

The Southside Association

**117 Nicolson Street
Edinburgh
EH8 9ER**

Founded 1972 Scottish Charity No SCO12262

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Tuesday 1 May 2018, at 7.20pm

Ordinary Meeting

Minutes

PRESENT: Colin Christison (Chair), Maggie Bagan, Jan Fraser, Moira Gibson, Bob Hodgart, May Linton, Hilary McDowell, Philip McDowell, Kenny McLeod, Ethel Murray, Ola Uduku, and Maggie Peatfield; and Cllr Steve Burgess.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Colin Christison welcomed everyone to the ordinary May meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Tom Bonallo, Cllr Alison Dickie, Dora and Nino Lola-Luz, Carol McHugh, Jo Scott, and Colin Symes.

2. Police Report

No officer present.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 3 April 2018, and matters arising

Agreed; proposed by Jan Fraser and seconded by Hilary McDowell. There were no matters arising.

4. Chair's Report

4.1 Spotlight Cinema

It was understood that a planning application had been submitted for some amendments to the original plans. More information will become available in due course.

4.2 Holyrood Distillery

Work will start on the site (the former Engine Shed) in early June. Before and after tours of the building will take place in May, for a small charge which will be donated to a local charity.

4.3 General Data Protection Regulation

The membership application form had been redesigned to allow for the requirements of the above forthcoming legislation, and consent will be sought from all the people on the group mailing list so that they may continue to receive minutes and other items.

5. Treasurer's Report

Hilary said that the bank balance was £583.01, after paying for charges connected with the planning application for the two murals.

6. Planning & Licensing matters

- 6.1 Tables and Chairs application for SOUQ, 57-59 South Clerk Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9PP – objection lodged to the 10pm application, and we queried that they had been given a licence in the first place.
- 6.2 18/01483/FUL - Demolition of existing extension to form new 3 storey extension to Life Church building to provide additional space (meeting rooms, cafe, ancillary space). Change of use application to provide 3 no. studio apartments on the top floor of the new extension at 2A Davie Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9EB. It was agreed to object on grounds of overdevelopment of the site and the inappropriateness of the materials.
- 6.3 18/01623/LBC (internal works and external signage) and 18/01664/ADV (illuminated fascia and projecting sign) at public house at 74-78 South Clerk Street. Retrospective applications which compares the previous Clerk's Bar with what they say is proposed, although the work was done months ago. It was agreed to object on grounds of garishness and failure to comply with guidelines for businesses.
- 6.4 The Licensing Board workshop on overprovision on 2 May will be attended by Hilary McDowell.

7. Environmental matters

- 7.1 Nicolson Square 1 – this information was e-mailed to those on the SA's group list in April.

Working Together to Improve Nicolson Square

"As part of our work with the community and partners to improve Nicolson Square, a Spring Clean Community event is being held in Nicolson Square Gardens on Saturday 5th May at 10am to 12pm. Everyone is welcome to come along to take part in planting and cleaning up the Square. It's a free event, just turn up on the day. We will also have officers available who can talk to people about getting involved in setting up a Friends of Nicolson Square Gardens group, and colleagues from Police Scotland will also be attending."

- 7.2 Nicolson Square 2 – also circulated in April

"Dear local businesses and support organisations

I would like to invite you to a meeting to continue discussions about the ongoing challenges at Nicolson Square and how we can work together to tackle the issues. This meeting is primarily for the businesses around the Square and the organisations who may be able to provide support.

The meeting will take place on Thursday 10th May at 5.30pm to 7pm, in the café in the Southside Community Centre. Please come along if you can, or if you are not able to attend please send me any comments, input or suggestions you have.

Some of the points we plan to talk about are:

- An update on the action plan developed since the meeting on 25 January 2018
- Feedback from the Community Event on Saturday 5 May
- An update from Police Scotland
- The public toilets and the Community Toilet Scheme
- Discussion on how groups can work together to provide support.”

From Sarah Burns, Manager of the South East Locality.

7.3 There was a general discussion about the increasing problems of anti-social behaviour, drug abuse, graffiti, and so on. Fly-posting by a circus was appearing locally. It was noted that none of the black landfill bins had been emptied in the area on 1 May.

8. Report and Q & A with the attending Councillor

Cllr Burgess participated in discussions during the meeting. He mentioned that the Police and Council were well aware of the problems referred to at 7.3. A report on the use of ‘A’ boards will be discussed by the Council in May.

9. Any other business

9.1 It was reported that buskers were playing outside Tesco Metro after 11pm, and the police had been informed. A 9pm finish for busking seems to be acceptable to the police.

9.2 It was understood that the former Lismore Rugby Club on Pleasance, premises owned by the Council, might be occupied soon by a social café.

9.3 Bob Hodgart mentioned a meeting to take place at the Central Hall on 27 May about the India Building planning exercise and what can be learned for the future.

10. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 5 June 2018.