

# **Minutes of PCDT Steering Committee Meeting**

7.30pm Wednesday 24 January at Jackson Street School

## **1 Attendance and apologies**

**In Attendance:** Grace Marques, Brian Miller, Julian Hall, Jane MacKintosh, Mose Hutcheson, Colin McCall, Ulla Hipkin, Bill Fearnley, Roger Kelly (Chair), Roger Hipkin, Jack McGowan

**Apologies:** Jane Kelly, Beth Scar, Anne Dalrymple, Barbara Dalgleish, Stuart Ritchie, Ian Watson.

## **2 Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 22 November 2006 were approved, proposed by Jack McGowan and seconded by Brian Miller

## **3 Matters arising**

**§2** There was general concern at Stuart Ritchie's failure to comply with the agreed procedure. It was agreed that this would be dealt with as required by the chair's prerogative.

**§9(ii)** In the meantime, Ken Brown would become the means of communicating with the Oral History Group.

**§3** Ian Watson had failed to contact the Secretary over his queries about the accuracy of the previous minutes.

## **4 Correspondence**

**4.1** The Trust had received a letter from the Office of the Data Commissioner referring to a complaint from a member of the public about our handling of personal information. The Secretary had sent a full description of our procedures and holdings. It included an account of the actions we had taken when these procedures were breached and when requested to remove content from our web site. It noted that our earlier investigation showed that we did not need to register. The Data Commissioner acknowledged that we did not need to register, that our procedures for handling personal information were consistent with the Act and that the inquiry into the complaint was closed.

**4.2** The Secretary had received correspondence about Midlothian Council developing its policy on community provision.

## **5 Financial Statement**

The Treasurer reported that a full reconciliation was not quite complete but that the account stood above £5000 and we certainly had in excess of £4000 disposable income. The accounting software suggested at the last meeting turned out not to be free.

## **6 Future of Saturday Open House**

It was agreed that the event should continue but be kept under review. We should ask for the free let to be restored. The publicity should be improved and we should investigate a new banner to advertise the event.

## **7 Ladywood**

Bill Fearnley reported the formation of Penicuik Community, Sports and Leisure Foundation and its intention to take over the running of the Ladywood Leisure Centre. It was agreed that a proposal to offer a loan to cover initial cash flow problems would be considered sympathetically if requested by the Foundation. A grant would be not permitted under charity law until both organisations were registered. Converting any loan to a grant could be considered thereafter.

## **8 Development Trusts Association**

Jane MacKintosh agreed to take on some of the work associated with liaison with DTA.

## **9 Newsletter and future plans**

Some of the urgency to prepare and distribute the Newsletter had been removed by the separate letter drop by the Ladywood Steering Group. A substantial list of potential future projects had been assembled. As a delivery to all households, the PCDT 'Newsletter' now needed the additional role of an Annual Report for the AGM. A first draft, confidential to those present, was circulated as a basis for discussion. The need for amendments was agreed. The Secretary would consult members as appropriate.

## **10 Any Other Business**

- 10.1 Meeting with the Community Council: following minute §10 of November 22, it was noted that Duncan Thomas was unable to attend to meeting he had arranged with us asking to discuss, amongst other things, the Town Centre.
- 10.2 SCARF: attention was drawn to this fund for research into community action.
- 10.3 We should proceed with discussions with Midlothian Council about facilities in the Town Hall, for example data projection,.

## **11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be on Monday 26 February.

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm

R G Hipkin (18:02:07)