

Secretary's report for May 2016 meeting.

Emails sent

April 18: To Scott Wilkins (SSCC, Scott.1.Wilkins@ea.edin.sch.uk) about the future of the SSCC and Nelson Hall (see April 2016 minutes).

April 18: To the Council's Transport & Environment Committee to request that they honour the decision to invest any additional income received from events held in the Meadows into the infrastructure, features and facilities of the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links. Specifically, this is to ask for more park rangers to work in the park on summer evenings, particularly to discourage people from burning the grass with barbecues. They replied (Dougie.Dolan@edinburgh.gov.uk) Cllr Hinds referred the query to the Council's Head of Environment, who has responsibility for Parks in the city, whose response (from Jemma Blackwood, Business Manager to Head of Environment, Tel 0131 529 3473) stated "in the same way as last year we plan to use the extra revenue from the extended use of the site to cover any additional overtime costs deemed necessary. The Council is currently undergoing a Transformation Programme to realign existing structures to realise budgetary savings and as part of this process almost all existing employee positions and roles are being reviewed. The Park Ranger role is one of these under review and the current proposal being considered is to reduce the number of Rangers from 14 to 12, with 3 Rangers being based in each of the 4 new localities. Voluntary Redundancy policy will apply where appropriate and this is out under consultation with the affected staff. As things stand, I think it unrealistic that the Council will be advertising any new paid Park Ranger positions in the foreseeable future and in light of this, any additional Ranger presence will be provided utilising existing staff and overtime and financed by the extra revenue."

Emails received

7 April 2016: Notice of meeting about affordable housing in the Old Town: Saturday 16 April 2016 – (9.30 am for) 10am to 1 pm, Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh

Presentations and discussions will ask:

What does the census tell us about the permanent residents of the Old Town?

How much affordable housing is needed and how is it being provided elsewhere in the City?

What role can housing associations and the city play in the provision of affordable housing in the Old Town?

Speakers:

James Stockard, professor of Social Housing, Harvard University (visiting Fulbright Scholar at the Glasgow School of Art)

Andrew Jackson, Head of Public Affairs (responsible for research, policy & media), Scottish Federation of Housing Associations

Elaine Scott, Programme Manager, 21st Century Homes, City of Edinburgh Council

Neil Simpson – Director, Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/more-homes-for-edinburgh-old-town-tickets-24424397029>

queries: Neil Simpson admin@eotdt.org

7 April 2016: agenda for the next meeting of the Licensing Forum

April 8, 2016: report on the 'digital engagement for community councils' workshop held in Glasgow on 22 March (2 pdf files)

April 14:

Invitation to a free training session on **Community Activist in public life setting; Wednesday 27 April 2016, 11.00am – 3.00pm**

Venue: Leith Community Education Centre
12A Newkirkgate, Edinburgh EH6 6AD

This course is designed for the ELREC- Public Life Champion (PLC) participants and member of diverse communities, who are interested to become involved in public life, and will be taught by a tutor from the CLD, Edinburgh Council. Tea/coffee and lunch will be provided. For more information / to book a place please email:

mrahman@elrec.org.uk , Tel: 0131 556 0441.

(Circulated to SCC members and forwarded to the mosque, who informed me that they hope to attend).

April 22:

The Edinburgh Licensing Board consultation with community councils on current policy on amplified music in licensed premises, based on a recommendation from the Edinburgh Licensing Forum (file Rev Draft recommendation re Encouraging Live Music in Edinburgh). Details are in a letter (file DOC), and they also sent an extract from Board's current Statement of Licensing Policy.

Details of the consultation will be on the Council's website shortly (not there on April 29th)

<https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/>

and other documents may be available at

http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20023/licences_and_permits/960/edinburghs_licensing_board

Emailed responses should be sent to liquor.licensing@edinburgh.gov.uk, or by post marked "Licensing Board Policy Consultation" to – Licensing, 249 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ.

April 22: Copy of email from East Parkside Proprietors' Association explaining why members were not in favour of the installation of CCTV surveillance cameras to record misuse of the refuse bins.

April 28: Copy of email from East Parkside Proprietors' Association reporting that several lights in the Innocent Railway Tunnel , and the specially re-positioned unit ECG15 is not working (the unit under the pedestrian access bridge to 34 East Parkside).

28 April 2016: Flyer for the Meet the Funders Event on 12th May 2016.