

EDINBURGH ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS

c/o The Secretary, 2b Redford Gardens, Edinburgh EH13 0AR

EACC Business Meeting

Thursday 25th October 2018, 7pm - 9pm

European Room, City Chambers, Edinburgh EH1

AGENDA

1. Welcome & apologies
2. Scheme for Community Councils – Ross Murray, Governance Officer
3. Edinburgh Tram extension – Rory Garriock, Anturas Consulting Ltd
4. Minutes of the meeting on 6th September 2018
5. Matters arising from the minutes of 6th September 2018
6. Reports
7. Announcement of nominations for Office Bearers
8. AOCB - to be intimated to the Secretary prior to the meeting
9. Next meeting – Annual General Meeting – 22nd November 2018

EDINBURGH ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Minutes of the meeting held on

6th September 2018, The Council Chamber, Edinburgh City Chambers

Present:

Eric Dobbie* (ED).....Gilmerton/Inch	Sarah Cleary*(SC)..... Northfield & Willowbrae
Allister McKillop*(AM)Currie	Nick Weech Northfield & Willowbrae
Judy Wightman*(JW).....Ratho & District	Geoff Pearson Northfield & Willowbrae
David Bewsey *(DB).....Colinton	Warren Hope* Corstorphine
Andrew Brough* Tollcross	Tim Parker* Trinity
Saty Kaur.....Tollcross	Kenny Wright* Drum Brae
Roger Colkett.....Tollcross	Norman Tinlin* Fairmilehead
Tony Harris*(TH).....Grange/Prestonfield	Beren McLaughlin* Wester Hailes
Ian Clement (IC) Merchiston	John Tibbit* Leith Links
Tom Graveson* Merchiston	Lesley Gibson–Eaglesham.... Gilmerton/Inch

*Denotes CC nominated representative

Apologies: Arne Strid (Morningside), Jens Eilers (Morningside), Dennis Williams (Fairmilehead),
Aonghas McIntoshl (Juniper Green & Baberton Mains)

1. Welcome and apologies

2. **Minutes of the meeting of 24th May 2018**, These were approved.

3. **Matters arising from the Minutes of 24th May 2018**

The Secretary (DB) briefly stated that he had not put forward a note of support for a city
“Visitor Levy”, but would do so. **ACTION:DB**

4. **Reports**

Health: IC reported on progress in communicating with various health officials who were keen
to engage with EACC. These included the Operations Director for the Edinburgh Integrated
Joint Board. A more comprehensive report would be available at another meeting. **ACTION: IC**

5. **The way forward - Chair:** ED gave his view on changes Community Councils needed to make to

meet the challenges ahead. With regard to EACC, he also put forward two suggestions:

Firstly that meetings might be held in Localities rather than the City Chambers.

There were comments from representatives that some Locality venues would pose difficulties
for those traveling across town. The proposal was rejected on a vote.

ED also proposed that the AGM be held in a venue which might offer a light supper following
the business of the meeting and a presentation by Cllr Donald Wilson. It was further suggested
EACC funds might be used to subsidise the supper. At least one representative felt
uncomfortable about the use of EACC funds for this purpose. It was pointed out that the funds
are given to the EACC as part of its membership of the Edinburgh Partnership. A final decision
on the venue and format was deferred to the October meeting.

Comments from the representatives included a welcome for inspirational speakers, a need for
more formal procedures; concern about communicating with Locality Committees.

It was commented that it was important to emphasise EACCs position within the Edinburgh
Partnership

ED also suggested Office Bearers might be appointed for a three year term which coincided with the triennial community council elections. There were comments regarding necessary changes to the Constitution and any rules required to deal with anyone found to be unsatisfactory in that post.

It was also announced that nominations for Office Bearers and Edinburgh Partnership Board were open and papers were available on the website. Nominations would close at the start of the meeting on 25th October 2018. **ACTION: ALL**

6. **Consultation on governance – EACC response**

The Secretary introduced this item suggesting that a sample response might offer comment and suggestions from the meeting. It was suggested that rather than spend what was left of meeting time on this, community council responses already submitted might be used in order that the Secretary might formulate a response by the closing date of 9th September 2018. It was commented that there was little relationship between the consultation and the workshops held prior to it.

