

Notice of meeting and agenda

Petitions Committee

2.00pm, Monday 23 January 2017

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to attend

Contact

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1. Order of business

- 1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2. Declaration of interests

- 2.1 Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest

3. Minutes

- 3.1 Minute of the Petitions Committee of 10 November 2016 (circulated) – submitted for approval as a correct record.

4. Rolling Actions Log

- 4.1 Petitions Committee Rolling Action Log of 23 January 2017 (circulated)

5. Business Bulletin

- 5.1 Petitions Committee Business Bulletin of 23 January 2017 (circulated)

6. Reports

- 6.1 Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report – report by the Chief Executive (circulated)
- 6.2 Ongoing, Invalid and Unsuccessful Petitions: Overview Report – report by the Chief Executive (circulated)

7. Motions

- 7.1 If any.

Kirsty-Louise Campbell

Interim Head of Strategy and Insight

Committee Members

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

Information about the Petitions Committee

The Petitions Committee consists of 10 Councillors and is appointed by the City of Edinburgh Council. The Petitions Committee usually meets every eight weeks.

The Petitions Committee usually meets in the Dean of Guild Court Room in the City Chambers on the High Street in Edinburgh. There is a seated public gallery and the meeting is open to all members of the public.

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Stuart McLean, Committee Services, City of Edinburgh Council, Waverly Court, East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG, Tel 0131 529 4106, e-mail stuart.mclean@edinburgh.gov.uk.

A copy of the agenda and papers for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting at the main reception office, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh.

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/cpol.

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accordance with the paragraphs above.

If you have any queries regarding this, and, in particular, if you believe that use and/or storage of any particular information would cause, or be likely to cause, substantial damage or distress to any individual, please contact Committee Services on 0131 529 4106 or committee.services@edinburgh.gov.uk

Minutes

Petitions Committee

2pm, Thursday, 10 November 2016

Present

Councillors Balfour (Convener), Gardner, Dixon, Donaldson, Edie and Keil

1. Appointment of Convener

Decision

To appoint Councillor Balfour as Convener.

2. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of the Petitions Committee meeting of 8 September 2016 as a correct record.

3. Rolling Actions Log

The Petitions Committee Rolling Actions Log updated to 10 November 2016 was presented.

Decision

To note the Rolling Actions Log.

(References – Rolling Actions Log 10 November 2016, submitted)

4. Petitions Committee Business Bulletin 10 November 2016

The Petitions Committee Business Bulletin for 10 November 2016 was presented.

Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Petitions Committee Business Bulletin 10 November 2016, submitted.)

5. Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

The Committee was asked to consider one valid petition.

Gull de-nesting in North Merchiston

Ms Kay Smith (Principal Petitioner) expressed her concerns regarding the excessive number of gulls nesting on the rooftops of a number of properties in North Merchiston. Ms Smith explained that the gulls had caused worry to residents due to noise and their aggressive behaviour towards residents. Concerns were also raised that they birds were going through waste in search of food and as such residents health was at risk.

The Principal Petitioner requested that the City of Edinburgh Council run a pilot programme of de-nesting of urban gulls within North Merchiston.

Decision

- 1) To note that a working group of officials, local residents and local members had been established to formulate a multi-agency approach to tackle the number of gulls within Edinburgh, and that an update would be included in the Petitions Committee Business Bulletin on 23 January 2017 regarding the work of this group.
- 2) To ask that a further, comprehensive, update on the actions taken following the meeting of the working group be included in the Petitions Committee Business Bulletin on 30 March 2017.

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

6. Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

The Committee was asked to note that there were four petitions open for signatures on the Council website.

Decision

To note that there are currently four petitions open for signatures on the Council website, 'Edinburgh Music and exhibition arena', 'Return Edinburgh's main roads to 30mph', 'Turn up street lights' and 'Use of Micro-Asphalting for Urban Repairs Resurfacing'.

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

Petitions Committee 23 January 2017

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
1	10 November 2016	Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report	<p>Gull de-nesting in North Merchiston</p> <p>To note that a working group of officials, local residents and local members had been established to formulate a multi-agency approach to tackle the number of gulls within Edinburgh, and that an update would be included in the Petitions Committee Business Bulletin on 23 January 2017 regarding the work of this group.</p>	<p>Strategy and Insight Lead Officer: Robbie Beattie, Scientific & Environmental Services Manager 0131 555 7980 robbie.beattie@edinburgh.gov.uk</p>	23 January 2017		Due to officer availability a comprehensive update will be considered at the meeting on 30 March 2017.

