

Motions and Amendments

Culture and Communities Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 8th August, 2024

Dean of Guild Court Room - City Chambers

Motions and Amendments

Contacts

Email: andrew.rose@edinburgh.gov.uk / blair.ritchie@edinburgh.gov.uk

Tel: 0131 529 4264

Nick Smith

Service Director, Legal and Assurance

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Amendment by the Administration

Culture and Communities Committee

8 August 2024

Item 6.1 – Business Bulletin

“Committee

1. Notes the Business Bulletin Update
2. In respect of Cemetery Rules, Committee:
 - a. Notes
 - i. That cemeteries are spaces for remembrance and reflection to honour departed loved ones and offer moments of peace and comfort for visitors and mourners.
 - ii. That the decision from the December Committee to uphold the existing cemetery rules, which requires dogs be kept on a lead and prohibits commercial dog walking, has been in place for over 6 months.
 - iii. That despite this decision and ongoing work by Council staff to encourage dog walkers to keep their dogs under control, there continue to be instances of dogs off lead or on extendable leads that have resulted in distress for mourners.
 - iv. That Edinburgh has an extensive network of high-quality parks where dog owners can exercise their dogs.
 - b. Asks officers to
 - i. Amend the cemetery management rules to ban dogs in cemeteries with exceptions for guide dogs, emotional support dogs, and dogs accompanying mourners on a trial basis for a period of one year.
 - ii. To monitor and report back to Committee on the first meeting subsequent to this trial period.
 - iii. Utilise signs and communications as well as work with Friends groups, commercial dog walking groups, and other community groups to publicise these rules and promote the use of public greenspaces for dog walking.

- c. Recognises that there is a financial challenge in providing appropriate staffing to enforce a ban on dogs. Therefore, requests that proposed costings be included in the one-year progress report to consider for future budget allocation.

3. In respect of Edinburgh 900

- a. Is pleased to see that 30 organisations have been awarded funding via the Community and Civic Events Funds and looks forward to their innovative, community-based contributions to celebrating Edinburgh's nine-hundred-year journey.
- b. Understands that due to the considerable interest with 97 eligible applications for funding the fund has been considerably oversubscribed.
- c. Agrees to end the ongoing work on outdoor projections and to reallocate this funding to support previously unsuccessful civic and community applications up to the funding total.
- d. Notes that Appendix 1 of the May report referenced that each theme would have at least one linked event with a lead stakeholder to run it and requests an update on this aspect of the programme in the next business bulletin update.

Moved by: Councillor Val Walker

Seconded by: Councillor Lezley Marion Cameron

Amendment by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8th August 2024

Item 6.1 – Business Bulletin

Committee:

- 1) Thanks officers for the Briefing Note circulated regarding Edinburgh 900
- 2) Welcomes the very large number of applications received for the Community Events Fund.
- 3) Notes that decisions regarding the apportionment of the budget were based on an expectation of a much lower number of applications.
- 4) Believes that Edinburgh 900, as a celebration of the city, is a celebration of the communities that make it, and therefore feels it would be more appropriate to reallocate funds from Outdoor Projections to enable more Community Events to receive funding.

Moved by: Cllr Hal Osler

Seconded by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Amendment by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8 August 2024

Item 6.1 Business Bulletin

Edinburgh 900 Update

Committee notes

1. The update and thanks officers for ongoing work
2. The briefing note circulated on 31 July noting that the light projections contract has not yet been signed, and the community grants have been over-subscribed

Committee therefore notes the Business Bulletin, with the following amendment

Requests officers to end the procurement process for the light projections and instead relocate the money to the oversubscribed grants scheme, or, should this not be possible, scale the light projections down, and reallocate the funds not required for the light projections.”

