

Juniper Green Community Council

(Serving Juniper Green and Baberton Mains)

Minutes of Meeting held in Juniper Green Village Hall Committee Room Wednesday 10th March 2010 starting at 7pm.

Chairperson – Professor Cliff Beevers

Present – Helen Ogg, Robert Ogg, Vic Stewart, Richard Watt, Maxine Magee, Norma McGeever, Neil Wheelan, Eric White, Cllr. Ricky Henderson, Cllr Alastair Paisley, Karen Noble, Katrina Donaldson (Parent Council of Juniper Green Primary School)
Anne MacNab (member of the public and ex-chairperson of the Village Hall Committee)
PC Davie Smith (Lothian and Borders Police)

1. Apologies – Neil Ingram, Ian Gilmour
2. Minutes of the meeting on 10th February were approved.

2.1 Matters arising: Helen reported that item 4.1 from the previous Minutes had resulted in an award from the Neighbourhood Partnership of £4000 subsequently increased to £4250, a decision communicated to Helen on March 19th. Helen also reported on item 4.2 that the statistics were correct and that she would keep an eye on this data in future years. Under item 4.3 Eric explained that he was still working on a logo and Cliff reported that the signposts for Lanark Road designed by Jane Brettle had moved a step closer with the construction firm providing a quotation for the erection of two signposts at a cost a little over £2000 including VAT. After consulting Charlotte Neary of the Water of Leith Conservation Trust Richard reported on item 6.1 from the previous Minutes that a clean up of the Juniper Green section of the river by 50 – 60 Geocachers had been arranged for 24th April. JGCC might consider another river clean-up six to eight weeks after this. The Trust could also supply JGCC with equipment for cleaning up areas other than the river. Karen Noble said that she would like to involve the primary school, but not in places where water was a hazard. Richard would meet Charlotte to discuss possible dates.

3. Planning matters – Kevin Murphy and Mary Clarke (CEC Planning Department) were welcomed to the meeting and spoke on The Role of Community Councils in Planning in Edinburgh based on an attached paper below with a bulleted list of topics. They also produced a number of other sheets, including Community Engagement (Scottish Executive, 2007). A weekly list of planning applications is produced, and we have 7 days to choose to be a consultee or to simply state our view. (At present we see a monthly list, and Neil I informs us if any item is critical). JGCC members were critical of the enforcement policy which rarely seems to bring about a solution: the PO box and the Belmont Road wall for example. An enforcement notice should be sent out by the Planning Department, if required, within two months.

The deviation issue in Foulis Crescent was recently settled by a visit from the Planning Department but JGCC had not been given the reasons for apparent breach of rules being accepted. New powers for enforcement are coming in. Maxine pointed out that the loss of the line of the railway at Woodhall Millbrae is regarded as a planning mistake, in view of any possible future need to reinstate it. Helen raised the question of the old feudal rights on the Baberton estate, but the Planning Department only deals with planning issues. Any legal issue would have to be brought to court by a group of residents, which seems unlikely. Our guests were questioned on the future of the

old primary school, said to be a C-listed building, but Kevin could not find a record of the C listing. Cliff asked if Mary and Kevin would be able to come and speak to a larger meeting of interested residents and Mary said they could but would not be able to comment on specific planning applications.

4. Reports from Office Bearers and of recent meetings

4.1 Secretary – There have been no Licensing applications in our area in the month.

4.2 Treasurer – The cash balance to date remains at £200.85 as reported in the last Minutes. We await the grant indicated above and Neil W will check the bank regularly and let everyone know when we can start to put our plans into action.

4.3 Planning Convenor –Neil I’s monthly report of applications had been received (and is attached to this Minute). In his enforced absence we decided to discuss it at the next meeting, or have an informal meeting when he is back.

The contribution of £8700 from each flat to be built on the Baberton Golf Club site was raised. It will produce a windfall of some £250,000 for Currie High School. These flats are unlikely to have families with children.

4.4 Health – Robert and Maxine had attended a meeting of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership, Health and Employment Sub-Group on 10th February, their report is attached.

