
THE SOUTHSIDE ASSOCIATION

117 Nicolson Street

Edinburgh

EH8 9ER

Minutes of meeting held in the South Side Community Education Centre on Tuesday 1 February 2011, at 7pm

PRESENT: Carol McHugh (Chair), Vera Anderson, Margaret Bagan, David Baines, Tom Bonallo, Helen Campbell, Colin Christison (Secretary), Mary Devine, Linda Femister, Jan Fraser, May Linton (Membership Secretary), Sandra McCormick, PC Jeanette McCulloch, Kenny McLeod, Ethel Murray, Cllr Cameron Rose, Molly Ross, Fiona Scott (Treasurer), Jo Scott, Lisa Sibbald, Keith Smith, Louise Smith, and Marjory Watson.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Carol welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Caroline Barr, Robert Beaton, Margaret Dalziel, Tom King, Jean Miller, George Pitcher, Ruby Player, Robert Ross, Pamela Spiers, Random Switch, Colin Symes, Ola Uduku, Maggie Wilson, and Joan Young.

2. Guest Speaker: Helen Campbell on Health Improvement using Homeopathic Medicine

Carol introduced Helen, who gave a detailed talk about the subject of homeopathic medicine, including what prompted her to become a practitioner, and she described her many years of experience in the field. Members asked some questions, after which they thanked Helen for her interesting talk.

3. Police Report

PC Jeanette McCulloch gave a brief report on some local issues. She mentioned that the introduction of a bye-law to keep drinkers away from Nicolson Square had led to their displacement elsewhere, notably around the entrance to the bingo hall. Pedal cycles were still being stolen, especially from students. Forged £20 were circulating. There was a discussion about the recent fire in Rankeillor Street. Information about a forthcoming police 'Week of Action' would be announced soon. Jan Fraser asked about new bollards which had appeared on the pavement on the north-west corner of Rankeillor Street.

4. Minutes of Meeting held on 11 January 2011

Approved; proposed by Jo Scott, and seconded by Fiona Scott.

5. Matters arising - None.

6. Secretary's report and correspondence

6.1 Members were reminded about the Community tea to be held on 9 February.

- 6.2 Odeon – the Southside Community Council had organised a petition calling on the City Council to take action to save the former Odeon building, and had written asking for compulsory purchase proceedings to begin. A copy of the petition was circulated for members to sign if they wished.
- 6.3 The Risk Factory in partnership with the Electrical Safety Council has organised a series of free sessions to highlight electrical dangers around the home to older people and those working with older people. Dates - Monday 7 February, Friday 4 March, Friday 18 March, and Friday 25 March, either from 10am to 1pm, or 1pm to 4.30pm. Phone 455 8930, or e-mail the Risk Factory (riskfactory@edinburgh.gov.uk) to book.
- 6.4 Future speakers: Colin Symes on his street Pastor work for April. The March speaker to be confirmed, possibly a representative from the charity Scottish Love in Action (which helps feed, clothe, house, educate and provide medical care for over 500 destitute children in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh), or someone from the Edinburgh University Students' Association volunteering service for students (EUSA Volunteering).

7. Treasurer's report

Fiona said that the most recent balance was £1122.44. She was pleased to announce that the Association had received a donation of £250 from the recently disbanded South Side and Old Town Crime Prevention Panel. Members thanked Mary Devine for the Panel's generosity.

8. Environmental matters

- 8.1 Vera Anderson thanked the City Council for clearing the ice from the pavements at St Leonard's Bank, and Marjory Watson echoed these thanks about the pavements at Hermit's Croft.
- 8.2 Sandra McCormick asked about replacement trees for the ones to be felled in the Meadows; Cllr Rose thought that would happen eventually. She also complained about dog dirt in the Nicolson Street corridor, and Cllr Rose explained how the environmental wardens caught the dog owners. He stressed that the wardens had to have occurrences reported to them.
- 8.3 Keith Smith had reported a missing refuse bin outside the Centre.

9. Question and Answer Session with the attending Councillor

Cllr Rose said that the leftover grit on the roads was being cleared in some places but left in others until it was clear that the snowy weather was over. The grit tended to silt up the sivers.

The City of Edinburgh Council's budget for 2011/12 will be announced on 10 February.

10. Any other business

None.

11 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 1 March 2011
