

# Minutes

## Petitions Committee

2pm, Monday, 23 January 2017

### Present

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

### 1. Minute

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#### Decision

To approve the minute of the Petitions Committee meeting of 10 November 2016 as a correct record.

### 2. Rolling Actions Log

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The Petitions Committee Rolling Actions Log updated to 23 January 2017 was presented.

#### Decision

To note the Rolling Actions Log.

(References – Rolling Actions Log 23 January 2017, submitted)

### 3. Petitions Committee Business Bulletin 23 January 2017

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The Petitions Committee Business Bulletin for 23 January 2017 was presented.

#### Decision

To note the Business Bulletin.

(Reference – Petitions Committee Business Bulletin 23 January 2017, submitted.)

### 4. Petitions for Consideration: Overview Report

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The Committee was asked to consider two valid petitions.

### **(a) Safety First – close the bridge!**

Miss Jacqueline Whymark (Principal Petitioner) and Simon Brauholtz raised concerns regarding traffic congestion at Viewforth Bridge. Miss Whymark reported that since the construction of the new Boroughmuir High School began circumstances had changed, such as an increase in housing, rising school roles and the adoption of a canal master plan. The change in circumstances was having a detrimental impact on residential amenity and the safety of pedestrians, including pupils at Boroughmuir High School.

The Petitioners asked that traffic modelling be undertaken to assess the impact of the closure of Viewforth Bridge and that the modelling also take into consideration the impact on adjacent and parallel streets.

Councillor Corbett was heard as a local ward member and expressed support for the petition. Councillor Corbett felt that since the original traffic assessment was undertaken circumstances had changed, Consequently, a new traffic assessment was required to establish a balance between residential amenity and pupil safety, also taking into considered the impact on neighbouring streets and air pollution.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To thank the Principal Petitioner for raising the issues contained within the petition.
- 2) To agree to refer the petition to the Transport and Environment Committee for consideration with a recommendation that members visit the area to observe the issues raised
- 3) To ask that additional information, including the unintended consequences of changes to the existing traffic management arrangements around Viewforth Bridge, be attached to the referral report.

### **(b) Turn up street lights**

#### **Decision**

To continue consideration of the petition until the next meeting of the Petitions Committee on 30 March 2017 to allow the Petitioner to attend.

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

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

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The Committee was asked to note that there were no petitions open for signatures on the Council website and that three petitions did not receive the minimum number of signatures by the closing dates.

#### **Decision**

- 1) To note that there are currently no open for signatures on the Council website.
- 2) To note that three petitions 'Edinburgh Music and exhibition arena', 'Return Edinburgh's main roads to 30mph' and 'Use of Micro-Asphalting for Urban road Repairs Resurfacing' did not receive the minimum number of signatures required by their closing dates and had now closed for signatures on the Council website.

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