

MARYFIELD AND COLDSIDE LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

Tuesday 10th February 2026 4pm-6pm Fleming Gardens Sheltered Lounge

MINUTES

Attendance:

Colin Echevaria – Police Scotland & Locality Leader	Jennifer Kincaid – Communities Officer
Lindsay Eppy – Hilltown Management Group Chair	Councillor Mark Flynn - Coldside
Councillor Lynne Short - Maryfield	Stuart Cochrane – Environment Department DCC
Sarah Hunter – Empowerment Team DCC	Helen Keith – Local Person
Murray Webster – Coldside Regeneration Forum	Norma Barber – Hilltown Community Larder
Kim Meek – Community Health Team DCC	Councillor Heather Anderson - Coldside
Errol Johnstone – Community Safety DCC	Holly Anderson – Antisocial Behaviour Team DCC
Margaret Wemyss – Coldside Community Forum	Beverley Ross – Health Inequalities Nursing Team NHS
Louise Campbell – St Peter and Pauls RC PS	Val Kane – Empowerment Team DCC
Vhairi Lawson – CLD Youth Team DCC	Kirsten Brownlie – Empowerment Team DCC
Councillor Ken Lynn – Maryfield	Colin Clement – Stobswell Forum
Catherine Donaldson - Health Inequalities Nursing Team NHS	
Jamie Lynch – Maryfield United Community Trust	Laura McKenzie – St Peter and Pauls RC PS

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Colin Echevaria welcomed the meeting. Colin introduced himself and gave a bit of background

Apologies noted from:

Alison Goodfellow, Baillie Helen Wright, Tracie McMillan, Fiona Reekie, Scottish Fire Service, Housing, Jennifer Heffell, Alison Connor, Louise Yanetta.

2. Introductions of organisations in attendance

Everyone went around the room and introduced themselves to highlight who was attending at other tables.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting approval

No list of attendees included. To be rectified then agreed.

Noted it is difficult to approve as a true record of the meeting due to café conversation style making it difficult to know if what was said at other tables is accurate.

Minutes were proposed by Heather Anderson and seconded by Lynne Isaacs.

JK

4. Matters Arising from previous LCPP

Subgroup – no walkabouts as yet due to weather in the first quarter of the year. Plans for these in the next few months.

5. Community Updates (Concise Version)

Protests in Hilltown & Stobswell

- Police Scotland adapted their response throughout the protests and took action when criminality occurred. Charges led to restrictions that ultimately disbanded the protest group.
- Hate-related and online offences are still under investigation.
- Thanks were expressed to Police Scotland, Communities Team, Social Work, Hillcrest, and community organisations for ongoing support.
- Residents reported feeling safe due to the police presence.

Make It Happen Fund

- Coldside and Maryfield each had **£30,000** to distribute.
- Maryfield: 10 trained panel members; 26 applications received, 24 funded.
- Coldside: 4 panel members; 6 applications received.
- Funding came from multiple sources and was delivered with support from *What Matters To You* and *Corra Foundation*.
- Celebration event held on **6 February**.
- New funded projects at Arthurstone Library include a community café and gardening initiatives, created by panel members.
- Some panel members will deliver a workshop in Stirling about their experience.
- Another **£30,000** will be distributed later this year.
- Both groups hope to recruit new members and fundraise for a learning trip to Würzburg, Germany. Police Scotland may be able to support this.

Updates from Attendees

- **Maryfield United Community Trust:** launching *Football Memories* at Forebank Care Home; partnering with *Dundee Sole* on knife-crime awareness for young people. Police Scotland may be involved.
- **Regeneration Forum:** engaged with Administration about maintaining the CRF; felt their concerns were heard.
- Noted that Maryfield's CRF allocation is the lowest despite high population; allocations follow SIMD data and census figures.
- **St Peter & Paul's:** seeking more greenery; applying for Tesco token schemes—public encouraged to vote with blue tokens.
- Suggestion to provide planters/seats from Eliza, but these are already committed elsewhere and cannot be reallocated.

6. Presentation: New Policing Model (Colin Ecchevarria)

Overview of the New Model

- Larger community policing teams will be introduced, each with a *named community officer* whose contact details will be published on Police Scotland Dundee.
- More officers will focus on **prevention**, reducing reliance on response policing.
- Two community inspectors will cover the city, handling priority calls and beat patrols.

Local Office Changes

- **Hilltown Police Office** will be staffed and will cover both Coldside and Maryfield wards.
- **Maryfield Office** will host national divisions. There will still be police presence in Maryfield, but officers will patrol when not engaged in national operations.
- Community members will still have a *named Maryfield officer* to contact.

Community Concerns & Responses

- Stobswell Forum has requested a meeting with Police Scotland, feeling the changes represent a loss for Maryfield. *Colin Clement* will arrange this.
- Concerns were raised about lack of community consultation. Colin Ecchevarria clarified that the office is not closing further and that the changes follow directives from the Scottish Government and the Chief Constable, meaning consultation was not part of the process.

Access & Engagement

- Public access will remain as before, with a **yellow phone** outside the station for contact.
- Noted desire for more face-to-face engagement; regular **"Coffee with a Cop"** sessions suggested.
- A patrol base will operate from the **Box Office** for city centre policing.

