

**Fairmilehead Community Council Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 5 May 2026 at 7pm,
Caiystane Hall, Fairmilehead Parish Church, 1 Frogston Road West, EH10 7AA**

Present: Colin Anderson (Secretary); Barbara Dick (Treasurer/Buckstone Association); Stella Thomson (Engagement and Inclusion Officer); Amanda Dovesi; Jamie Adams; Mike Wilson.

Ex Officio: Councillor Neil Cuthbert (Ward 8); Councillor Jason Rust (Ward 8)

13 members of the public.

Apologies: Ian Murray MP; Councillor Conor Savage; Councillor Neil Ross; Dennis Williams (Chair); Gillian Holmes (Minute Secretary/Planning); Janice Pauwels (Transport Officer); Norrie Macleod (Swanston Village); Helen Wilson, Robert Skilling; Brian Ralph.

1. Welcome

Colin Anderson said he would be acting as Chair.

2. Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Winton Care Home

Unfortunately, Craig Moody could not attend due to an urgent business commitment. He will attend the Meeting on 2 June 2026.

4. Community Speedwatch Programme

Information was circulated in the Information Bulletin for April 2026. Unfortunately, the Community Police Team could not attend this evening. One resident said he would be interested in attending any further meetings on this. No other names were put forward. Musselburgh and Glenrothes have signed up. **UPDATE** – copy of email subsequently received from the CPT attached as Appendix.

5. Minute of Meeting held on Tuesday 7 April

Minutes accepted. Proposer - Stella Thomson. Seconder - Iain Stuart

Matters Arising

Colin Anderson updated

1. Car parked on Biggar Road has now been removed. Councillor Cuthbert was instrumental in this outcome.
2. Road Repairs: Councillor Savage provided an update and this is within the Information Bulletin issued last week. **UPDATE** – Council have also now provided details of the specification of the tarmac used – to be reported at the next meeting.
3. Possible third Tram Line: There is no timescale for this tram line, but the cost is estimated at £300 million and the feasibility study at £5 million. Colin has prepared a one-page summary of the information available. He could also arrange a talk if there was enough interest and this would hopefully take place in September.

4. Dropped crossings 68/72 Pentland Terrace. Amanda is in contact with the council and a local resident pointed out that the low kerb has been raised and as the contour has changed, the water is not going into the road. Photographs were taken this morning and the pavement is higher for a short distance. In addition, there are no channels present in any other dropped kerbs and Amanda is contacting the council. Councillors Rust and Cuthbert said they would review. **UPDATE** - this has now been rectified.
5. Frogston Avenue adjacent to the Church: Representations have been made to the Council regarding the poor condition of this road. More residents have been in contact with Colin regarding this road. There is some unease about the road repair assessment process done by the Council. Some residents are having to drive through Frogston Road West and Frogston Terrace to get to their houses to avoid the pot holes. He suggested a meeting be arranged with all Councillors and the Church. An email would be sent to the Session Clerk of the Church and the Councillors about this.
6. Councillor Cuthbert who is on the Transport Committee said there was a list of streets that needed repaired and this road was **not** included. He suggested looking at the list of streets included for repair and see if Frogston Avenue was in greater need. Colinton Community Council had petitioned the council regarding a road in their area and this had been accepted. Barbara pointed out that several roads listed were in a better condition than Buckstone Loan, Mounthooly Loan, Biggar Road and Buckstone Dell. Suggestion made to walk about the area to determine condition of the roads. A resident asked if tarmac was being used or recycled material. Apparently, bus stops require more frequent resurfacing due to the heavy buses. Petitions go to the Transport Committee and Jamie; Barbara and Mike will look at this to see if this is an option for Frogston Avenue.

6. Report by the Secretary

There are 376 subscribers to the Fairmile.

Former Liberton Hospital will be demolished.

The Gillis Centre is up for sale and no further information is available at this time.

The Community Council have their indemnity insurance with Intact Insurance, and this was renewed on 1 May 2026.

The List of Public Roads in Edinburgh can be found on the council website under the Directory of such Roads and includes a description of the extent of the road adopted.

7. Financial Report

Barbara said insurance and expenses have been paid. The Accounts will be available at the June meeting.

8. Local Place Plan

Mike provided an update:

- a. A meeting has been arranged on 19 May with the 2 major landowners within this area. It is hoped the Place Plan will be submitted in September.
- b. In order to get younger residents' views, the children of Buckstone Primary will receive an online survey for completion.
- c. Ronnie from Liberton Community Council said with regard to their Place Plan they had 337 responses (3.5% of the properties) and of these responses 70% were in the over 55 age group. So, little from the younger generation.

d. Keeping the Greenbelt is an important consideration from the responders.

9. Scottish Water Site

Latest information is the Planning Application will be submitted in June 2026. FCC has no meetings in July or August. As such a special meeting will be convened to discuss the Application. Unfortunately, room availability at the Church is more difficult during the summer months. FCC will look at availability. Perhaps Scottish Water would allow the use of their canteen!