4.5 Transition Towns – Eric attended a meeting of Transition Edinburgh Pentlands on 21st February at Fairmilehead (report attached), a group largely concerned with raising awareness. Eric was asked to arrange for the organiser, Johanna Carrie, to speak to us at a future meeting possibly in September.

5. Publicity Sub-Committee – Richard showed designs prepared by Helen for posters to advertise our AGM, with walkabouts in the week beforehand. Eric hoped to have a design for a logo, which he will send for comments by email. Printing costs of a newsletter, carried out by the Print Unit of CEC would be £250 for 2500 copies (black and white) and £300 (colour). Helen distributed a mock-up of the type of publication envisaged (folded A3) and there was general approval for the layout.

Cliff proposed that we hold at least one of our meetings this year possibly in September at the Primary School, in spite of a high rental charge as this would allow us to see the facilities available to the community there.

Karen Noble said the school is trying to interest children in the local community, and they intend to produce a newspaper which could be distributed at the same time as the one we are preparing for late April.

The publicity committee’s report is attached.

6. Police report – PC Davie Smith spoke about the Police report already received. The past month or two have been quiet in our area. An assailant who attacked a lady in the tunnel between Harvesters Way and Baberton has been charged. There are concerns that the tunnel (and others like it) invite trouble, and an alternative is being considered such as a pedestrian crossing. Ricky has tabled a motion for the next Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting on 30 March at Currie High School requesting a report examining safety issues around this underpass and to present options for short and long term improvements and/or alternative methods for road crossing.

PC Mike Smith has been to the Primary School to discuss problems due to traffic in dropping-off and collecting children, a dangerous moment being when a vehicle reverses in turning. The drives of local residents are being blocked. A traffic warden is really needed to ticket cars. Some drivers are belligerent. The possibility of writing to car owners after the car registration numbers have been collected was discussed, and difficulties noted. Cliff asked if there were any Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in our area.

Robert and Vic had attended the EACC meeting on policing and their report is attached.

7. Wider Issues –

7.1 EACC (Edinburgh Association of Community Councils) Elections – Robert volunteered to be a nominee to represent JGCC with Vic as alternate.

ASCC (Association of Scottish Community Councils) elections are coming up. Candidates were discussed, Terry Tweed or Norman Tinlin. (The latter was supported) and Richard agreed to lodge the vote of JGCC after the meeting.

7.2 Safer Edinburgh – We discussed the recent Draft Antisocial Behaviour Strategy 2009-2012. It was not clear from the paper exactly what we were being asked to comment upon. There was some uncertainty about exactly who should be the first port of call if residents were suffering from some incident of “antisocial behaviour”. Following a recent EACC meeting on policing attended by Robert and Vic, both confirmed that the Chief Constable of Lothian and Borders wished any calls to be directed to the Police in the first instance, who would either respond or in turn re-direct the enquiry if necessary. They also told us that the Chief Constable was keen to enhance community policing and JGCC responded by urging the police to adopt the policy of one officer to a specific area rather than adopt a team approach.

7.3 Allotment Strategy in Edinburgh – Eric described the Consultation Document, and it was generally felt that the proposed strategy was inadequate to meet a rapidly increasing need. He will reply by letter. He had already replied using the ten-page questionnaire as an individual. Alastair thought the Blinkbonny Park referred to is not the one near Currie (Eric has received no comment on this in response to his questionnaire) but Helen subsequently circulated an email that confirmed where Blinkbonnie Park is in Currie. Eric has tried to contact the secretary of Wester Hailes (actually in our area) Allotments Association and is awaiting a response. It was suggested that Curriemuir Park might be a suitable site for allotments. Eric will ask Craig Dunlop to comment but there has been no reply by 20th March. Cliff also suggested that a community orchard should be proposed in our area. Maxine raised the subject of the strip alongside the tennis courts as a garden for school use and Alastair agreed to find out if this could be so designated.

7.4 CLD (Community Learning Development) re-design – Ricky spoke on this issue. None of the affected closures/amalgamations of community facilities are in the JGCC area.

