



Powderhall Village Owners Association
www. Powderhallvillage.org.uk

Facebook Page: Powderhall Village Residents

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 27th October 2016

Present: Gordon Chromka, Adam Clarke, Frans Kooy, Roddy Martine (Chair).

The Committee welcomed Stuart McAllister.

In attendance: Sarah Wilson of Charles White.

Apologies: Joanne Bytheway, Emma Hignant, Ramon Inglada, Dr Andrew Nisbet, Kevin Patch, John Riley, Richard Ross, Karen Shewan (Treasurer), Mel Shewan, Kathryn Tomlinson,

1/ Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the PVOA Meeting held on Thursday 8th September were approved.

3/ Conveyancing of Parking Spaces and Common Land, Powderhall Village Owners Ltd.

The draft Disposition has been agreed and is with Taylor Wimpey. Jane Ramsay of MBM (Commercial) has notified Roddy that Shepherd & Wedderburn is waiting to hear from its client (Taylor Wimpey) on a procedural point before issuing the deed for signing.

Roddy to report 01/12/16

Once the Taylor Wimpey Conveyancing has been completed, Frans suggested that large purpose-built Private Parking signs be placed at the three entrances to Powderhall Village. Gordon has drawn up a Parking Policy document for consideration.

There is still abuse surrounding the issue of Owner and Visitor Parking Permits. On a recent count, only 11 out of 27 cars parked on Powderhall Road were displaying permits. Adam suggested that when permits are re-issued in March, Owner and Visitor passes be in different colours.

For further discussion 01/12/16

Update of Actions from Sarah Wilson, Charles White Factors

A/ Powderhall Security and Lighting

Prior to the Meeting, Sarah had met with Joanna and Iain to discuss lights and motion sensor being inserted on the Brae/ former B&Q corner of the village. .

Sarah to action 01/12/16

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The Telephone Number to report anything untoward or suspicious is: 101.

In the event of a break-in, successful or otherwise, it would be appreciated if householders, in addition to notifying police, could also inform Sarah Wilson at Charles White (0131- 446 6976) or on-line: sarah.wilson@charleswhite.co.uk . This helps the PVOA committee to keep up-to-date with the situation.

Similarly, postings on Facebook help all of us to know what is going on and to take the necessary action.

All Owners and Residents are encouraged to sign up on Facebook with *POWDERHALL VILLAGE RESIDENTS*. This is proving an excellent means of communication on all levels.

**Edinburgh Crime Prevention Officer Stephen McGill can be contacted at: West End Police Station, 3-5, Torphichen Place, Edinburgh EH3 8DY. Tel: 0131-221 2018.
E.mail: stephen.mcgill@scotland.pnn.police.uk**

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B/ Underground Car Park

Following a spate of activity over the summer months, the underground car park appears to have been abandoned for the time being by the gangs of youths on bicycles and car thieves. However, owners are asked to be vigilant at all times.

With regard to the two abandoned cars, one has been removed on rollers. A second car is to be taken out by November.

Sarah to Action 01/12/16

C/ Waste Collection

Discussions over changing Council Waste Collection Times in hand with Robert Brown, the Council's Waste Manager..

There is an on-going problem and spilled rubbish following collections is causing increased irritation, not least because of the health risk. Stuart had recently photographed an incident for posting on Facebook and had cleaned up the mess himself. **It would be helpful if any further incidents such as this can be photographed and put on the Facebook Page which, we hope will be seen by Council Officials.**

It was also suggested that any Resident with a Twitter Account should make use of it to

keep Edinburgh Council informed as to their annoyance.

It was emphasised that it is NOT the responsibility of Charles White to take up waste problems with Edinburgh Council although Sarah will obviously try to be as supportive and helpful as possible. Residents must make contact with the Council directly to complain. Kevin, who was unfortunately unable to attend this meeting, has already made a useful engagement with Robert Brown, Waste Manager and Ronnie Young, Supervisor. It is well known that the Council is having waste collection problems across Edinburgh.

The Powderhall Village Landscape Contractor is supposed to pick up stray litter, but this depends upon when their operatives are on-site.

Sarah to speak to Brian Hunter 01/12/16

In certain Bin Stores, residents consistently fail to break up large boxes on the assumption that they will be taken away regardless. This does not happen. Large cardboard boxes MUST be broken up and inserted into the Packaging Container or, as with other large household objects, transported independently to the Refuse Depot at Seafield.

Discussion as to how to improve access to Bin Stores at the Rigg is ongoing.

Sarah and Kevin to meet and come up with solution - 01/12/16

Bin Store Doors

There is an issue with bin store doors being constantly battered by waste collectors and left open. Sarah has been on site with a contractor to discuss the addition of an extra spring and extra piece of wood to ensure that they close correctly.

Residents are asked to be mindful of switching off store light. It is proposed that all Bin Store lights are eventually changed over to motion sensitive as and when they go on and off.

Sarah 01/12/16

D/ St Mark's Park Bridge

Councillor Nick Gardner has forwarded a report from the CEC'S Bridges team:

"I have inspected the top section of the aforementioned bridge and it is in a perfectly fit condition. The timber is Greenheart and not Yellowheart, as previously thought, and this wood is a hard and robust wood that is used for this kind of construction. There are a few what looks like shakes but that is perfectly normal (runs with the grain) for this type of wood. Also there are normally no requirements to treat this type of timber."

Councillor Gardner added that if any works were being proposed for this (or any bridge within CEC bridge stock), permission would have to be obtained as the Council has to approve materials etc to maintain the longevity and maintenance of the bridge.

To discuss with Kevin and Christine 01/12/16

E/ Flower bed on Beaverhall Road

A flower bed belonging to Powderhall Village on Beaverhall Road has been damaged during the Powderhall Gate building operations. Sarah has contacted Springfield Developments and this is to be rectified.

F/ Dog Fouling and Health Issue for Children

The installation of Notices has proved relatively successful and the majority of dog walkers appear to be obeying the instructions. However, there have been complaints as to the manner in which some dog owners have been approached in this regard and the PVOA is anxious to emphasise that at all times anyone seen possibly to be offending, should be approached with tact and politeness.

To be further discussed 01/12/16

G/ Wildlife Meadow Planting

Following a meeting initiated by Richard to initiate the creation of a Wildflower Meadow at the centre of Powderhall Village, Stephen MacGregor of Edinburgh Living Landscape has informed him that there is too much work going on at the moment so this will not be progressed at this time.

I/ Canonmills Garden (B&Q Development)

It was learned that the trees dividing the B&Q site from Powderhall Brae are to be removed and Mel and Karen have organised and submitted a petition on behalf of the Brae owners and have applied for a Tree Protection Order. However, some Brae owners are anxious about the on-going problem of excessive tree growth threatening their properties and should the trees be retained, it must be made clear to the developer (or subsequent owners) that they are responsible for cutting back the branches on a regular basis.

To be further discussed 01/12/16

J/ Powderhall Residents Facebook Page

Now with 185 members, the Powderhall Residents Face Book page is proving a very useful communications vehicle. However, users are referred to the rules of engagement and asked not to put unnecessary and offensive comments onto the site as they will be removed.

K/ AOB

1/ Sarah makes an on-site inspection every six weeks on a Thursday, and has agree to post a notice saying when and where on Facebook so that residents can arrange to meet her if necessary.

2/ Stuart has joined the Community Council and will be representing the interests of the

PVOA. When there are interests in common.

NEXT PVOA MEETING: This will take place at 4/6 Powderhall Rigg (Roddy) at 7.30pm on Thursday 1st December 2016.