No	Date	Report Title	Action	Action Owner	Expected completion date	Actual completion date	Comments
2	10 November 2016	Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report	<p>Gull de-nesting in North Merchiston</p> <p>To ask that a further, comprehensive, update on the actions taken following the meeting of the working group be included in the Petitions Committee Business Bulletin on 30 March 2017.</p>	<p>Strategy and Insight Lead Officer: Robbie Beattie, Scientific & Environmental Services Manager 0131 555 7980 robbie.beattie@edinburgh.gov.uk</p>	30 March 2017		

Item 5.1 - Business Bulletin

Petitions Committee

2.00pm, Monday, 23 January 2017

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to attend

Contact

Stuart McLean

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Tel: 0131 529 4106

Petitions Committee

Convener	Members	Contact
<p>Councillor Booth</p> 	<p>Councillor Balfour Councillor Dixon Councillor Donaldson Councillor Edie Councillor Gardner Councillor Keil Councillor Key Councillor Lunn Councillor Paterson</p>	<p>Stuart McLean Committee Clerk Tel: 529 4106</p> <p>Samuel Ho Committee Support Officer Tel: 529 4210</p>

Recent news	Background
<p>Lothian Buses to continue to accept Adult City Single Tickets</p> <p>On 14 April 2016, the Petitions Committee considered a petition entitled 'Lothian Buses to continue to accept Adult City Single Tickets' the Petition asked that the City of Edinburgh Council do everything within its powers and remit to persuade Lothian Buses to continue to accept Adult City Single Tickets.</p> <p>On 17 January 2017, the Transport and Environment Committee considered an update from the Executive Directors of Place 'Adult City Tickets'.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to note the update and that the Convener and Vice Convener plan to hold a meeting with key stakeholders, including the original petitioner and representatives from Lothian Buses.</p>	<p>Petitions Committee - 14 April 2016</p> <p>Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee - 10 May 2016</p> <p>Transport and Environment Committee – 1 November 2016.</p> <p>Transport and Environment Committee – 17 January 2017.</p>
<p>Save Granton Castle Walled Garden</p> <p>On 8 September 2016, the Petitions Committee considered a petition entitled 'Save Granton Castle Walled Garden' the Petition asked for Council support in ensuring the medieval walled garden was protected, accessible and well maintained.</p> <p>The Petitions Committee asked that the terms of the petition be submitted to the Economy Committee with a recommendation that it support the Friends of Granton</p>	<p>Petitions Committee – 8 September 2016</p> <p>Economy Committee - 22 November 2016</p>

Recent news	Background
<p>Castle Walled Garden in their endeavours.</p> <p>On 22 November 2016 the Economy Committee considered a referral report from the Petitions Committee. The Economy Committee agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To recognise EDI's ethos of strong community engagement and in the case of the walled garden to note that EDI had listened to the concerns expressed by community groups with an interest in the walled garden and found a way in which the community's desires would be included in its overall development plans. 2) The Committee understands that EDI continued to be open to working with local groups to make sure matters of social inclusion and responsibilities were maintained as the area developed. 3) To welcome a soon to be publicly announced social inclusion project to develop a village with associated facilities to tackle homelessness in this area and the projects commitment to working with all community groups with an interest in the walled garden to ensure fair access for all. 4) To encourage all interested parties to work with EDI and Friends of Granton Castle Walled Garden to ensure the walled garden was protected, accessible and well maintained, and that all interested community groups had the option to be involved. 	
<p>Save the Lorne Street Community</p> <p>On 5 November 2015, the Petitions Committee considered a petition entitled 'Save the Lorne Street Community'. The petition outlined the concerns of over 200 tenants of the Agnes Hunter Trust at Lorne St. The Trust was proposing to sell its properties and end the tenancies of current residents.</p> <p>Residents subsequently met with the vice convener of the Health, Social Care and Housing Committee on a number of occasions and housing advice and other support was provided to individuals affected while work was undertaken to find an alternative solution that would prevent the residents losing their homes. This has resulted in the acquisition of these homes by Places for People Scotland, a subsidiary of Castle Rock Edinvar. This means the residents can stay in their homes and their tenancy rights will be unaffected.</p>	<p>Petitions Committee – 5 November 2015</p>