8. Events in the run-up to the AGM on 6th May.

8.1 Hustings for Westminster Elections – The likely cost is expected to be £350 and Cliff had agreed with Balerno and Currie CCs to submit a proposal under the CEF funding to bid for the bulk of this amount. Wednesday 28th April or Friday 30th April are possible dates. The candidates as known so far have agreed to be available whenever needed and Cliff explained that no substitutes of the real candidates would be permitted to attend.

8.2 Walking Tours of Juniper Green – to take place on 3rd, 4th and 5th May to explore trees, wild life and the history of our area.

9. AOCB. Alastair explained the wall near Bloomiehall Park was knocked down by the owner, who has been told to re-build it. He was evidently given planning consent to build on a plot with no access.

Richard reported on a meeting on March 9th to thrash out the matter of parking by the junction between Juniper Avenue and Lanark Road. Residents objected to proposed double yellow lines, saying they would lose nine parking spaces. A compromise was agreed with shorter lines, so only four places will be lost.

Richard talked about Biodiversity Consultation, and Landscape and Development Consultation documents recently notified to us, and available on a CEC website. He explained that “corridors” connecting green spaces are to be encouraged.

Vic has been trying to restore a Post Office in Juniper Green. The café owner on the old Post Office site has applied twice to the Post Office, who says it has no intention of reinstating a Post Office here. It may be a possibility to apply for the “cut down” version of a Post Office which runs stamps/parcels etc.

We have been asked to apply for a British Archaeological Association award.

10. Dates of Future Meetings and walkabouts.

Next meeting -14th April

Walkabouts with Craig Dunlop – 23rd April, 23rd July.

Environmental Clean-up with the school – date to be confirmed.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm.

Signed by Cliff Beevers:

--- slides from planning experts ---

The role of Community Councils in Planning in Edinburgh

Mary Clarke & Kevin Murphy

Topics

- Purpose of Planning
- Role of Scottish Government
- Role of the Council
- Development Management – Hierarchy of applications
Pre-application

- Role of Community Council(PAN47)
- Representation or consultation
- Questions?

Purpose of Planning

- Purpose of Planning – “Planning guides the future development and use of land.”

Role of Scottish Government

- Legislation – 1997 Act and 2006 Act
- Regulations, Circulars
- Scottish Planning Policy
- Planning Advice Notes (PAN81)
- National Planning Framework
- Appeals

Role of the Council

- Development Planning
 - Structure Plan
 - Local Plans
 - Development briefs
- Development Management
 - Pre-application discussion
 - ‘Planning’ Applications
 - Neighbour notification
 - Local Review Bodies
 - Legal agreements
- Enforcement
 - Breaches of planning control

Development Management

Hierarchy of Planning Applications

- National Developments
- defined by Scottish Government under National Planning Framework 2 e.g. new Forth crossing
- Major Developments
- Dependent on scale of proposal e.g. 50 houses/2hectares (or more)

■ Local Developments

- All developments other than national or major developments

Development Management

Pre-application consultation

- New mandatory pre-application consultation system for national and major developments
- Requirement to send in a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) 12 weeks before submission. This is also sent to the **Community Council**.
- Pre-application consultation(PAC) report must be submitted with application – this report must specify what has been done during the pre-app phase to comply with the statutory requirements and any requirements set out in the planning authority's response to the PAN.

Role of Community Councils – PAN 47

- Planning Advice Note(PAN) 47 - “A broader yet more local view”
- “..limit..attention to proposals which raise issues of genuine community interest.....”

Role of Community Councils – representation or consultation

- Importance of Council Weekly Lists (available on-line) in identifying Proposal of Application Notices and planning applications of community interest
- Community Council can decide whether it wants simply to make representations or be a formal consultee (7 working days from Weekly List)
- The Council will automatically make CCs a consultee on all major applications
- Guidance from CEC (available on Council website)
- Possible signatory to processing agreement for major application which will determine timescale for CC response

Planning in Edinburgh

Questions

--- Planning report ---

JUNIPER GREEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

REPORT ON PLANNING MATTERS ARISING OVER THE PAST MONTH PREPARED BY THE PLANNING CONVENOR

DATE: March 1st 2010

Planning Applications received between 9th February 2010 and 1st March 2010.

