

Drylaw Telford Community Council

27th April 2022

Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre

7pm

Minutes

Present: Jimmy Galloway, Pam Higgins, Vicky Nicholson, Jules Bandel (Green), Eileen Brash, Mhairi Munro-Brian, Jennifer Porter, Tony Porter, Stewart Herring, Penny Donnelly

Apologies: Dave Pickering, Hal Osler, Max Mitchell, Jenny Williams, Jackie Brown, Andy Connelly Nimmo

1. Welcome from Jimmy
2. 2. Declarations of Interest - None
3. Minutes of last meeting - Approved
4. Chairs Report – Busy time at present due to the imminent elections.
5. Secretary Report – Website agreed.
6. Treasurer Report – Balance of £3044.19
7. Councillors Report – ask Hal if she has received any emails about the backlog of traffic on Easter Drylaw Drive. Email Police asking for update.
8. Alex Dale – Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre. Letters have been sent to MPs, MSPs, etc. Response from ACH wanting to meet. Christine Jardine visited last Friday and will speak with the Council after the new Council is elected. Mhairi has approached Adam Mcvey and Cammy Day who are speaking with the CEO. Alex Dale was interviewed by Radio Forth and this was broadcasted hourly on Monday with the news. A short video was also posted on their website. Currently applying for National Lottery funding (up to £50,000 per year for 3 years) but due to charging a £5 membership fee, and a £1 per club, may pose a barrier to users accessing the centre. To remove these barriers, the management board are looking to remove the membership fee to strengthen the application. Leaflet, banner and poster has been designed and a petition on [change.org](https://www.change.org). The Neighbourhood Centre are finding their barrier is the funding for the overheads – many funders are happy to fund for groups, activities etc but expect the local authority to pay for the overheads (salaries, electricity etc). The Centre and the Church are the only Community Hubs in the area, and the future of the church is uncertain, and in time it is likely to be working together with another congregation. This does not automatically mean that there will be any change to the use of the building however we need to be aware of this. We as a Community Council need a business/action plan from the centre to take forward. The Centre have approximately £62,000 in the bank but some of this must be allocated for “shut down costs”.

9. Litter Pick Response - we have been gifted the litter pickers for future litter picks. We are hoping to do it on a regular basis. Fly Tipping is a continuous issue in Drylaw and we hope to include the community in developing a solution for this. We are hopeful that the local community seeing us picking up litter will deter them from dropping litter.
10. Election candidates – Mhairi Munro Brian – Labour and Co-operative candidate. Has been working hard with Alex and Roy to keep DNC open as it's the only hub of its kind in the neighbourhood. She got Anas Sarwar to come along to the Centre and hopefully put political pressure on those who could possibly supply funding. Continues to put pressure on those who can provide funding to find the shortfall of £80,000 that the Centre requires to keep open for another year. Believes that we need more council homes in Edinburgh that are affordable and of good quality to increase quality of living.
- Stewart Herring – Scottish Conservative Candidate. Would like to improve and maintain infrastructure (pavements, roads to allow us to get around safely and efficiently) and to remove spaces for people in a safe manner. Would also like for Scottish Water and the Council to keep those affected by localised flooding updated on plans for repair etc. Would also like to improve Community Policing and aim for them to be proactive and see issues before they arise and hopefully stop them from occurring. I think Edinburgh Council Housing Policy needs improved and maintained. There is a housing shortage within Edinburgh which needs to be looked at with the land available.
 - Jule Bandel – Scottish Greens. Works for a Housing Charity and is also a Housing Activist from Living Rent so very passionate about affordable homes that are of good condition. We have lots of housing policies in our manifesto. In addition to rent control and truly affordable housing, I would like to take more action on short term lets – licensing schemes and firmer regulations on them. Looking to make the process easier to insulate homes – regardless of whether you are a tenant or owner. I am also looking at improving bus services and their reliability, pedestrianised environments etc.
 - Vicky Nicholson – SNP. Community Councillor for 5 years. I, along with the chair, kept the Community Council going when it was looking to fold. I work with the Council and help look after those with disabilities. I have also helped a lot of people with welfare, health and social care issues and housing issues over the years. I have been working full time and am a single parent and have never had the time to be able to fight for my community, apply for grants and really help this area. Other areas in the ward are better at asking and I really want to make this area a better place to live for everyone. The work that the SNP has done regarding licensing etc for short term lets is going to positively influence the city. I hope to bring my skills – both life and professional – to make a difference.
11. AOB – No
12. Date of Next meeting – 25th May 2022