

## **MINUTE of the MEETING**

Grosvenor & Lansdowne Crescents Proprietors Committee  
Monday 1 December 2025 at 17.00  
Bishop's House, 4 Lansdowne Crescent

**Full Audio & Part Video Recorded**

### **ATTENDEES**

Angus M R Tod (Chair), Ross Robertson (Treasurer), Leonora J H McAndrew, Stuart McKenzie, Richard Spalding, Sarah Henderson, Catherine Ilett, Alistair P O H Guild and Anne Tod.

Also present by the Chair's invitation were Wendy Kay to fill the place vacated by the previous Secretary, and Gordon M Wyllie, to act as a witness to the first part of the meeting.

The following persons had also entered Leonora McAndrew's home on the tail of Ross Robertson, Sarah Henderson and Catherine Ilett (who had arrived in a body right on the commencement time, just before the arrival of Richard Spalding) despite being asked to leave by the Chair and Dr McAndrew: -

Iain Cameron, Linda Pollock, Janet Mountford-Smith

*(It was claimed days later that Sarah Henderson had invited Iain Cameron, that Ross Robertson had invited his Linda Pollock, and that Richard Spalding had invited Janet Mountford-Smith)*

### **WELCOME, APOLOGIES, and UNSEEMLY INTRUSION**

The Chairman welcomed the Committee members and asked the others not there by his invitation to leave. They noisily refused to do so, in defiance of Leonora McAndrew's repeated request.

Despite the presence of these intruders and to avoid a shouting match, the Chairman decided it would be better to continue the meeting than to cancel it,

Apologies for absence were tendered on behalf of Kate Bruce, who was reported to have resigned from the Committee.

### **PURPORTED CONSTITUTION**

In the face of frequent interruptions from the intruders, including a menacing advance upon the Chair by Ross Robertson, from which several attendees had to raise from their seat to

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intervene, Mr Tod advised that a number of Proprietors had contacted him to protest about the irregular Poll that had been conducted by the Constitution Working Group (CWG).

Without leave from her chair, Linda Pollock commented that the majority of the Proprietors who had participated in the Poll had voted in favour of the Constitution's adoption. Stuart McKenzie pointed out that the Constitution was not legally acceptable, and that proprietors had not been told that legal guidance had not been sought. Stuart McKenzie continued stating that as a result proprietors would have voted for it assuming it was legally acceptable.

Mr Tod explained how the purported adoption of the CWGs draft Constitution had exacerbated the property dispute and a number of the dissatisfied Proprietors had taken independent legal advice.

Although not invited to comment, Iain Cameron said that this was over dramatic and he did not think there was a title dispute.

At the conclusion of Mr Tod's remarks, Mrs Mountford-Smith explained that she, and the other intruders who had forced their way into the meeting, said that the CWG of which she was a member, now accept that appropriate legal advice was required before any attempt to implement the Constitution which they believed had been validly enacted.

After some discussion, Richard Spalding undertook to take responsibility, along with other members of the CWG, for drafting a communication to all Proprietors in the name of the Group regarding the legal challenges to the claim that the Constitution had been adopted, and the suspension of procedures under it to elect a new Committee.

The Chair felt it would be best to take legal advice before this was done.

Mrs Mountford-Smith went on to say that a common understanding had to be reached in order that everyone might be extricated from the morass. The way to do that was to take a legal Opinion from an expert or firm acceptable to both sides of the debate. Everyone present agreed to this. It was remitted to Mrs Mountford-Smith and the Chair to carry this forward, and Dr Wyllie agreed to assist them in framing in neutral terms the questions that needed to be put.

*(Gordon Wyllie left at this point)*

## **APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY**

In accordance with a previous decision of the Committee that Wendy Kay would become a member at the first vacancy, this had happened upon Gordon Wyllie's resignation, and therefore Wendy Kay was appointed as a Committee Member. Angus Tod suggested Wendy Kay also take on the role of Secretary. Sarah Henderson stated that she wanted to succeed Gordon Wyllie as Secretary. It was agreed by majority that Wendy Kay would act as

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Interim Secretary for this meeting, and an action was taken to discuss further at the next committee meeting. In the meantime, the Chairman suggested that any other member who wished to be considered for the position of Secretary should get in touch with him.

## **MINUTES**

Although the Chair had prepared a draft Minute of the Committee's transactions on 21.10.25 as agreed, Sarah Henderson, without request or authority, had prepared an alternative narrative. After some discussion Mr Tod's version was approved. *(Mr Robertson tried to persuade the Chair to agree that Professor Henderson's draft might be included in the record, but this was subsequently disapproved.)*

## **STATE OF THE GARDEN**

When the meeting moved on to discuss the Tree Report, Richard Spalding said that he had received an e-mail from the City of Edinburgh Council accusing him of chopping down trees without permission. The e-mail was not shared with the Committee.

It was agreed that all the trees should be photographed, and the Chair advised that Adam Riedi would prepare a further report on the leylandii opposite the boundary between 8 and 9 Grosvenor Crescent, which Mr Riedi felt do not pose any immediate risk.

It was suggested that in case the leylandii needed to be felled a precautionary application be made to the City Council, and a discussion followed about their general suitability in any event.

## **FINANCE**

The Chair reported on the operation of the bank account and it was agreed to appoint two new signatories.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The meeting ended with an inconclusive discussion whether or not to install a notice board in the garden.

Before everyone left, Dr McAndrew was thanked for hosting the meeting.

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