10/00394/FUL 22 Baberton Mains Loan Edinburgh EH14 3EP The alteration and extension of a house. Submitted on 16/02/2010, due for determination by 15/04/2010. Resubmission of application (**09/02666/FUL**) withdrawn on 30/12/2009.

10/00403/FUL 37 Baberton Mains Park Edinburgh EH14 3DX. 1 storey extension to side of property. Submitted on 17/02/2010, due for determination by 16/04/2010.

10/00469/FUL 23/02/2010 30 Woodhall Terrace Juniper Green EH14 5BR Remove existing garage and

conservatory, extend house to east side and south west corner, form new roof etc. Submitted on 23/02/2010, due for determination by 22/04/2010.

Planning Applications determined between 9th February 2010 and 1st March 2010.

Baberton Golf Club - The club was granted outline permission for a new clubhouse and redevelopment of the existing clubhouse site in March 2004.**(03/00603/OUT)**

An application for full consent, resolving outstanding matters from the outline consent, was made in December 2004 **(04/04637/REM)** , and 11 objections were received, including one from the JG Village Association.

The application was approved at Planning Committee on Wednesday 10 February, subject to several conditions and the completion of a Section 75 agreement covering a financial contribution of £8,700 per flat to alleviate accommodation issues at Currie High School.

09/02681/FUL Remove existing roof, form new pitched roof with dormer windows to front side and rear at 18 Foulis Crescent Edinburgh. Application validated 19/10/2009. Revised drawing submitted 29 January 2010.**Consent granted 15/02/10.**

Applications yet to be determined:

09/03369/FUL . Existing porch to be altered with new roof, door and windows. Install new upvc patio doors and windows at 9 Belmont Road Juniper Green Edinburgh. Application received 30/12/2009, due for determination by 27/02/2010.

09/03344/FUL Proposed 2 storey extension to existing dwelling at 4 Baberton Mains Row Edinburgh. Application received 24/12/2009, due for determination by 23/02/2010.

09/01637/FUL Attic conversion with new Velux rooflights to front and rear elevations at 7 Belmont Road Juniper Green. Application validated 1/07/2009 but deemed incomplete.

Progress on Enforcement Cases:

08/00301/ECOND 16A Belmont Road - The owner was granted permission on appeal in 2003 to erect a garage **(02/01236/FUL)**, but has demolished a rear wall in breach of this consent. Enforcement action was started In June 2008. Councilor Paisley has written to CEC Planning Enforcement asking to look again at what further action they can take.

09/00711/EOPDEV Belmont Road Juniper Green 10/09/2009 - Alleged, unauthorised erection of posting pouch in conservation area - second red pouch will be relocated next to existing grey one by Post Office.

09/00744/EOPDEV 75A Belmont Road Juniper Green 24/09/2009 - Erection of boundary fence. Pending consideration.

09/00926/ECOU Baberton Loan Juniper Green Edinburgh 03/12/2009 - Unauthorised Change of Use Development –relates to previous enforcement case **07/00819/ECOU** concerning dumping of construction materials from another site on open Brownfield land. The landowners, Caledonian Heritable, have been instructed to remove the dumped material.

10/00035/EOPDEV 32 Baberton Mains Dell Edinburgh EH14 3DQ - Alleged, unauthorised erection of extension. **Case Closed.**

10/00046/EOPDEV 32 Baberton Mains Dell Edinburgh EH14 3DQ Unauthorised Operational Development. **Case Closed.**

10/00066/EOPDEV 71 Belmont Road Juniper Green EH14 5EB - Alleged, unauthorised erection of lights and non-compliance with approved plans – Pending consideration.

