

THE BLACKET ASSOCIATION

(the “Association”)

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

(the “Committee”)

Held on 11th February 2026 at 7:30pm at 30 Mayfield Terrace

Present: Susan Hezlet - Chairman and Communications (“SH”)
Ian Chisholm – Vice Chair and GPCC rep (“IC”)
Anne Sturrock – New residents (“AS”)
Hazel Clark – Minutes and Social Convener (“HC”)
John Rosie – Website Co-ordinator (“JR”)
Richard Scothorne – Planning (“RS”)
Craig McMahon - Treasurer (“CM”)
Stewart Whiting – Shrubbery Working Party (“SW”)

Apologies: Stan Bird – Neighbourhood Watch (“SB”)
John Usher – Shrubbery Working Party (“JU”)

1. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

SH welcomed John Rosie to his first Committee meeting as the Association’s website co-ordinator.

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 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.

3. UPDATE POST AGM

The Committee reviewed the actions from the AGM and noted that RS was in possession of the laminated map of the Blacket area.

SH asked whether anyone had seen the Blacket history items held in the Edinburgh University Library Heritage Collections. It was suggested that a link be put on the website to the Heritage Collections so that residents could find out more.

Action26-Feb-01 – JR to add a link to the Edinburgh University Library Heritage Collections on the website so residents can find out more about Blacket history.

SB had gone with Alison Mowat to the latest GPCC meeting to discuss the traffic issues along Blacket Avenue.

4. OPEN GARDENS

Caroline and Charlie Ross-Stewart at 13 Blacket Place have offered their garden to host the open garden drinks. They would like the date to be Friday 29th May as that is when their garden looks its best.

SH asked the Committee to continue asking other residents if they were willing to open their gardens for viewing before the drinks at 7pm.

5. PLANNING MATTERS

RS reported that there weren't any new planning applications to report. Both garage ones on Causewayside have gone to appeal. SH advised that she was still looking into whether it was possible to make original sash and case windows double glazed.

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

IC reported that the person producing the community wide newsletter for the GPCC – Cori Schwabe – lives on Mayfield Terrace. IC wondered about asking her to join the Committee and then she could become the Association's representative on the GPCC.

Action26-Feb-02 – IC to ask Cori Schwabe if she would like to join the Committee.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

SB was not present but had sent SH and HC his update.

He had nothing to report apart from going to a recent meeting of the GPCC to support a resident in making representations about the speed/safety issues along and through Blacket. Councillor Pauline Flannery seemed to be listening and positive but not sure what can be done. The "quiet route" issue seems to have been put on the back burner pending the trams thing.

8. BLACKET SHRUBBERIES WORKING PARTY ("SWP")

SW advised that JU had asked his contact at the Council if they will pay to replace the rotting fence posts on Blacket Avenue. They think they can do it after April when they are in a new financial year. Worst case, the Association has the budget to replace the rotten posts. AS mentioned that there used to be a fence opposite the nursery. Discussions ensued as to whether the Association should put it back with a lower risk of litter, dog waste and fewer places for unsavoury characters to hide.

SW will speak to JU to agree the dates for the next few SWP clear ups.

Action26-Feb-03 – SW or JU to give SH three or four dates for SWP 2026 clear-ups which can be emailed to residents.

SW reported that he and JU had removed three Christmas trees left lying on the streets. SW was still getting free plants from Inch nursery which everyone agreed was wonderful - local nurseries looking after local areas.

JR told the Committee that he had had a leak on the pavement outside his house and the repair had discovered lead pipes bringing the water into his house from the mains. The Committee felt that it would be a good idea to inform residents to have their pipes checked.

Action26-Feb-04 – JR to provide SH with a link to the Council’s website where residents can request to have their water feed changed from lead.

9. TREASURER’S REPORT

CM reported that since the AGM there had been outlays for bank charges, AGM drinks, Cockburn Association membership. However, there had been income from the sale of Blacket cards of £135 and £605 from subscriptions, so the Association’s new bank balance was £5250.

SH is finally a new signatory on the Association’s bank account. Anne Henderson is still a signatory so she needs to be removed. CM can do that online.

Action26-Feb-05 – CM to remove Anne Henderson as a signatory from bank account.

