



March 2026 Draft minutes

of the meeting on March 18th, 2026
Stockbridge Parish Church, Stockbridge, Edinburgh

Present, S&ICC: Clive Preston (Chair); Peter Wilson; Tannis Dodd (Secretary); Nigel Clark; Geoff Calder; David Chamberlain (Treasurer); Gregan Crawford CC; Holly Harrison CC.

Members of the Community: Dan Thompson; Bill Keil (Warriston Residents Assoc); Peter Chalmers; Sandy Clark; Elliott Welch.

PC Paul Gunderson

Ward Councillors and Member of Parliament: Cllr Max Mitchell; Cllr Hal Osler.

Apologies for absence: John Edward (Deputy Chair); Devon Magliozzi CC; Christian Low CC; Alexander Martin CC; Pam Barnes.

CC Chairperson - Welcome from Clive Preston

Minutes of the last meeting – approved.

Matters Arising

Query received about setts/cobbles in Reid Terrace. The only street in our area included in funding so far has been Dean Park Terrace. It is very expensive and takes a lot longer to repair setts/cobbles. The visitor levy fund will be setting aside money to go towards repairing setts/cobbles so more projects will go ahead in the future.

Sandy Clark thanked Cllr Mitchell for organising the signage for Dog Fouling however one is hidden by a hedge and a couple are already peeling off. More signage will be displayed soon.

Memorial Bench – Cllrs Mitchell and Osler have looked into this and are looking into different ways this can be achieved. A Council Officer has been assigned to this project, and they hope they can honour the wishes of the family.

Noticeboard – this has been removed from the bridge – it was not in great condition and might be passed on to Warriston Residents Association.

Police – PC Paul Gunderson

PC Gunderson has not long returned from paternity leave and we welcomed his report. PC Holly Mattheson is due back from maternity leave soon.

The report is as follows -

Call volume: Year-on-year, call volume for this month's report has reduced slightly.

Trends: We have been made aware of an increase in fraudulent notes in circulation. Please be vigilant when tendering and receiving cash. Look out for the hologram in the bottom corner of the note, the coating peeling off, and words on the notes such as 'PROP ONLY'.

There has been a continuation in bike theft, valuables being stolen from vehicles and suspicious persons being reported in various areas. Again, please be vigilant, keep valuables hidden and/or locked away when possible.

With the weather improving, there has been an increase in campervans at Fettes. Signage remains and we will conduct patrols where possible for possible obstructions or concerns.

Comment was made that Police Vans are also culprits in having their vans overhang pavements in that street.

There have been numerous reports of Pedlars in the area. If unknown persons attend at your door, use your door chain (if available) and ask to see their Pedlars Certificate on every occasion. Certificates issued by Police Scotland are A4 in size, stamped and dated, showing the pedlars details including a photo, certificate number and nature of the wares they are allowed to sell.

Notable incidents/pieces of work: Nothing of note.

What your Community Team have been involved in: We unfortunately haven't had a full staffing complement in the Inverleith Ward so have limited information on what we have been involved in, however please see the attached leaflet regarding the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme which we have recently been trained on. I would encourage you to consider signing up.

What is planned for the coming month: We have received a couple of complaints about speeding around Comely Bank/East Fettes and plan to set up road checks in the coming weeks.

Other matters: Nothing of note.

Please note that any figures provided in this report are not verified and are my interpretation of Police systems only.

Councillor Updates

Cllr Max Mitchell

Bin Hubs – TRO subcommittee – reviews in Phases 3 and 4 were approved yesterday so they will soon be able to be moved.

Councils Budget was approved last month.

Potholes there have been lots of complaints recently.

Hotel on Learmonth Terrace – there has been an ongoing issue there with bicycles attached to the railings in front of the hotel. The hotel has been contracted by the Home Office to Mears and is used to house people claiming asylum. The hotel has finally repurposed office space at the back where they can keep their bicycles. It has been an ongoing problem but the Councillors cannot deal with this as it is for elected Members of Parliament to deal with. Going forward they hope that the problem has been dealt with.

Filming around St Stephen St, Clarence St and St Vincent St -this will take place between 24th and 27th of March – there will be partial closures and limits to parking.

Warriston Cemetery – the cameras placed in the Cemetery are for wild life surveys.

Cllr Osler

Wellness Business in Inverleith Park – she met with someone keen to set up a Wellness Business in the Park on the hard standing in the park near the East Gate.

Scottish Water – there is an issue in the park which could affect the Petanque Club as they will have to dig in that area – this will probably happen next year. It is a drainage issue on the East side.

