Minutes of Tollcross Community Council Meeting 26 April 2026

1. Welcome, apologies, declarations of interest, health, safety, security and comfort check

Present:
Members**:** Richard Allen (Chair), Rebecca Fairbairn (minutes), Elizabeth Drake, Liz Summerfield, Roger Colkett, Iain Black, Paul Beswick.

Others: Lee Green, Andreas Wilhelm, Marion Lean. Sundeep Singh

Apologies: Robin Johnston, Cllr Kevin McKay.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no declarations of interests. No security or health and safety issues identified.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved, proposed by Roger Colkett, seconded by Paul Beswick. No matters arising.

3. Updates

Councillors: No attendees.

Police: No attendees. Members agreed to consider requesting a report of crimes in the area rather than physical attendance as our boundaries crosses numerous police force boundaries,

4. Tollcross Matters

1. **The Glen Street Pend.** Members agreed to fund a search of ownership to progress engagement with owners to re-surface the path which is becoming unusable at night.
2. **Leven Street bus stops.** South-bound bus stop to be re-opened, members noted frustration that the North-bound stop remains closed.
3. **The Clock.** Members celebrated confirmation of Common Good Fund for the repair of the clock but noted that agreement on its reinstatement remains outstanding.
4. **Scheme and Constitution.** No comments received.
5. **Place Plan.** Members discussed future focus on the return of the jaw bone to Jaw Bone Walk and the cricket pavilion in the Meadows. A plaque to provide information on the name of Jaw Bone Walk was supported. The pavilion is owned by Edinburgh Leisure and it is understood that while there is support for the reinstatement of changing rooms on the site, significant funds would be required for this.
6. **Meadows Festival, 6-7 June.** Support from TXCC funds agreed for actions with cost associated:
    - Community Council stall confirmed. ML, RJ, ED, IB, SS and RC volunteered to host stall. **Action RA** to connect volunteers with other relevant CCs to agree timetable.
    - **Action RF** to produce leaflets in the next few weeks for use at various festivals and drop-offs at local shops. **Action MA** to help with facts and a QR code on the boundary.
    - **Action RA** to produce a large, laminated map of the boundaries produced.
    - **Action RA** to produce a register of interest to join the Community Council.
    - **Action RA** to produce signing-sheets for the clock.

5. Planning

The detail of the Planning Report was discussed. Of note:

1. TXCC member updates to the Council on likely unlicenced Short-Term Lets gaining traction. In other cities AirBnB must display license numbers for every property advertised to ensure proper registration with council and tax being paid.
2. Increase in applications for student flats to become STLs May-September. STLs must pay business rates so this should bring in considerable extra revenue.
3. Application for change of use 62 Home St from retail. TXCC will not object as the council will accept regardless of the breach of over-provision rules. See below.
4. Wonderland on Lothian Road's conversion to a restaurant has been approved.
5. Gillespie Crescent decision still awaited.

6. Argyle House site, new proposal has emerged. **Action RC** to invite architect to the next meeting to present the proposal.

6. Licensing — Discussion on whether to object to extended opening hours, and the issue that the more late licenses are granted, the more residents move out, and the more STLs are here. It was noted that if our area of the city is to host tourists it ought to benefit from investment such as lighting, clear streets, resurfaced pavements.

7. AOCB

1. Discussion on whether reports of issues raised to Edinburgh City Council relating to Tollcross can be tracked by TXCC so that the council can be held to account over response rates and themes. **Action RA** to raise with Councillors at the next meeting.
2. Members agreed that adults cycling on the pavement is an increasing safety issue for residents and that signs reminding cyclists that this is illegal may be beneficial. **Action RF** to explore.

Meeting closed at 20.25.

Next meeting at 19.00, Wednesday 27 May 2026