

**CURRIE EAST NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH  
5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
GIBSON CRAIG HALL  
MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2012 AT 7.30PM**

**Page 1 of 4**

**1. WELCOME**

Margaret Michie, Chair, welcomed 23 members of the Watch to the meeting and welcomed the guest speaker for the evening P.C. Solomon Fenne of Lothian & Borders Police.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from the following:-  
David Eatock, George Fraser, Peter & Sheila Gordon, Iona MacKinlay, Ann Proudfoot and Tim Shepherd.

**3. MINUTES OF A.G.M. 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2011**

Chair asked the meeting if the Minutes were a true reflection of the AGM held in 2011. Meeting agreed that the Minutes were a true reflection. Chair asked for a proposer and seconder. Proposer George Ballantyne Seconded by Gordon Laing

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.** No points raised.

**4. TREASURERS REPORT**

Elizabeth Wightman, Treasurer, presented the report to the meeting.  
The income received was in line with expectations along with the collection of previous years subscriptions amounting to £30.  
The expenditure of £1400 did reflect the payment of the Neighbourhood Watch Street Signs which had been erected by the Edinburgh Council  
The Watch has funds available for use in excess of £4000.

Elizabeth then invited questions regarding the report. One question related to the cheque itemised as 'Not Cashed' on the Income & Expenditure report issued at the meeting. The answer was that the cheque for rent for the September Committee Meeting had been issued but was not presented for payment until after the Watch financial year end. It was recorded to show a true position of the bank account.

## 5. REPORT FROM CHAIR

This is available as a separate document attached to these Minutes.

## 6. GUEST SPEAKER

The speaker was P.C. Solomon Fenne from Lothian & Borders Police. A community officer with 3 years service who was transferred to this area from Wester Hailes. PC Fenne has been covering the Heriot Watt and Currie area for the last 3 months. Previously had been in the Royal Marines as a drummer.

Of concerns to the local residents has been the number of incidents which have included the following:-

- 9 Youth Calls
- 21 Disturbances
- 16 Break-ins
- 17 Thefts which includes slip-ins
- 2 Car crimes
- 15 Acts of vandalism

There have been a series of break-ins on the west side of the City. There is a team set up to deal with this matter. The community Police are currently in the process of sending a letter the Currie/Balerno area regarding break-ins and what to do to protect your property. This letter will be hand delivered by Police Officers in uniform.

Anti-social behaviour does occur but it is difficult to police.

A question was raised regarding the break-ins and whether this was a spate for a particular area. It was confirmed that this was a spate in this area, at this time. P.C Fenne was able to advise the meeting that two arrests had been made with 20 charges being levelled at the individuals. Uncertain as to how many charges were related to the Currie area.

A question was raised regarding defending your property. The answer was that you may defend your property to the proportionate degree of the threat issued. A general discussion then took place as to what may or may not apply. CENW website does offer advice on this matter.

Police are adopting a more visible presence by being on foot or on a bicycle. Car patrols will still continue.

Vehicles on pavements If a vehicle is parked unreasonably then police can deal with this. A complaint has to be received before action can be taken. Two officers are required to deal with the matter and the driver of the vehicle has to be identified.

Primary School Parking. The go-ahead has been given for yellow lines to be painted on the roads but this has still to be undertaken.

Muir Wood Road Around 6 complaints a week are received regarding this area near to the junction with Lanark Road West. It has been authorised for yellow lines to be painted and this is awaiting completion. Council Parking Wardens can deal with this issue and the Edinburgh Council is aware of this problem.

Buses driving too close to cyclists. This requires a witness before any action can be taken by the Police.

## **7. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE**

Those currently on the Committee had indicated that they would all be willing to continue. The meeting was then asked if anyone else present would be willing to join the Committee. No further volunteers and the committee was duly elected.

## **8. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

Treasurer Elizabeth Wightman indicated that she would continue in office  
Secretary Iain Proudfoot indicated that he would continue in office  
Vice-Chair Iain Proudfoot indicated that he would continue in office  
Chair Margaret Michie indicated that she would continue in office

The meeting was then asked if anyone present would be willing to take up any of the Office Bearers posts. No volunteers and the Office Bearers were duly elected to serve.

The Meeting was then advised that the terms of office of Chair and Vice-Chair terminated at the next AGM and that new Officer Bearers would be required. The position of Secretary would also require to be filled. It was advised that if no indication was received by January 2013 as to who will take on the Role of Vice-Chair at the 2013 AGM then Iain Proudfoot will not take on the role of Chair at the 2013 AGM.

**9. A.O.C.B.**

Muir Wood Field. Thanks were given to all, especially Gordon Laing, who had worked on this and ensured that the Watch Area had been advised of the Planning Application and had been provided with a letter, if required, to raise objections to this proposal.

Provost Haugh

Archie Clark had spoken to the Planning Convenor of Currie Community Council who felt that there was not strong enough feeling regarding the extension of the hours at the Petrol Station/Store at Provost Haugh. This was more a personal matter than an organisation responsibility.

George Ballantyne was upset by local councillors who had failed to respond to his requests regarding this matter. Only one councillor had taken the time to reply to George Ballantyne. It was then indicated to the Meeting that if the extension of hours goes to 24 hour opening or a liquor licence then this may become a Watch issue.

With no further business Margaret Michie thanked those who attended and closed the Meeting with an invitation to partake in the refreshments provided.

Minutes compiled by Iain Proudfoot  
11<sup>th</sup> November 2012.  
E&OE

## CENW

### Chairman's report for AGM October 2012

I would like to start by thanking all my fellow Committee members for their support during my first year in office.

Since the last AGM:

-We have had 4 Committee Meetings. We welcomed one member as an Observer at the December meeting and had a report from the Police at the June meeting

-We have produced 3 issues of Look-Out

-And been out and about

- Several of us attended the Muir Wood Park open evening on a beautiful May evening where we made good community contacts.
- 2 of us visited P7 at Nether Currie Primary in June to explain the role the young folk can play as we try to maintain a safe neighbourhood
- I attended the national AGM in Stirling in September where I heard about the national initiative to allow Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, the Police and Fire Service to send relevant alerts to all registered individuals. CENW is now listed and I would encourage you to visit the national website to learn more about the initiative.  
<http://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/>

We have kept a close eye on Planning proposals, applications and developments within the Watch area and adjacent to it as they impact our neighbourhood -- Offering support to our members as appropriate.

The list includes: (in alphabetical order)

- Co-op Petrol Station
- Currie Goods yard
- Kinleith Mill
- Mast at Bryce Road
- Muir Wood Field
- Old Nursing Home
- Veitch's
- Woodhall Mains Farm –which has recently been sold

No sooner had the committee met in June than the folk living beside the Muir Wood Field received Neighbour Notifications from Taylor Wimpey indicating their intention to submit a planning application for a residential development on the field with 21 days to submit comments.

The committee stepped up to the challenge and circulated the whole Watch with information giving us all the opportunity to submit comments.

We have recently heard that this application has been rejected, but of course Taylor Wimpey may object.

The extension to the opening hours of the Co-op petrol Station has been passed.

We have welcomed about 23 new residents to our area with a personal visit from a committee member.

We gave out about 30 'We don't buy at the door' stickers to folk who responded to the offer in the Spring issue of Look-Out

The number of neighbours registered with the web site is now 85, - still a very small proportion of our membership. The advantage of registering is that we receive an email alert when there is information to share. <http://www.cenw.org.uk/>.

The membership of the committee has remained stable over the year but we do have gaps and I would be happy to chat with anyone who may feel they can give about 6 hours a year to join us.

Margaret Michie  
Chair CENW