10. NEW RESIDENTS UPDATE

AS advised that she’d delivered 4 welcome packs to: 6 Blacket Place; 25 Blacket Place; 22 Blacket Place; and 15 Blacket Place. The welcome packs contain:

- General updated information about the Association, the current Committee names and responsibilities, website details, imminent dates and 3 card samples; and
- A personalised handwritten orchid card welcoming them to their new home.

In relation to the cards – the Blackadder/Blacket Avenue Orchid, Blacket Place East and the Pillars and the Christmas wreaths - a good number of packs were sold at the AGM. The email which went out asking if people want to order any cards was well taken up. The orders were delivered and many other packs were sold too.

AS had been liaising with CM and enabling people pay for the cards by BACS. Many payments are by cash and then Anne credits the Association.

Discussions ensued re putting events up on the website. However, it was decided that it may lead to gate crashers, therefore the residents’ newsletter and emails remained the best option.

11. WEBSITE UPDATE

JR had met with Colin Blair for a handover, who gave JR a tour of the structure of the website and the passwords etc. JR will put the last few sets of minutes up onto the website. Domain fee is per annum. SW pointed out that JR needed to know all the passwords for the domain name account etc. in order to pay for the annual renewals. SH advised that the contact name for the domain etc was still Bob Couples. JR agreed to try to change it to his name and to talk to SH about the database.

Action26-Feb-06 – JR to change contact name for the domain name from Bob Couples and also to discuss the database with SH.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

SW reported that the specialist he had contacted to quote for repainting the street signs, had finally got back to him and hoped to provide him with a quote soon. Discussions followed as to whether the street signs should be hand painted or sprayed and it was decided that hand-painted would be best.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting ended at 9pm and the date of the next meeting was 23rd of April.

Hazel Clark
Secretary

SUMMARY of OPEN ACTIONS:

REF	ACTION	RESP	STATUS
<u>Jan17.04</u>	Committee members to email AS with details of new residents for follow up.	All	Ongoing and working well.
<u>Feb21.01</u>	IC to raise with GPCC matter of illegal one-way entry to Dalkeith Rd from Blacket Place	IC	Ongoing.
<u>May21.01</u>	Committee members to look at the website and give CB their feedback	All	Ongoing.
<u>Mar25-04</u>	IC to make up a list of who holds which items on behalf of the Association.	IC	Ongoing
<u>Mar25-06</u>	JU to ask his contact at the university accommodation to spread the word about forthcoming SWP clean ups.	JU	Ongoing
<u>Oct25-01</u>	AS to ask previous resident, Sandra Carter, if she can remember who holds the Association's embroidery.	AS	AS had asked around – ongoing.
<u>Oct25-02</u>	SB to send video about keyless car safety to SH so she can email it to residents.	SB and SH	After reviewing it, SB decided it wasn't of any benefit to residents – CLOSED.
<u>Oct25-03</u>	JU to provide SH with date for next SWP leaf collection, so she can email residents.	JU	Done – CLOSED.

REF	ACTION	RESP	STATUS
<u>Oct25-04</u>	<i>JU to ask his contact at the Council if they will pay to replace the rotting fence posts on Blacket Avenue.</i>	<i>JU</i>	<i>Should happen in new financial year – CLOSED.</i>
<u>Oct25-05</u>	<i>HC to send CB copy of latest minutes for upload onto website.</i>	<i>HC</i>	<i>Done – CLOSED.</i>
<u>Feb26-01</u>	<i>JR to add a link to the Edinburgh Heritage library on the website so residents can find out more about Blacket history.</i>	<i>JR</i>	
<u>Feb26-02</u>	<i>IC to ask Cori Schwabe if she would like to join the Committee.</i>	<i>IC</i>	
<u>Feb26-03</u>	<i>SW or JU to give SH three or four dates for 2026 SWP clear ups which can be emailed to residents.</i>	<i>SW/JU</i>	
<u>Feb26-04</u>	<i>JR to provide SH with a link to the Council's website where residents can request to have their water feed changed from lead.</i>	<i>JR</i>	
<u>Feb26-05</u>	<i>CM to remove Anne Henderson as a signatory from bank account.</i>	<i>CM</i>	
<u>Feb26-06</u>	<i>JR to change contact name for the domain name from Bob Couples and to discuss the database with SH.</i>	<i>JR</i>	