Recent news	Background
<p>Save Redhall House and Lawn</p> <p>The Petitions Committee on 23 January 2014 considered a report by the Director of Corporate Governance which outlined the petition Save Redhall House and Lawn.</p> <p>The petition called upon the City of Edinburgh Council to ensure that the conditions placed on Redhall House at the time of sale were adhered to so that the property was maintained, renovated and occupied in such a way that also preserves in full the setting of the open space around it.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to refer the petition to the Finance and Resources Committee on 20 March 2014 for consideration, the issues raised have also been considered further at the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee.</p> <p>The planning application for Redhall House and Grounds was refused by the Council's Development Management Sub Committee. This decision was confirmed by a statutory notice dated 12 August 2016. The applicant appealed the decision and this appeal was determined on 23 December 2016 by way of refusal.</p> <p>In the appeal notice the Reporter acknowledged the pressing need for action to reverse the decline of Redhall House and accepted the enabling case put forward by the applicant as valid. The Reporter also concluded that the proximity of four of the eight units within the enabling development would detract unacceptably from the setting of the listed building they are intended to save.</p> <p>The applicant has confirmed that they tend to revise and resubmit their planning application, factoring in the comments made by the Reporter and redesigning the layout of four of the eight units in the enabling case. The case officer is awaiting submission of documentation before passing comment on acceptability.</p>	<p>Petitions Committee - 23 January 2014.</p> <p>Finance and Resources Committee - 7 May 2014.</p> <p>Finance and Resources Committee - 5 June 2014.</p> <p>Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee - 9 October 2014.</p> <p>Finance and Resources Committee - 27 November 2014.</p> <p>Finance and Resources Committee - 4 June 2015.</p> <p>Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee - 18 June 2015.</p> <p>Development Management Sub Committee – 3 August 2016</p>
<p>Petitions Live</p> <p>Our webcast facility allows you to watch the committee as it happens. You can also catch up on what you have missed by visiting our webcast pages, where previous meetings of the Petitions Committee and the full Council can be viewed. Other Committees are now being</p>	

Recent news	Background
<p>webcast and are available to view.</p> <p>There are options to pause, fast forward and rewind this recording and to view the reports and minutes at the same time.</p>	
<p>Petitions to the Council</p> <p>Since the Petitions Committee launched on 8 October 2012, the Council has received a total of 77 petitions. Of these, 48 were valid and the remaining 29 petitions were deemed invalid as they did not meet the Petitions Criteria.</p> <p>Of the 48 valid petitions, the Petitions Committee has, so far, considered 34 petitions. In each case, the Committee has agreed that the issues raised merit further action and have taken action as appropriate.</p>	<p>Current Petitions</p>
<p>Contact Us</p> <p>If you have any comments or suggestions, or if you would like information on how to submit a petition please contact us</p>	<p>Stuart McLean Tel: 529 4106</p> <p>Samuel Ho Tel: 529 4210</p>

Forthcoming activities:

The next meeting of the Petitions Committee will be at 2pm on 30 March 2017 in the Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers.

Petitions Committee

2.00pm, Monday 23 January 2017

Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

Item number	6.1
Report number	
Wards	Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart

Links

Coalition pledges	
Council outcomes	CO23 & CO26
Single Outcome Agreement	

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Executive Summary

Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

Summary

The Committee is asked to consider two petitions at this meeting.

Valid petitions -

Safety First - close the bridge!

A valid petition entitled 'Safety First - close the bridge!' has been received. The petition received 251 signatures.

Turn up street lights

A valid petition entitled 'Safety First - close the bridge!' has been received. The petition received 76 signatures.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to consider the petitions:

1.1 Safety First - close the bridge! as set out in 6.1(a) of Appendix one.

1.2 Turn up street lights! as set out in 6.1(b) of Appendix one.

Measures of success

There are no immediate measures of success applicable to this report.

Financial impact

There are no financial impacts arising from the consideration of the petition.

Equalities impact

There are no equalities impacts arising from the consideration of the petition.

Sustainability impact

There are no sustainability impacts arising from the consideration of the petition.

Consultation and engagement

There are no consultation or engagement requirements at this part of the process.

Background reading / external references

[Petitions webpages](#)

[Council Webcasting](#)

Links

Coalition pledges

Council outcomes CO23 Well engaged and well informed – Communities and individuals are empowered and supported to improve local outcomes and foster a sense of community
CO26 The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives

Single Outcome Agreement

Appendices Appendix one: Petitions for Consideration

Appendix 1 - Petitions for Consideration

Item Number	Date made available for signatures	Petitions Title and Petitions Statement	Wards affected	Total Number of Signatories
6.1(a)	06/01/2017	<p><u>Safety First - close the bridge!</u></p> <p>In August 2017, the new Boroughmuir High School will be fully opened. Since it was commissioned and planning consent granted, it has become increasingly apparent that the travel to school arrangements, with almost all students funnelling down the bottom part of Viewforth means that the stretch of street leading up to the bridge creates a real pinch point while through traffic continues to be allowed access to the bridge. Over the last two years, a number of factors have changed: the rising roll at the school, coupled with the need for an overspill annex at Darroch; the experience of the bridge being closed for works; and rising concern among residents at St Peter's Place about the combination of through traffic and increased footfall. Furthermore, since the school plans were approved there is new housing in Horne Terrace and the masterplan for the canalside to the east of Viewforth has been approved, including some 400 or so new dwellings.</p> <p>In light of those changes this petition calls for a rethink of the role of Viewforth Bridge, with a view to it being closed to vehicular traffic, allowing access only to pedestrians, mobility devices and bicycles. Therefore we call for an assessment of the impact of that change to be prepared and submitted to the council, taking account of the impact on adjacent and parallel streets, on improved resident amenity and on school student safety; and on access to the school.</p>	Fountainbridge /Craiglockhart	251 signatures