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Conservative Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8 August 2024

Business Bulletin - Cemetery Rules

Inserts at the end of the 'Conclusion and next steps',

"Therefore, a further period of monitoring will take place in the five cemeteries with the highest number of dogs observed (Grange, Warriston, Newington, Saughton, and Morningside), asks officers to increase promotional and educational activities in order to continue raising awareness of the recent rule changes in addition to working with cemetery-users. This will be reported back to committee within four cycles."

Moved by: Councillor Phil Daggart

Seconded by: Councillor Christopher Cowdy

Addendum by the Administration

Culture and Communities Committee

8 August 2024

Item 7.1 – Police Scotland – Edinburgh City Division Scrutiny Report – April 2023 to March 2024

Adds

Committee

- 1.2 Thanks Police Scotland for all of the work they do to reduce harm and ensure Edinburgh's residents are safe and supported.
- 1.3 Notes the enormous pressure for police forces to deliver core policing duties amongst an ever-widening remit of responsibility, increasing demands, and reduced capacity.
- 1.4 Therefore, condemns the misinformation and violence of far-right thugs who have hijacked the awful attack in Southport for their own ends.
- 1.5 Encourages greater coordination between police forces to counter the spread of hate and potential criminal behaviour across our communities.
- 1.6 Supports the recently released statement from the Edinburgh Partnership and Interfaith Association.
- 1.7 Reinforces that Edinburgh will remain an inclusive and welcoming city that will not tolerate attempts to spread division and hatred.

Moved by: Councillor Val Walker

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8th August 2024

Item 7.2 – Bowling Greens

Committee:

1. Thanks officers and all those within the communities who took the time to help shape this report and appreciates that there is a very strong desire to maximise the use of these precious spaces.

Accepts recommendation 1.1, amends 1.2 adds 1.3,1.4 and 1.5

1.2 Therefore, Committee is asked to agree to proceed with refining of designs, placing a priority upon the delivery of accessible public toilets, in order to determine outline costs, with a report to a future committee summarising these costs alongside other investment priorities for the city's parks and open spaces.

1.3 Understands that whether the Council “develops” these sites or not, there is a cost implication as the buildings and sites will need to be maintained.

1.4 Therefore, Committee requests that officers consider whether any toilets (where present) can be made available for use by the general public on an interim basis and that these considerations, along with any resourcing or cost implications are reported back to Committee and Ward Councillors within three months.

1.5 Notes 6.5 and agrees to consider it in relation to Agenda item 8.5

Moved by: Cllr Hal Osler

Seconded by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Addendum by Green Group

City of Edinburgh Council Culture & Communities Committee 8 August 2024 Item 7.2: Bowling Greens

Add to recommendations;

1.3 Notes the potential of these former bowling greens to contribute to residents' demand for growing space, community benefit and net zero ambition, and requests the further report in one cycle.

Moved by Councillor Steve Burgess

Seconded by

Amendment by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

10 August 2024

Item 7.3 – The Seventh Edinburgh Makar

Work with Young People

Committee notes:

1. The busy and diverse schedules of the Sixth Makar over the period of their appointment, and thanks them for their work,
2. That the schedules don't appear to feature significant numbers of events with schools, or other work with young people.
3. And welcomes the appointment of students as School Makars at Boroughmuir High School

Committee therefore approves the report with the following adjustment:

Add new 1.1.3

“Request that officers work with the new Makar to explore engaging with young people in the City's schools and other appropriate fora, including, but not limited to, encouraging and supporting schools to appoint student school Makars.”

Publicising the Makar's Work

Committee notes:

1. There is no obvious place on the Council website advertising the work of the Makar with the Council, including a place for the public to view the poems they have written or the city.
2. That this limits access of the public to an important part of the city's culture

Committee therefore approves the report with the following adjustment:

Add new 1.1.4

“Request the Council creates a webpage on the Council website providing information on:

1. The current and past Makars
2. The work of the current Makar written as part of their partnership with the Council
3. Resource-permitting, the work of past Makars written as part of their partnership with the Council.”