10/00080/EOPDEV 14 Foulis Crescent Edinburgh EH14 5BN Alleged non-compliance with approved drawings. **Case Closed**

Neil Ingram

Planning Convenor

--- PNP Health report ---

Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership Health and Employment Sub-Group 10 February 2010

Notes

A meeting of the above group was held on Wednesday 10 February at the South West Neighbourhood Office and was attended by Maxine and myself.

Draft Action Plans for improving local health and employment prospects were discussed.

On health, the aim is to identify and improve access to local community health providers, services and information. This should improve health and social care in Pentlands. Ways were discussed for improving mental health in Oxfords and Clovenstone; main outputs; lead officers and organisations; timescales; progress and success measures; resources; and risk assumptions were decided. The health and well being of carers was also considered. A pilot scheme has already run in Currie.

Pentlands Primary Scheme for Parenting may be introduced at Clovenstone in conjunction with the Family Nurse Partnership before being rolled out and monitored.

In Education the aim is to increase the number of children going on to "positive sustainable destinations".

This will employ the library hub pilot scheme to access employment opportunities. The use, also, of "Your Edinburgh-Your Connections", themed awareness-raising months and exhibitions by service providers would be involved.

The final agenda item was a discussion on Community Grant Opportunities.

Monies had previously been dispersed to deprived areas but was now going to a range of different areas. Local officers had now to show that funded projects could give value for money.

Grants could be had from various sources:- Fairer Scotland Fund, Access to Employment and Intervention in Health Inequalities funds. The EEC framework limits grants to below £130k and monies must be spread locally, with community grants of up to £5k being provided through an organisation.

Next meeting 19 May.

Robert Ogg JGCC

--- Transition towns report ---

Report on Meeting of Transition Edinburgh Pentlands At Fairmilehead Church, 21st February 2010 at 7 pm.

The meeting was run by Johanna Carrie, with sixteen present.

Two DVD films were projected followed by some discussion and tea and cakes. Both films were low-budget. The sound was too quiet and indistinct.

The first film “Tipping Points Ahead” by Leo Murray was a cartoon film lasting 10 minutes, and was dismal, pointing out all that can go wrong with the world, if we don’t try to avoid climate change.

The second film, “In Transition”, was directed by Emma Goude (2009), lasting 50 minutes. This overlapped some of the material we have already seen, which I sent links to by email.

It tackled the subject under nine different subjects – Economy, Education, Transport, Government, Buildings, etc.

The film also focussed on a number of communities where these ideas have been taken up and are being developed. These are Totnes in Devon, Kinsale in Ireland, Norwich, North House Tavern in Scotland, Llandeilo in Wales, Lewes in Sussex (which has its own local currency), Newent in Gloucestershire, Tooting (the MP spoke).

In the talk and discussion later, we learn’t that Morningside has a strong group, other active ones being at Portobello, Innerlieth, the Balerno Civic Trust is doing similar work with hydro-generation, Biggar, Stirling and Dunbar. Edinburgh University is a Transition University.

It seems that Britain imports 95% of its fruit. 142,000 acres of orchards have been lost in our country. A quarter to a third of the food we buy is thrown away. A typical carrot in the United States travels some 1800 miles before reaching the retailer.

A number of approaches were shown in the second film, such as encouraging youngsters in schools to sew, knit and to make carrying-bags, to share cars, and to share gardens.

Johanna Carries sees the main function of this group as increasing awareness of the subject, and of what we can do. One thing suggested is to turn the heating down and to put another jersey on.

A number of pamphlets were available, such as a Home Energy Check, cleaner energy for Scotland, Kitchen Canny on reducing waste.

Future meetings are –

17th March – talk “Post Copenhagen” by Friends of the Earth. Oxfangs Community Centre.

23rd March – at Tusitala restaurant. Discussion on local action, energy and allotments.

17 May – An energy fair at Fairmilehad Church.

Eric White

--- EACC policing report ---

Note of meeting on 6.3.10 with the Chief Constable and members of the Police Board attended by Robert Ogg and Vic Stewart

1. The Chief Constable believed in the value of good liaison between his officers and Community Councils and was described as a “Copper’s Copper” by a former officer now a Community Councillor. Chief Constable wanted to encourage a more proactive approach rather than have the Force merely reacting to incidents. Numerous examples were given by those present of excellent

liaison between beat officers and Community Councils. Personal contact was best developed with one officer and liaison seemed poorer where one of a team of officers attended CC meetings.

