Leith Chooses Meeting Notes, 08 July 2026

Present: Abigail, Bruce, Don, Donna, Jason, Jack, Lisa, Rachel, Susan, Sally, Tremaine
Apologies: Naomi

1 Requirements/expectations for vote and awards venues

1.1 Voting day

1.1.1 Requirements

- Known community location
- Lift, accessible toilets
- Free or funded
- Near public transport
- SG has good contacts/comms with the venue
- Big enough

1.1.2 Options (NB any change might confuse people)

- Leith Community Centre – so long as they guarantee (good comms about) the lift.
  - Action: Sally / Susan to write to Community Centre re accessibility /lift
  - There were very few complaints about the way we mitigated the lack of lift in January 2026. In extremis, we might be able to borrow a wheelchair (insurance permitting) to push people up the ramp. We should also prepare in advance better signage/comms around the lift being out of action, but only deploy them if the lift is actually not working.
  - To be decided later: do we want the café on the voting day?
  - Action: Jack to liaise with CEC asset team about lift signage and maintenance.
  - Action: Tremaine to liaise with relevant CEC colleagues re lift signage and maintenance.
- Out of the Blue
  - This might hold 20 to 25 stalls but may not have sufficient space for stalls and circulation of voters, ballot boxes, OOTB café, etc. etc.
- Ocean Terminal
  - Probably on the balcony or the 'community space', which is small – although OT is now less occupied.
  - Might be harder to get to

1.2 Awards event

1.2.1 Possible Options

- Kinnaird Hall in Leith Community Centre
- City Chambers
- Norton Park
  - Action: Rachel to ascertain dimensions.
  - Action: Susan to ask Keith Roberts about whether it could be made available at no cost
- Leith Theatre
  - Action: Jack to ask if it might be made available free for community event

2 Record the final decision on theme

- Winner: Greater Leith harmony
- We need to explain this on our website, social media etc. Can we work with CEC comms etc? We could also use word clouds.

3 Record final decision on terms of reference

- Changes to implement
  - Concern about possible out-of-Leith takeover
  - Proxy arrangements are too complicated in version 4. People should just tell the chair and vice-chair, and the CEC officers, who is their proxy – and how long this appointment is to last.
  - All 'must' to become 'will'.
  - Upper limit on SG membership to be 15; quorum to be 5
  - Other points noted by Rachel in version 4. (This version is on Bruce's OneDrive.)

4 Changes to application form

- Action: Rachel to look at timeline and 'Discussion & Ideas' doc, as agreed last week & circulate any points that would affect Application Form. Abby to circulate current version of application form. All to note / circulate any suggestions for changes.
- The question about offers of meetings with the steering group will be removed, as will the request for bank account details.

5 Registration forms for support sessions

- Action: Naomi/Tremaine to make these.

6 Changes to guidance notes

- Action: Jack to circulate 'LeithChooses 2026-27 ideas/discussion points' (done ☺)
- Action: Bruce to circulate current draft. (done ☺)
- Action: All to note/circulate any suggestions for changes.

7 Items for subsequent meetings

- 15 July meeting - Boost vote and voting process
- 22 July meeting – Final decisions on Application Form and Guidance Notes, Registration forms for support session?