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Amendment by the SNP Group

Culture & Communities Committee

8 August 2024

7.4 - Gorgie City Farm Site Options Analysis

Delete all and insert:

- 1.1 Agrees that Option C (as set out in paragraphs 4.4.3 – 4.7) is the Council's preferred approach for this site and that expressions of interest at the appropriate time to operate a community farm on the site should be invited.
- 1.2 Committee commends Gorgie Community Farm Ltd (GCF) on their work to-date and believes that their expertise and effort should be recognised by CEC in any open expression of interest stage.

Moved by: Councillor Finlay McFarlane

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8 August 2024

Item 8.2 – Gorgie Farm

A Framework for the way forward

Committee notes

1. And welcomes the suggested next steps
2. But further notes, there are no clear timescales for any of the next steps
3. The welcome suggestion that the farm could open in phases, but notes with concern that this does not feature in the immediate next steps, despite the Committee's decision of 29 February 2024 to direct officers to "work with the steering group to ensure that the final recommendation includes provision for the farm to re-open to the public as soon as possible, even if this may mean initially partial or limited access, ahead of new arrangements for the farm being put in place."

B Funding

Committee notes:

1. Any future for the farm will need significant capital investment
2. There is no clear explanation of how appropriate funding may be obtained, other than through the Council budget process and through non-specified partners, and the relative roles of Council, the partners and the new operator in funding the capital investment and any other forms of funding needed.

C Governance

Committee notes:

1. And welcomes the Gorgie City Farm (GCF) entity's proposals for governance of a future farm
2. But notes that GCF is only one potential bidder to deliver the future of the farm, and that these proposals would be nullified if GCF is not chosen.
3. The poor governance of the farm at some points in the past, and the importance of good governance to the future of the farm.

D Facilities Management

Committee notes:

1. That the site is Council-owned
2. That ongoing Facilities Management is important to prevent further deterioration of the site whilst the operator selection process proceeds

E Role in Net Zero agriculture and nature restoration

Committee notes:

1. The recommendations the farm focuses on growing, as well as outdoor play, community enterprises, markets and partnership working around community need.
2. The potential for a farm focused on growing to contribute to zero carbon agriculture, tackling climate change and nature restoration

F Report and Scrutiny

Committee therefore approves recommendations with the following amendment.

Add new recommendations, thus:

"1.2 Culture and Communities Committee is asked to request that a report is presented to the next meeting of the Committee covering:

- a. Proposed timescales for a re-opening of the farm, including indicative times for
 - Reopening the site to appropriate public access ahead of fuller re-opening
 - Inviting Expressions of Interest (EoIs);
 - Deciding on a new provider

□. Submission of external funding bids

□. Re-opening of the farm

b. Capital and other funding requirements, and how these can be met, including from external grant funding and other sources

c. The Governance requirements that will need to be submitted as part of expressions of interest

d. A plan for appropriate Facilities Management services being provided until a new operator is appointed.”

e. How the call for Expressions of Interest can emphasise the need for Eols to focus on the farm’s contribution to Net Zero agriculture, nature restoration and the fight against climate change

1.4 Culture and Communities Committee is asked to request that officers report back on Gorgie Farm at every meeting until the farm re-opens, in the form of a Business Bulletin and/or a full Report, as appropriate

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Amendment by the SNP Group

Culture & Communities Committee

8 August 2024

7.5 Hunter's Hall Park – Competition Standard BMX Track

Delete all and replace with:

1. Committee agrees to approve the progression of a competition standard BMX track at Hunter's Hall Park to RIBA Stage 4 (Technical Design and Tender).
2. Agrees that officers will consult with local people, and especially young people, as part of the design and development process.
3. Understanding that discussions with Edinburgh Leisure will continue develop, additionally requests that council officers enshrine affordability for local people into the proposals including exploration of regular free to access days for young people, and requests that Edinburgh Leisure consult with local schools and youth work groups at the Jack Kane Community Centre with a view to collaboration once the track is open.
4. Further request that officers consult with the 20-minute neighbourhood team to assess active travel and public transportation links to and from the centre.