2. Some Community Councils had been “fobbed off” by allegedly intransigent Neighbourhood Managers failing repeatedly to follow up issues and it was concluded such cases should be pursued with evidence to the relevant CEC Director.
3. CC members were welcome to visit the new Force Communications Centre (Bilston Glen) where it was admitted there had been serious teething problems now largely overcome in handling 999 calls.
4. In the last 11 months crime statistics showed reductions e.g. -8% in the Force area (Lothian and Borders) and -11% in the city. Comparing 2007 with 2009, public surveys also showed improvements e.g. antisocial behaviour (satisfaction up from 53% to 75%), housebreaking (50% to 92%), violence (72% to 91%) and feeling safe at night (70% to 81%).
5. The Police regretted the occasional alarmist press report of a serious incident taken out of all proportion which might upset especially elderly people. However others organized crime reports as occasionally too organized so Community Councils failed to get a comprehensive picture, this was sometimes coupled with item 1 above where a substitute officer attended a meeting.
6. The force was due a “Best Value 2” audit early in 2011. Police Board members organized that budgets would be tighter after the General Election. 300 extra officers for Scotland had, however, already been approved with 53 for this Force.
7. The Youth Action Team initiative had proved very worthwhile and a further initiative was to be trialled for 6 months. Youth crime had dropped by 50% since formation of the YAT approach.
8. Examples were given of effective action to reduce undue noise at night via the CEC Night Noise Team.
9. There was some criticism of the military style of uniforms and it was thought an officer wearing a “collar and tie” might be seen as less intimidating and thereby perhaps get more public support.
10. Over emphasis on form filling as opposed to officers being seen out in the street led to an admission that more use was being made of PDAs to reduce duplicated documentation. Some of the procedures were set nationally.

The next meeting organized by the EACC was at 1000 in the City Chambers on Saturday 10 April, on Transport.

Vic Stewart 6.3.10

--- Report from Publicity committee ---

Report of the Meeting of the Publicity Sub-committee of 25/02/2010

Present: Cliff Beevers, Maxine Magee, Norma McGeever, Helen Ogg, Robert Ogg, Richard Watt.
Apologies: Neil Wheelan

1. **Report of the last meeting:** the report was accepted as an accurate record

2.1 **Website:** Cliff reported no further progress on the website would be possible until funding became available.

Richard proposed that links should be provided to churches and organisations that were used by a significant number of Juniper Green residents and that were regarded as local, i.e. were located roughly in the area covered by *C&B News*. Links to Crimestoppers and to Pentland Art Club were also proposed. Cliff suggested a link to the CEC website might lead to the sites of religious and other organisations which have no local provision.

Helen and Neil I would be asked respectively to write material for the website on Health and on Planning and the Environment. We were still working to a deadline at the end of March for text.

2.2 **Newsletter:** the Fairmilehead CC Newsletter was looked at as an example. It was agreed that the content of a newsletter to be issued before the AGM should include entries on: work done so far by JGCC, including success in getting the Baberton footpath drained; health issues; planning; environmental matters; events (principally guided walks on the three days preceding the AGM); list of JGCC council members (office bearers with contact details); list of JGCC meeting dates; list of city councillors, MSPs and MPs; community police contacts; police report; primary school news.

Helen offered to produce the newsletter. All copy would have to be in before the end of March. Contributors would be asked for no more than 200-300 words, Helen on health matters, Richard on work done so far, Neil I on planning and environment, Cliff on events, Karen on news from the primary school; Richard, Eric and Liz Beevers on the walks they would be leading. The format would be an A3 sheet of glossy paper folded in half. Eileen Hewitt had confirmed that she would get it printed; Richard to ask about lead time needed and costs of printing 2,500 copies. The scouts would be approached to do a door to door delivery in return for a donation of, say, £200.00 and additional copies could be placed in shops, cafés, libraries etc. It was agreed that two newsletters would be produced in the first year.

