

THE BLACKET ASSOCIATION

(the “Association”)

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

(the “Committee”)

Held on 27th May 2025 at 7:30pm

Present: Susan Hezlet - Chairman and Communications (“SH”)
Ian Chisholm –Newsletter Editor (“IC”)
Stan Bird – Neighbourhood Watch (“SB”)
Richard Scothorne – Planning (“RS”)
Anne Sturrock – New residents (“AS”)
Hazel Clark – Minutes and Social Convener (“HC”)

Apologies: John Usher – Shrubbery (“JU”)
Colin Blair – Website Co-ordinator (“MB”)
Craig McMahon - Treasurer (“CM”)
Stewart Whiting – Shrubbery (“SW”)

1. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2025 were approved.

2. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

The list of open actions was discussed. The table of actions at the end of these minutes has been updated accordingly. IC had established that Ian McLeish owns the Elizabeth Blackadder water colour but the Association can reproduce and sell it for the benefit of the Association. Regarding who holds other items on behalf of the Association, IC was making some inroads – RS has various maps, Simon White has the gazebo. The embroidery is still missing. SB said he remembered laminated photos of the 5 streets and wondered who had them. It was agreed that the AGM would be a good time to ask residents. It was agreed that AS would do a stock take of all the cards and ask Arlene Doherty about the envelopes.

Action May25-01 – AS to do a stock take of all the note and Christmas cards created for the Association and ask Arlene Doherty about the envelopes.

3. OPEN GARDENS

It was agreed that HC would order the wine from Majestic as per the same amounts as last year, together with glasses and bags of ice. IC would get beer and SH would source soft drinks and crisps. HC would organise name stickers for residents as they arrive, instead of having them sign in on a sheet, as that worked well last year.

4. PLANNING MATTERS

RS reported that The Salisbury Arms planning application had been approved, which would increase their outdoor seating by 30%, including having 5 tables up against the wall bordering Blacket properties. The plan to have a deep freezer against the wall had thankfully been removed.

3 and 4 Alfred Place had gained planning permission to re-install cast iron railings. However, the quotes have been so expensive, they might opt for steel railings instead.

15 Dryden Place have revised their plans and are sensitive to the views of the neighbourhood so may be amenable to other changes if necessary.

RS advised that he had objected to the plans for 41 – 53 Ratcliffe Terrace on design grounds. There had been 136 objections lodged against the re-development of the old garage due to local residents' anxiety over the extent of student housing built recently. There was a lot of uncertainty about student numbers going forward given the new US policy on minimising its number foreign students.

5. GRANGE & PRESTONFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (the "GPCC")

IC advised that Ken Robertson had become the new chair of the GPCC and seemed to be more active than the previous chair. IC confirmed that the GPCC comprised the following five residential associations: Blacket, West Blacket, Craigmillar, Grange and Inverleith. The issue as to whether to make Blacket Avenue one-way was still no further forward unfortunately.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

SB was pleased to report there had been no more car crime. Things had been quiet. AS advised that during a litter picking session, she had found the back end of a car in the shrubbery at the west end of Mayfield Terrace and had informed the police.

7. BLACKET SHRUBBERIES WORKING PARTY ("SWP")

The most recent SWP had been very successful and had resulted in a very good clear up of the area. Several members of the Committee commented on the weeds at the end of Mayfield Terrace on Dalkeith Road and it was agreed that SB should inform JU so they could be removed during the next SWP.

Action - May25-02 – SB to inform JU about the weeds on Dalkeith Road at the end of Mayfield Terrace so they could be removed during the next shrubbery working party.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

In his absence, CM had sent an email reporting the following:

Opening balance (01/01/2025)	£4,790.11
Debits	
Cockburn Association S/O	-£40.00
Website payment	-£35.31

Majestic wine, ceilidh welcome drink	-£159.00
Ceilidh bank payment (50%)	-£290.00
Printing	-£42.50
<i>Total Debits</i>	<i>-£566.81</i>
Credits	
Ticket sales (48 tickets)	£240.00
Membership	£55.00
Cards Sales (2025 credits)	£56.00
<i>Total Credits</i>	<i>£351.00</i>
Live balance (26/05/2025)	£4,574.30

9. NEW RESIDENTS UPDATE

AS reported that 25 Blacket Place was under offer and she had delivered welcome notes to each of 6 Mayfield Terrace, 40 Blacket Place and 4 Mayfield Terrace. 10 Blacket Place was currently for sale. The new residents at 46A Blacket Place had not moved in yet.

10. WEBSITE UPDATE

[CB was absent but there was nothing of note to report.]

11. AOB

SH advised that residents of the Association had been invited to play croquet with the West Blacket Association in the Meadows on 11th July at 5:30pm. There were 50 tickets, £5 per person and residents were to bring their own picnic. SH would send out an email to residents to that effect.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting ended at 9pm and the date of the next meeting was to be confirmed but would likely be in September.

Hazel Clark
Secretary

SUMMARY of OPEN ACTIONS:

REF	ACTION	RESP	STATUS
<i>Jan17.04</i>	<i>Committee members to email AS with details of new residents for follow up.</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>Ongoing and working well.</i>
<i>Feb21.01</i>	<i>IC to raise with GPCC matter of illegal one-way entry to Dalkeith Rd from Blacket Place</i>	<i>IC</i>	<i>Ongoing.</i>
<i>May21.01</i>	<i>Committee members to look at the website and give CB their feedback</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>Ongoing.</i>
<i>Jan22.02</i>	<i>IC to chase up the nursery for a response to his complaint about nursery parents parking on Blacket Avenue.</i>	<i>IC</i>	<i>Situation has improved. Once the street becomes one-way the problem will be solved.</i>
<u><i>Mar25-03</i></u>	<i>IC to find out who currently holds the Association's original Elizabeth Blackadder print.</i>	<i>IC</i>	<i>Ian McLeish has the original but the Association can make reprints. Done - CLOSED</i>
<u><i>Mar25-04</i></u>	<i>IC to make up a list of who holds which items on behalf of the Association.</i>	<i>IC</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<u><i>Mar25-05</i></u>	<i>JU to ask his contact at the Council if they could reinstate the bin at the corner of Blacket Avenue and Minto Street to avoid people throwing rubbish into the shrubbery.</i>	<i>JU</i>	<i>Done - CLOSED</i>
<u><i>Mar25-06</i></u>	<i>JU to ask his contact at the university accommodation to spread the word about forthcoming SWP clean ups.</i>	<i>JU</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<u><i>May25-01</i></u>	<i>AS to do a stock take of all the note and Christmas cards created for the Association and ask Arlene Doherty about the envelopes</i>	<i>AS</i>	
<u><i>May25-02</i></u>	<i>SB to inform JU about the weeds on Dalkeith Road at the end of Mayfield Terrace so they could be removed during the next shrubbery working party.</i>	<i>SB</i>	