Moved by: Councillor Finlay McFarlane

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8 August 2024

Item 7.5 – Hunter’s Hall Park

Additionally, Committee requests that officers engage with the track designers and contractors, as well as Edinburgh Leisure to explore ways for greater community engagement and involvement throughout, the design and development stages, particularly with local young people.

Requests that this is included in the next update to Committee.

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Addendum by the SNP Group

Culture & Communities Committee

8 August 2024

8.2 - Community Grant Fund Evaluation

Adds:

1.2 Committee agrees that a core guiding principle of the CGF is and should continue to be minimising bureaucracy and burden on applicants to maintain the funds reputation as an easy to access catalyst for grassroots community projects.

Moved by: **Councillor Finlay McFarlane**

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8th August 2024

Item 8.2 – Community Grants Fund Evaluation

Committee:

1. Understands that the community grant scheme has been running for a number of years and in that time many grants have been awarded across the City to support community-based projects.
2. Notes that no updates are currently provided to Committee on what projects have been supported by Community Grant Funding, meaning that awareness of the funding and the community work it supports is comparatively low.

Agrees that it is important that an overview of this is provided in order to fully understand the important impact of the Community Grants Fund, so adds;

1.2 A briefing note will be provided to all Councillors on a breakdown of each of the 13 Community Grant Fund for the last 5 years.

Moved by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Seconded by: Cllr Hal Osler

Amendment by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8 August 2024

Item 8.2 – Community Grants Fund Evaluation

Committee notes:

1. The report highlights that Leith is the only area of the city that disburses Community Grants through Participatory Budgeting
2. The success of Leith Chooses
3. The Council's commitment to ensuring at least 1% its budget would be subject to participatory budgeting
4. That the report suggests improvement to the CGF process and learning from Leith Chooses whilst not proposing that the Leith Chooses model could be rolled-out more widely

Recommendations therefore amended as follows:

1. Insert new recommendation at end, thus
"Requests a report for no later than the last meeting of the calendar year outlining
(a) How Next steps 5.1.1 – 5.1.4 will be progressed
(b) A process for communities to requests Community Grants are disbursed through Participatory Budgeting processes the same as, or similar to, Leith Chooses, and how such requests can be implemented."

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8th August 2024

Item 8.4 – Safety of the Off-Street Path Network

Committee:

Understands the importance of providing a safe place for individuals to walk/wheel or cycle, so adds;

1.2 Agrees to a further update on 5.2 in the Business Bulletin or a briefing within two cycles so that political groups can consider any additional funding that may be necessary as part of the budget setting process.

Moved by: Cllr Ed Thornley
Seconded by: Cllr Hal Osler

Addendum by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8th August 2024

Item 8.5 – Right to Grow

Committee:

- 1) Thanks officers for their work in drawing together a report which crosses many different work streams.
- 2) Congratulates Inch Nursery, in partnership with Craigmillar Growers and Edinburgh and Lothians Greenspace Trust, who within the last year harvested almost 1,500 kg of fresh fruit and vegetables that have been shared between local food pantries at Craigmillar, Gilmerton, Gracemount Primary School and Inch House.
- 3) However, is concerned that the report focusses on existing projects and groups, rather than explores possibilities to open spaces for communities to adopt and grow on.
- 4) Notes that despite the huge demand for land in Edinburgh, there are also many 'grey' spaces across the city – such as disused areas of hardstanding which do not currently provide community benefit.
- 5) Believes these 'grey' areas are good examples of where small-scale community Right to Grow projects could breathe life into unmaintained areas within our communities particularly in areas of high-density housing or with lower amounts of green space
- 6) Notes the apparent success of Right to Grow in other local authorities such as Runnymede, and requests consideration of what methods, policies and approaches have worked elsewhere.
- 7) Notes that the Council budget agreed on 22nd February 2024 allocated £750,000 pa for Flood Prevention/Biodiversity (including Trees and Food Growing)
- 8) Notes that there is currently no small-scale fund that food growers can bid into to help with small scale new or existing projects

Accepts recommendations and adds the following;

1.2 Investigate the potential to use existing budget allocations to create a 'Grow Your Own' support fund (with an assumed maximum grant of £5000) to provide setup funding for community groups to purchase tools, create planters and establish management arrangements for community growing projects.