Helen warned that contributors should be aware of how quickly news can become outdated and to exclude material that would no longer be current by the time of publication.

2.3 **Articles in C&B News:** an article for the March *C&B News* about the unveiling of the monument in Juniper Green on 7th March had been written by Val Hawkins. The event would be publicised on posters. *The Scotsman*, *Herald & Post* and *Evening News* had been informed. JGCC members would assist with the event. It was suggested Alastair Darling and other Parliamentary candidates should be invited. Paul Watt would take photos which might be used in the Newsletter.

2.4 **Poster Campaign prior to AGM:** posters would be needed to publicise the AGM and the three walks planned for the preceding Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, one on the trees of the area led by Eric, one on local birdlife led by Richard and one on Juniper Green's history led by Liz Beevers. About 20 A4 posters would be designed and produced by Helen; Richard would supply the wording. The posters would be placed in shops, cafés, waiting rooms and other public places.

2.5 **Leafletting before AGM:** the newsletter would make leaflets superfluous.

2.6 **Questionnaires; Baberton footpath, play areas, signposts, Curriemuirend, draft logo, events etc..** Questionnaire design was discussed, the feeling being that some experience or expertise was needed. Helen, who had devised questionnaires as part of her work, was asked if she could draft something for the full committee to consider.

2.7 **Email lists:** A total of 269 people were on the JGCC mailing list. Not all were from Juniper Green or Baberton Mains.

2.8 **Special events:** the walks before the AGM were to be the first special events; no talks had yet been proposed. The hustings (see 6 below) were being organised jointly with Currie and Balerno CCs.

3. **Progress of Funding grant application:** Helen, as a member of the Neighbourhood Partnership Funding Committee, reported that JGCC had been recommended to receive a reduced grant of £4,000.00 which had still to be ratified. The grant would be welcomed since none of the proposed publicity could happen without it. A further £500 could be sought via the special CC fund.

4. **‘Your Edinburgh’ website:** interest in JGCC having a presence on the website had been registered, but Richard reported that he and Cliff had found it impossible at this stage to supply the sort of information required, e.g. about disabled access to meetings and website address. Richard to contact Nancy Balfour at City Libraries to discuss the difficulty.

5. **VOiCE:** Richard had contacted Eileen Hewitt to express interest in attending an introductory demonstration of VOiCE, a database planning tool designed to plan community engagement and service, to monitor and record the process and evaluate the outcomes. Two other CCs had expressed similar interest. Cliff had been informed of a presentation of VOiCE on May 11th at Murrayfield Conference Centre. It was felt that JGCC should attend the introductory demonstration before deciding whether or not to use VOiCE.

6. **Hustings prior to General Election; organisation and publicity:** the hustings were being organised jointly by Currie, Balerno and Juniper Green CCs. 5 candidates out of 7 had said they would be willing to attend. All were expected to do so. The hall at Currie HS was unavailable owing to exams, so the hustings would be held in Juniper Green church which could seat 500 plus 200 overflow. Brief CVs had been received from 4 candidates so far. Organisation would be divided equally between the 3 CCs. Martin Bone of Currie would deal with the sound system, Juniper Green with organisation of the day. Rules for the conduct of the event, posters and publicity would be discussed at an initial meeting to be held jointly with all 3 local CCs. The Modern Studies departments of Currie and Balerno High Schools would be asked to participate and to prepare a question. Other groups such as the Probus Club might also be asked. A meeting of 3 representatives from each CC would be held ASAP to arrange the further division of responsibilities and to organise the event. Cliff, Helen and Richard would represent JGCC.

7. **Surveys – date for annual survey of local priorities:** the proposed questionnaire would meet the need to assess local opinion.

8. **A.O.B.:** once funding was available for a laptop a decision would have to be made as to where it would be located. Helen indicated she would be willing to give it a home.

9. **Date of next meeting:** a meeting was arranged for 7.00 pm on 25th March at Helen and Robert’s house.

RW 27.02.2010