School & Specialist Officers

CE

CC

- No fixed school officers, but community-based officers may take on that role.
- Violence Reduction Officers can also support community needs.

7. Community Health & Wellbeing – Collated Summary

Current Health Issues in the Community

Substance Use & Addiction

- Drug misuse (including activity in multis in Coldsides).
- Alcohol-related issues.
- Need for recovery cafés and networks.
- Hope Point highlighted as a support.

Mental Health

- Poor mental health (often not visible).
- Loneliness and social isolation.
- Low self-esteem and lack of confidence.
- Waiting lists for services.

Poverty & Basic Needs

- Hunger and food insecurity.
- Cold, damp living conditions.
- Changing demographics leading to shifting needs.

Other Issues Raised

- Lack of visibility of services.
- Vulnerable young adults needing targeted support.
- Capacity gaps at weekends.
- Cleanliness and safety concerns in playparks.

What Currently Makes the Community Healthier

Social & Community Spaces

- Places where people meet and can be noticed if struggling:
 - Come Dine With Me
 - Wee Bonnet Café
 - Wellbeing Wednesdays
 - The Larder (social contact while queuing)
- Recovery cafés (existing and proposed in Stobswell).

Green Spaces & Physical Activity

- Dudhope Park, Fairmuir Park, Caird Park.
- CHT health walks and exercise groups.
- Football clubs offering community support.
- Walking bus to school.

Supportive Services

- Community nurses.
- Social prescribers.
- Dementia-trained police officer providing specialist support.
- Youth provision across areas.

Food & Holiday Support

- Projects reducing food costs.
- Holiday food offers.
- Sports/football camps.

What More Could Be Done to Improve Health

Better Communication & Publicity

- Promote available groups, activities, and support services more widely.
- Improve visibility of services to reduce stigma.
- Make better use of:
 - Community newsletters
 - Online platforms
 - Local papers (suggestion: *Health Week Spotlight*)

Stronger Partnerships & Connections

- Join up work between:
 - Housing
 - GPs
 - Community Safety
 - Police Scotland
- Improve prevention opportunities in substance misuse.
- Increase support for parents in accessible settings (e.g., pubs).

More Community-Based Provision

- More funding for community health work.
- Continued capacity building for individuals and groups.
- Free or low-cost holiday provision.
- Activities for younger adults who may be at risk.

Using Spaces Better

- Explore better use of green spaces in winter.
- Continue to keep parks clean, tidy, and safe.

Addressing Key Health Barriers

- Reduce waiting lists.
- Improve access to food.
- Tackle cold and damp housing conditions.

Shared Ideas From Group Discussions

- Substance misuse, hunger, isolation, and poor mental health remain top community concerns.
- Services becoming more visible is making needs easier to identify.
- Social opportunities help build confidence and belonging.
- Football clubs, recovery work, and community groups play a strong role.
- Communities often fill gaps when services drop off—this should be supported.
- Weekend gaps in support need addressed.

8. Action Groups – Updates and Developments

Hilltown Multis & City Centre Community Safety

- Colin E provided an update on community safety developments.
- A **large policing team** is now positioned in the city centre, with plans to **extend their work into surrounding areas**.
- Police Scotland are working with **CCHC**, local organisations, and city-centre businesses to address safety issues.
- The **Business Improvement District (BID) Fund** will include resources to help tackle city centre crime, though the process for accessing these funds is still unclear.
- Potential uses for BID funding include **improved lighting, drop-in centres, community cafés**, and similar safety-focused initiatives.

- BID proposals will go out to **ballot**.
 - Additional Police Scotland funding streams may support related work.
- Colin Clement noted concern at this subgroup being too specific. Noted that it covers areas of high levels of safety concerns and should be a short term project. Noted also that the LCPP two specific subgroups looking at areas within Stobswell specifically.

Stobswell West LFI

- Drop in is ongoing and a commitment to engaging with the community is being planned including Door Knocking. Housing and Private Sector Services have found it very difficult to engage with landlords in order to take action such as secure entry systems due to high volume.

Albert Street Action Group

Eliza Street Project Update

- Ongoing work connected to Eliza Street and the wider Albert Street area is ongoing but main actions are not moving forward and this will be investigated as to why.
- Group members reported they feel **unable to effectively engage with City Development** at present.
- A **sit-down meeting with City Development** is needed to progress discussions and unblock communication issues.

Jennifer Kincaid to take this forward.

JK

Health and Wellbeing Network

- Update shared by Kim.
- No meetings have taken place since **September**; the **next meeting is scheduled for early March**.
- Significant ongoing work around **menopause support**, including:
 - Menopause mentors
 - Local people trained to deliver sessions in the community
- Planning underway for **Green Health Week**, which will run across multiple community areas.

Alcohol and Drug Partnership (ADP)

- No update since previous meeting other than that funds have been allocated as per previous meeting.

Youth Inclusion

- This is developing to include youth voices in the LCPP.

9. **AOCB**

None

10. **Date, time and venue of next meetings.**

Tuesday 12th May 2026 Venue TBC in Maryfield