1.3 Agrees that as part of the mapping exercise outlined in Next Steps 5.3, officers will investigate and identify 'grey' areas that can be repurposed for small-scale projects.

1.4 Notes the findings of Agenda item 7.2 (Bowling Greens) and the desire to develop the sites into allotments and/or plots for Community food growing, but that presently there is no allocated funding.

1.5 Agrees that emphasis should be placed on engagement with communities and community groups during stakeholder workshops to gain a better understanding of both the barriers experienced when working with the Council to access land and what processes are realistically manageable for communities, rather than potentially becoming a barrier themselves.

1.6 Agrees to an update to Committee in 6 months on 1.2 and 1.3

Moved by: Cllr Hal Osler

Seconded by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Amendment by the Green Group

Culture and Communities Committee

29 February 2024

Item 8.5 – Right to Grow

Recommendations therefore amended as follows:

1. Insert new recommendation at end, thus

“Requests the report due in Summer 2025 includes information on the following.

- (a) How appropriate spaces on Council land can be made available, with a particular focus on repurposing hardstanding
- (b) How partner organisations with suitable land, such as Universities, can be brought on board to grant access to land for community growing
- (c) How, following the successful use of such an approach in Fountainbridge, how the owners of gap sites and other unused spaces can be used for community growing
- (d) What work is ongoing in relation to HRA land to support community growing

Moved by: Cllr Dan Heap

Seconded by:

Amendment by the Liberal Democrat Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8th August 2024

Item 9.1 – Motion by Cllr Mumford – Flying the Palestinian Flag

Committee:

Keeps 1).

Removes points 2) and 3) and replaces with;

- 2) Supports the position agreed by the Full Council meeting of 27th June 2024.
- 3) Believes that decisions on flag policy lie outwith the remit of the Culture and Communities committee, as determined under section 2.6 of the Committee Terms of Reference and Delegated Functions.
- 4) Therefore, refers the original motion to Full Council for a decision.

Moved by: Cllr Ed Thornley

Seconded by: Cllr Hal Osler

Emergency Motion by the SNP Group

Culture and Communities Committee

8th August 2024

Community Safety against riots and hate crime

Committee:

Condemns in the strongest terms the acts of violence and riots occurring across the UK. Such actions threaten the safety, security, and wellbeing of all citizens and must be unequivocally denounced.

Expresses solidarity with ethnic minority, asylum seeker, and refugee communities, recognising the unique challenges they face and affirming our unwavering support for their rights and safety. The Committee is committed to ensuring that communities are heard, respected and protected at all times.

Recognises that Edinburgh, as a diverse and welcoming capital, embodies the values of inclusivity and tolerance. We stand firm in our commitment to uphold and champion these principles, ensuring that all residents and visitors feel safe and respected.

Acknowledges the ongoing collaborative efforts with key stakeholders, including Police Scotland, NHS Lothian, Edinburgh Interfaith, and other community partners. These partnerships are crucial in our mission to safeguard the welfare of all residents and to foster a community environment that prioritises safety and mutual respect.

Ensures readiness of the Council to respond promptly and effectively to any similar unrest that may occur in Scotland. This includes bolstering our emergency response strategies, enhancing communication with community leaders, elected members, education institutions, festival organisers, and other stakeholders, and providing necessary information and support to maintain peace and order.

Moved by: Councillor Finlay McFarlane

Seconded by:

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