona Burns	Resident
Deidre Brock MP	Edinburgh North & Leith (SNP)		

2 Minutes of previous meeting (24 November 2015)

No-one spoke for or against these, so they are presumed approved. (There was no formal approval.)

3 Reports

3.1 Police

Sgt Emerson and PC Winser provided the following statistics and information about crimes in LHNCC's area. Police Scotland's focus in this area are public safety and dealing with anti-social behaviour

3.1.1 December 2015

- 300 calls to Leith police station
 - 4 incidents of housebreaking. (Operation RAC, which covers all of Edinburgh, targets such crimes.)
- 2 serious assaults (both solved)
- 9 minor assaults (6 solved)
- no road safety issues
- PS's initiative on commercial safety in winter covers both LHNCC and Leith Links CC areas
- 34 thefts, most from shops in Ocean Terminal.
- 1 noteworthy racial incident on 27 December
- At an incident at Genting casino, a person racially abused police officers
- An individual who has drug issues is getting help but has been moved outwith LHNCC's area
- A sudden death in Portland St was found to be not suspicious
- An incident of reckless conduct on 22 December has been reported to the procurator fiscal

3.1.2 January 2016

- A spill of caustic soda caused a fire and evacuation at Coburgh House Art Studio, Coburgh St at 8pm on 2 January. PS and the Fire Service ensured safety.

The level of detail provide was praised. Sgt Emerson noted that more detail can be added so long as this does not affect ongoing investigations. A process for sharing written details is still being created. (It was noted that other CCs in Edinburgh do receive written details, and that LHNCC's concern is to receive data on numbers of crimes and solve-rates.)

ACTION: CLLR BOOTH AND M CHISHOLM MSP TO PUSH FOR RELEASE OF 5-YEAR ROLLING DATA ON CRIMES.

3.1.3 Responses to questions, etc

There were somewhat more violent incidents during the festive season but these mostly occurred in the city centre

A resident noted that there had been 1600 violations of the Shore bus-lane enforcement camera since August 2015. Each of these should have raised a £60 fine. However, numbers of fines paid are small, according to Cllr Booth, possibly due to Edinburgh Council (CEC) not passing details to the procurator fiscal. It was suggested that revenue from fines should benefit Leith.

ACTIONS: D GILES TO PROVIDE DETAILS TO LHNCC CHAIR, LHNCC CHAIR TO WRITE TO CEC.

A Mackie noted that there is still a problem with boy racers in Ocean Drive.

3.2 Secretary**3.2.1 Victoria Primary School Christmas tree lighting**

A Mackie noted that this event went well. He thanked H Ford and H Cameron for their support. He will write a guide to recreating the event for 2016. He noted that CEC will not fund the sound system in 2016, and that LHNCC does not have enough money to do so.

3.2.2 Leith Decides 2016

It was noted that Leith Decides 2016 launches on Saturday 6 Feb. This event decides how 50% of Leith Neighbourhood Partnership's community funds are spent. Up to £22,000 will be given to up to 25 local projects. (36 projects are eligible in 2016). Further information is available at <http://www.edinburghnp.org.uk/neighbourhood-partnerships/leith/about/leith-decides>

3.2.3 St Johns Children's hospital

LHNCC members and residents were encouraged to complete the online consultation at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RCPCHELOTHIAN>.

3.3 Treasurer

£888.81 special events account
£463.91 normal account
£1344.72, total after tree-lighting expenses

3.4 Events

No items

3.5 Planning

See also item 4 below

Two noteworthy items were reported:

- Relocation of plots (i.e. changing the location of proposed buildings) by 3.3 metres in 18 Tenent St – this is non-material
- Change of use of a property (WHERE?) from office to meditation centre

4 Proposed Aldi development in Commercial Street

(See also November minutes, item 7.3)

It was noted that Aldi have communicated well with LHNCC about their proposed new store: they have taken on board comments made at LHNCC's November meeting and are keen to remain engaged with LHNCC. They have considered installing a pedestrian crossing on Sandport Place but have found that this would be contrary to conservation and safety measures. However, they could widen the pavement and drop kerbs. It was suggested that pedestrian crossings should not be cobbled – cobbles should be removed if necessary – and that speed limits near crossings (e.g. in/near Coburg St) should be reduced.

A Mackie and D Giles have met with Aldi's planning consultant. However, the full application has not yet been submitted, as Aldi promised, *inter alia* so that LHNCC will be able to examine and comment on it.

5 Proposed development at Ocean Terminal

It was noted that this proposal is for a hotel at Ocean Terminal. Its reference in CEC's system is 15/05875/PAN. Two options are being investigated – see plans at <http://lhncc.co.uk/2016/01/22/ocean-terminal-hotel-draft-plans>. LHNCC seeks assurance that Ocean Terminal will be upgraded rather than demolished.

Public consultations will take place at Ocean Terminal on 10 February, and on an as-yet unconfirmed date.

6 Production of a leaflet and possible event to interest the community in the CC (Denise Jones)

D Jones was not present so this matter was not discussed.

7 LHNCC membership

R Weir reported that according to CEC, LHNCC has insufficient members and so is disqualified from making decisions, even ones which might resolve this issue. (The same issue currently affects Leith Central and Leith Links CCs.) To be quorate, LHNCC needs 6 elected members. (Such people must live in LHNCC's area.) It may also have up to 3 nominated representatives from local groups. (These representatives may live outwith LHNCC's area so long as their groups are active in the area.)

It was also noted that LHNCC needs 6 elected members in order to co-opt others. (It may have up to 12 elected and co-opted members). Hence an interim election is needed to bring in sufficient extra members. (CEC later advised that existing elected members do not need to stand for re-election in this process, and confirmed that accredited representatives of local groups do not need to be re-appointed.) It was also noted that FOWLBB has not been accredited by CEC to send a representative to LHNCC.

It was also noted that at least two LHNCC residents are interested in standing in the interim election.

ACTIONS

- LHNCC SECRETARY TO SUPPLY NOMINATION FORM TO THESE RESIDENTS.
- B RYAN TO ADVERTISE VACANCIES BY ALL ONLINE MEANS AVAILABLE TO HIM.

8 AOCB

- It was noted that the former lighthouse tender MV Fingal will be converted into a dazzle ship. See [Evening News article](#) and [Wikipedia article](#) for more information.
- It was noted that there are no current plans to fix the pavement at the Shrub Hill development on Leith Walk.
- B Ryan attended CEC's briefing about the triennial CC elections due in September or October 2016.
ACTION: B RYAN TO CIRCULATE BRIEFING MATERIALS.
- A Mackie will attend the next Neighbourhood partnership meeting (date TBC). Action: AM to contact NP to ascertain next meeting date.
- There will be a table for the Leith CCs just outside the main Leith Decides event. LHNCC volunteers to run the stall (6 February, 1pm–3pm) were sought. R Weir may be able to do this.

9 Date of next meeting

23 February 2016