Crossing between the Park and the Botanics -plans have been shown and sent out as to what they want to do to alleviate flooding and improve disabled parking and the crossing. Rain gardens will be created to help improve drainage. They are still looking at how to improve the cyclist route. Peter Wilson asked who would look after the planting in the rain gardens and we were told that there had been very good communication with the Botanics and they may well get involved in helping to manage them.

Dundas St - Gregan Crawford asked why the pavement had been dug up again at the bottom of Dundas St after being completely refurbished quite recently – not quite in our area but Cllr Mitchell to look into it.

Loss of power in Raeburn Place – Holly Harrison asked why there had been a loss of power with no warning on Raeburn Place on Saturday – Cllrs said they would look into this as they had not been informed.

Placemaking Plan – this includes a place profile of our area – Tannis to forward and Hal suggests everyone look at it and feel free to add your comments.

Participatory Budgeting – this is going to be split into Ward areas. There is still more work to be done on this but important to note it does not affect the Community Grant Funds.

Chairperson – Clive Preston

Responsible Construction Guideline – we have been sent a Responsible Construction Guideline for developers which has been put in place to help developers consider neighbours when doing works. This is only guidance and is not obligatory.

EACC – have received a note about community empowerment and engagement. Conversation ongoing about how and where Community Councils can work better and improve communication. They are also aiming to develop a forum to see if communicating with us in a satisfactory way.

Hustings – Drylaw Community Council – they have organised a Hustings on the 30th of March at 6.30 pm - everyone welcome – this is now relevant to our area with the boundary changes.

Secretary -Tannis Dodd - nothing to report

Treasurer - David Chamberlain – £1,770 in the bank. End of March is the end of year. We received a proposal from LifeCare after the offer of a grant. They have asked for funds to go towards new lighting in the George Young Hall - £938.74. It was agreed that this was a worthwhile project to provide funds for and we would ask for some media / marketing coverage from this to hopefully raise our profile in the area.

Roads and Transport – Geoff Calder

Raeburn St footway - the work is nearly finished.

Planning and Licencing – Christian Low

Note from Christian sent in by email

Planning and Licensing Summary

Reporting period: 17 February 2026 - 18 March 2026

Planning Applications Overview

- Planning activity during the reporting period was moderate and primarily domestic in scale.
- Applications were largely concerned with residential alterations, listed building consents, conservation area matters, and tree works. No major developments were identified within the Stockbridge & Inverleith Community Council area.
- Key Planning Applications

Residential Alterations & Extensions

Applications included internal and external alterations to existing dwellings, consistent with the character of the area.

- 30 Inverleith Gardens (26/00768/FUL): Internal and external alterations. Application validated on 10 March 2026 and under assessment

- Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas

A number of applications related to listed buildings and conservation areas, including window replacements and fabric repairs. Key considerations included design quality, materials, and impact on historic character.

- Trees and Landscape

Routine tree work notifications within conservation areas were noted. These were primarily for maintenance or safety reasons and did not require Community Council comment.

- Update on Application 25/06400/FUL

Application (from last meeting) 25/06400/FUL remained under assessment throughout the reporting period.

Licensing

- Licensing activity during the reporting period was limited and routine. No new or significantly contentious applications were identified within the Community Council area

- Minor variations to existing licences were noted, with no applications proposing a substantial intensification of use. No enforcement actions or licence reviews affecting the area

Leith Links CC have invited expressions of interest to join EACC planning group. It was felt we should have representation in this group.

Environmental Issues – Peter Wilson

The Depot at Inverleith Park – Peter submitted comments approving the demolition of two buildings at the depot. There is now a planning application in place to approve the works.

Peter attended a Final Habitat Group Meeting to discuss the restoration of the pond in Inverleith Park. The water quality is good. There is a management plan under development for the pond. There have been discussions about floating islands and looking at improving biodiversity. However it is also important to remember it is also a boating pond.

Inclusion and Engagement – John Edward

Nothing to report

AOB

Elliott Welch came to tell us about his proposed plan to set up a wellness business in the Inverleith area this would involve a sauna and a plunge pool and wellness sessions based on a business model popular in Scandinavia. He is talking to the Council about his business plan and is potentially looking at the Ferranti site. He will keep us up to date about his plans.

Cllr Osler said that there is to be a debate in Council about whether to have a local holiday on the day after the first Scotland World Cup game. There will changes to licencing to accommodate the matches.

John Edwards is to chair the next meeting in April.

Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday April 15th, 2026, at 7pm.

Members of the public are welcome to attend community council meetings. If you cannot attend the meeting but wish to raise a subject, please contact the S&ICC at

stockbridgeandinverleith@gmail.com

or visit our website:

www.stockbridgeandinverleithcc.org.uk