Colin said detailed comments on the pre-application consultation had been given to Scottish Water and no response since then.

Mike reported a subscriber to Substack said there was an issue with construction traffic and cars on Filter House Lane. Following a general discussion, Councillor Cuthbert agreed to look into this.

Filter House Lane is adopted by Edinburgh Council for maintenance and bin lorries will not be allowed to use the Lane. Colin pointed out residents had voiced their concerns about this Lane at the public meetings for the Scottish Water site. Scottish Water had confirmed they had no intention of using this Lane. However, the purchaser of this site could apply to use the Lane.

Building work is being carried out at The Filter House which has been vandalised. Colin said there is always some inconvenience when developments take place. But any concerns regarding Health and Safety would need to be addressed. A question was asked about the nearby traffic lights and the bus stop and their impact on the use of this Lane. It was felt we should wait and see how the development progresses.

10. Planning Matters

- a. The Zipline Proposal at the SnowSports Centre is covered in the Information Bulletin.
- b. Former Charwood Restaurant now bought by Mitchells & Butler for a Miller & Carter Steakhouse and is anticipated to have 240 covers. Parking has increased from 45 to 55 spaces. The decking at the front of the premise will be removed. New signage will be put up as you come up Comiston Road. To date 5 objections have been received, but cannot be viewed until a decision has been made.
- c. Biggar Road, Hillend, former Filling Station: A Planning Application has been made to install an ISO container to be used by customers of the Car Wash business while their cars are being valeted.
- d. Planning fees have increased from 1 April by 3.9%.

11. Transport and Environment

- i. The drainage issues on Winton Drive have been completed, and residents are relieved work is completed.
- ii. A question was asked about pavements being repaired on Winton Drive which had been damaged by lorries being parked there. The understanding of the Council is Northcare will repair any damage. **UPDATE** – an onsite meeting has been arranged for 4 June.
- iii. The Braid Estate ETRO will be the subject of a Meeting of the TRO sub-Committee on 12 May with a recommendation that it be made permanent, along with the 2 other ETROs in this area. **UPDATE** – drafting errors were discovered prior to the Meeting which meant 3 of the modal filters could not be made permanent. The rest of the Scheme was made permanent. A

Report will go to the Transport Committee on 18 June to decide what to do next. More details on this are included in the Report from the Planning Officer.

12. Reports from Councillors

Councillor Rust will not be attending the next meeting as he is on holiday.

13. AOCB

Councillor Cuthbert said there is a proposal for a cycle lane from the A703/A702 to Fairmilehead as part of an Active Travel Route being proposed by Midlothian Council. As Lothianburn Roundabout is "highly congested" the cycle lane cannot be placed there. One option is that it will be routed along the gravel track at the side of the bypass, then across the bridge over the bypass, leading then to Oxfangs Road. He has seen a letter outlining the options, but this is confidential and cannot be circulated. However, he will check to see if the letter can be released to the FCC.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 2 June. This will also be the AGM with the appointment of Office Bearers.

APPENDIX - Copy email from CPT on the Community Speedwatch Programme -

"Thanks for allowing me the time to talk about Community Speedwatch last week. Just looking to confirm details for you.

- A local Police single point of contact will be allocated – PC Maz Ewing, Community officer for your area.*
- 3-5 volunteers required, 3 of whom must be present when carrying out the speed checks. One is required to note the details and the other two for observations and corroboration.*
- Vetting – all those taking part must first be vetted by the Police and this takes 12-14 weeks.*
- The Community Council will suggest roads they would like to target and the Police will carry out a health and safety assessment to check suitability. Roads should only be 20, 30 or 40mph zones, so not the Bypass!!! Must also be done in the daylight and not incremental weather such as thick fog, for example.*
- Costs – Community Council to buy approved High Viz vests for those taking part that say Community Speedwatch on front and back. Two signs also required for the grass verge, pavement that say Community Speedwatch. We can assist with ensuring the correct ones ordered.*
- Public Liability Insurance required but believe this will not be expensive based on adhering to the above.*
- Details of vehicles and speeds to be logged on a preprinted form and then sent to the Police contact. Police will then carry out checks to obtain the keeper details for the vehicle and send a warning letter. A third letter will be hand delivered to the Police with an educational chat about their speed.*
- Those taking part have no Police powers to stop vehicles or speak to drivers. Their duties are simply to log details of vehicles and their speed.*
- Training will be given to all taking part and this should take 2-3 hours. This will include how to use the speed gun, how to log the paperwork and deescalation tactics should any confrontations occur.*
- There are no limits or expectations as to how often this takes place but for obvious reasons, every day is not suitable!! Perhaps two to three times a month?*

When logging speeds, to allow for margin of user/equipment error, record speeds of over 25mph in 20mph limit, 36mph in 30mph limit, 47mph in 40 limit."