

## Petitions Committee

2pm, Thursday, 3 September 2015

### Present

Councillors Balfour (Convener), Booth, Dixon, Edie, Gardner, Keil, Key, Paterson, and Redpath

### 1. Appointment of Convener

---

#### Decision

To appoint Councillor Balfour as Convener.

### 2. Minute

---

#### Decision

To approve the minute of the Committee meeting of 11 June 2015 as a correct record.

### 3. Petitions Committee Business Bulletin 3 September 2015

---

The Petitions Committee Business Bulletin for 3 September 2015 was presented.

#### Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Petitions Committee Business Bulletin 3 September 2015, submitted.)

### 4. Rolling Actions Log

---

The Petitions Committee Rolling Actions Log updated to 3 September 2015 was presented.

#### Decision

- 1) To note that future actions agreed by the Committee calling for further reports or information would be added to the Rolling Actions Log.
- 2) To agree to close actions 2, 3, and 4.

## **5. Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report**

---

The Committee was asked to consider two valid petitions.

### **(a) Save the Adult Learning Project**

Mr Bill Day (Convener, Adult Learning Project) explained that the Adult Learning Project had been functioning for the past 2 years without the support of a Development Officer that had previously been provided by the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC). The withdrawal of this support had placed considerable pressures on the board of trustees and volunteers to sustain the development, implementation and evaluation of learning programmes to meet the needs of communities in Edinburgh.

Mr Day asked that the CEC provide the resources required for the Adult Learning Project to employ a dedicated community development worker to ensure the long term future of the project.

### **Decision**

- 1) To refer the petition 'Save the Adult Learning Project' to the Education, Children and Families Committee with a recommendation that the City of Edinburgh Council fund 50% of the cost of employing a Development Officer to support the Adult Learning Project.
- 2) To ask that the Convener of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee meet with the principal petitioner to explore opportunities for joint working.

### **Declaration of Interest**

Councillor Gardner declared a non-financial interest in the above item as a Board Member of Active Inquiry

### **(b) Resolution of Fly-Tipping at Caroline Park Avenue, EH5 1HY**

Mr Chris Flannigan (principal petitioner) asked that the the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) effectively and permanently resolve the fly-tipping of rubbish at the end of the cul-de-sac Caroline Park Avenue and requested their support in helping local residents endeavours to regenerate and improve the area. Mr Flannigan said that the continuous fly-tipping within the area was proving an environmental hazard and as such was having a negative impact on residents and business.

### **Decision**

- 1) To refer the petition 'Resolution of Fly-Tipping at Caroline Park Avenue, EH5 1HY' to the Transport and Environment Committee for consideration and suggest that the Transport and Environment Committee may wish to request a

report from Officers outlining how Statutory Fixed Penalties are followed up should they not be paid.

- 2) To refer the petition to the Forth Neighbourhood Partnership for information.

(Reference – report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)

## 6. Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

---

The Committee was asked to note that one invalid petition had been received and that there were two petitions open for signatures on the Council website.

### Decision

- 1) To note that there are currently two ongoing petitions 'Edinburgh Council to Keep Our Trees!' and 'Reverse the 'Reserve places' for incoming catchment children in Primary 1 policy'.
- 2) To note that one petition had been received which did not meet the petitions criteria set out in the table below

Petition Name	Details
Place a moratorium on the construction of private student accommodation	To note that the petition was invalid in terms of petitions criteria 1(1) which states that we are unable to accept a petition that relates to planning, licensing or other matters where objections and appeals against decisions are dealt with by another process.

(Reference – report by the Deputy Chief Executive, submitted.)