It was agreed that representatives send their submission to the Secretary who would complete an EACC response. **ACTION: DB**

7. **AOCB: None**

The next meeting will be the on Thursday 25th October 2018 at 7:00pm.

David K R Bewsey
Secretary EACC

Draft updated 15th Oct 2018

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Letter from the Chair

Dear colleagues,

Following the last meeting it was promised to revert to you with further proposals regarding future structure and venues for EACC meetings.

First of all let me take this opportunity as Chairman to apologise for not producing a note prior to the meeting. That would have allowed more meaningful discussion to have taken place. Comments received have been taken in the spirit given and I would thank you for raising them.

Secondly please be assured that EACC is governed by its members and NOT by your elected officers whose mandate is to follow the wishes of the floor and implement them to the best of their ability.

It is felt that it is critical to consider all ways to result in EACC improving its profile, attract and retain more Community Councils and face challenges arising from changes occurring within the City of Edinburgh's governance arrangements which are gathering pace. Each Community Council needs to be ready and able to meet these.

As I see it there are three options available to us (although there may be others worthy of consideration):

1. Retain the status quo, regarding structure and venue
2. Re-consideration of moving meeting venues to each of the locality areas on a rotational basis. (This was discussed and a clear message was that this did not meet with majority approval).
3. A hybrid arrangement could be trialled as per the following:
 - a. Meetings continue to be held in the City Chambers
 - b. Each locality, on a rotational basis, may propose a subject of interest to the locality and relevant to all. Thus having cross reference of issues and learning from them. Action plans, feedback and discussion can then be held.
 - c. The meetings would still be chaired by EACC.
 - d. Guest speakers would be chosen to suit the topic as required.
 - e. This would attract new members and new ideas.

This is only a proposal for discussion and feedback with implementation if agreed at a date of your choosing.

Regarding the AGM; it has been decided to retain this at the City Chambers with the first hour devoted to the AGM and guest speaker. The second hour, with coffee and sandwiches for general chat in a relaxed atmosphere. Further information will be given regarding visiting speakers, formal, more informal.

Your input to the future is crucial, please come on 25th October with ideas for the future.

Eric Dobbie
EACC Chair

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Report to the EACC Meeting on 25th October 2018

Edinburgh Partnership (EP) Review and Consultation of Governance and Community Planning Arrangements

At the end of the consultation 80 responses had been received, however only 15 of these were from Community Councils. This is disappointing and has given little guidance as to how communities want to have their views heard and the final decision will be agreed at the Edinburgh Partnership meeting on 30th October. It is likely that the emerging Community Plan will have three main themes:

- enough money to live on**
- access to work, learning and training opportunities**
- a good place to live**

The Edinburgh Partnership's agreed approach is focused on tackling poverty and those intractable issues that can be addressed through partnership working. The future structure and resources needed to deliver the outcomes will be determined as part of the action planning process and there will be a facilitated workshop to look at the composition of the EP.

I suggest that EACC should be encouraging Community Councils to bring ideas and issues to our meetings particularly on the theme of "a good place to live", from a city-wide perspective. We should be taking forward ideas and recommendations from our meetings to the Edinburgh Partnership's quarterly meetings in a timely manner and our meeting dates should be organised between those of the Edinburgh Partnership.

The papers for the Edinburgh Partnership meeting on 30th October should be available prior to our next meeting and it will set the governance arrangements and Community Plan probably for the next ten years, subject to approval by full Council.

EACC could find itself with a more prominent voice provided it set out a forward plan, perhaps over 3-5 years, which takes into account all the factors which might support the Community Plan. Community Councils already consider planning, transport and environment, health a social care and the elderly are already causing concern with diminishing resources available. Perhaps Community Councils through EACC could bring fresh ideas to help solve some of these issues at a community level.

Licensing Forum follow-up

I am pressing for a response from the Regulatory Services Manager on progress with selecting Locality representatives to the Licensing Forum. Once this has happened, EACC should be able to select our representative to the Forum with the intention to maintain a balance within the City. That may be a discussion to be held at the next meeting on 25th October 2018.

David Bewsey
EACC Secretary