Item Number	Date made available for signatures	Petitions Title and Petitions Statement	Wards affected	Total Number of Signatories
6.2(b)	14 October 2016	<p>Turn up street lights</p> <p>The streets named below are dangerously dark we would ask the council to turn the street lights up. Watson Crescent; Fowler Terrace; Bryson Road; Dundee Terrace Ritchie Place.</p>	Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart	76

Petitions Committee

2.00pm, Monday 23 January 2017

Ongoing, Unsuccessful and Invalid Petitions: Overview Report

Item number	6.2
Report number	
Wards	All

Links

Coalition pledges	
Council outcomes	CO23 & CO26
Single Outcome Agreement	

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Ongoing, Unsuccessful and Invalid Petitions: Overview Report

Summary

The Committee is asked to note that there are currently no petitions open for signatures on the Council website and that three petitions did not receive the minimum number of signatures required by their closing dates and have now closed for signatures on the Council website.

Recommendations

- 1.1 To note that no invalid petitions had been received.
- 1.2 To note that the petition 'Use of Micro-Asphalting for Urban Road Repairs Resurfacing' did not receive the minimum number of signatures by the closing date of 16 January 2017 and has now closed for signatures on the Council website. Details of this petition are set out in Appendix one.
- 1.3 To note that the petition 'Edinburgh music and exhibition arena' did not receive the minimum number of signatures by the closing date of 16 January 2017 and has now closed for signatures on the Council website. Details of this petition are set out in Appendix one.
- 1.4 To note that the petition 'Return Edinburgh's main roads to 30mph' did not receive the minimum number of signatures by the closing date of 16 January 2017 and has now closed for signatures on the Council website. Details of this petition are set out in Appendix one.

Measures of success

There are no immediate measures of success applicable to this report.

Financial impact

There is no financial impact arising from this report.

Equalities impact

There is no equalities impact arising from this report.

Sustainability impact

There is no environmental impact arising from this report.

Consultation and engagement

There are no consultation or engagement requirements from this report.

Background reading / external references

[Petitions webpages](#)

[Council Webcasting](#)

Links

Coalition pledges

Council outcomes CO23 Well engaged and well informed – Communities and individuals are empowered and supported to improve local outcomes and foster a sense of community
CO26 The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives

Single Outcome Agreement

Appendices Appendix One: Unsuccessful Petitions

Appendix One – Unsuccessful Petitions

Item Number	Date made available for signatures	Petition Title and Petition Statement	Wards Affected	Total number of signatures
6.2(a)	28 July 2016	<p>Edinburgh music and exhibition arena</p> <p>SSE Hydro is a multi-purpose indoor arena located on the site of the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow, Scotland.</p> <p>Edinburgh has nothing in comparison that would attract international performers, as such city residents and tourists have to make the trip to Glasgow in order to see them. As Scotland's capital city this is a dear shame and also a gap in the market, as money spent on rail or bus travel to Glasgow plus ticket sales could be money in Edinburgh's pocket !</p> <p>We request that the City of Edinburgh Council investigate the possibility of developing a multi-purpose indoor arena within the City.</p>	City Wide	127
6.2(b)	22 August 2016	<p>Return Edinburgh's main roads to 30mph</p> <p>On the 13 January 2015 the Transport and Environment approved a proposed network of 20mph roads.</p> <p>We the undersigned ask that the City of Edinburgh Council to reverse this decision immediately.</p>	City Wide	8

Item Number	Date made available for signatures	Petition Title and Petition Statement	Wards Affected	Total number of signatures
		Furthermore we feel that the claim there is "Popular Support" for the 20mph zone is not accurate and ask that proof of this "popular support" be made available for public scrutiny.		
6.2(c)	11 October 2016	<p>Use of Micro-Asphalting for Urban Road Repairs Resurfacing</p> <p>We request that CEC reverse their decision to adopt the use of 'Micro-Asphalting' as their method to resurface urban roads. We request that CEC adopts the use of Hot Rolled Asphalt (or similar) to make good road surfaces.</p>	City Wide	38

None of these petitions can be considered as they did not receive the minimum number of signatures required by their closing dates and have now closed for signatures on the Council website. A petition requires 200 signatures before it can be considered by the Petitions Committee. Where a petition refers to a local issue, the Convener has the discretion to declare a petition with more than 50 signatures valid.