

Leith Chooses Meeting Notes, 16 September 2026

Present: Abby, Bruce, Don, Jack, Jason, Lisa, Naomi, Rachel, Sally, Susan.

Apologies: Tremaine

1 Updates from CEC

Tables and chairs are booked for voting day – cost is about £600.

- It was noted that we need safety gloves to set up the tables and chairs because they are rusty and scratchy.
Action: Naomi/Tremaine to purchase a few sets.
- Smoothy-bike booking is in progress. It was recalled that it was noisy last year, so we should think about its location.
- Naomi is trying to get the face-painter onto CEC's procurement list.
- Catering will be delivered directly to the Kirkgate – actual delivery date TBC but Kirkgate can store anything that doesn't need to be refrigerated.
- Naomi and Tremaine are working out which option for employing janitorial staff for the day will be best.
- Abby and Naomi will staff an applicant-support session – 7 bookings so far.
- **Action: steering group to bear in mind for 2027-28 that sessions later within the application window are more popular.**
- Some organisations have asked for one-to-one sessions. (Bruce is doing one tomorrow morning.)

1.1 Lamp-post wraps to advertise voting

Naomi and Tremaine have shared a map of lamp-post wraps. (They will be installed by 'Build Hollywood'.)

- **Action: steering group to consider alternatives.** Suggestions around diluting a cluster of 2 on Leith Walk include:
 - 1 at junction of Pilrig St and Bonnington Rd (south-east corner of cemetery)
 - 1 at bottom of Broughton St (or somewhere nearby in the LC area).

It was noted that the QR codes on the wraps link to the voting site.

- It was suggested that the target link should include a (link to) a map of the LC area and/or something saying 'this is for you if you live, work, study and/or volunteer in the LC area'.

2 Applications

No further applications yet.

- Naomi and Tremaine email comments to applicants once the steering group enters their combined thoughts into the tracker. (They have done so for the sole applicant so far, but this applicant has not yet replied.)

3 Transient visitor levy PB scheme

- The application window for this is likely to be over the winter (i.e. not clashing with LC's application window).
- The TVL PB CEC official gave a presentation at this week's NTBCC's meeting. He made it clear that TVL PB and LeithChoose are entirely separate. For example, TVL PB voting will not be in January so it won't clash with LC. There was discussion of other aspects of the TVL PB that are not directly relevant to LC so are not noted here.

4 Communications

- The videos recorded last week are doing well.
- 2 more are in the pipeline.
- We have £110 limit for spending on social media boosting. It was suggested to concentrate this towards the voting period.
- **Action: Jack to bring his video kit to the next meeting and/or whenever we will record new videos.**

5 Timelines

- The possibility of extending the application window if there are insufficient applications by 12 October was discussed. It was noted that organisations that have met such deadlines may be upset because others are being given unfair extra time.
 - **Action: Jack to add this topic to the '2027-28 discussion items' list.**
 - It was suggested that LC puts out a statement saying 'there will be no extension in this year (2026-27)' or that 'extensions will not happen next year'. This would go out with one of the regular emails Naomi and Tremaine send out. It was noted that some applications need some work to be eligible, and that all questions on the form are mandatory.
 - **Action: the email will have the 'get on with it' message, but in nicer wording.**
 - **Action: Sally to draft this hard line, then email it to Naomi.**

6 AOB

- Broughton St Mary's has invoiced £20 for an application support session.
 - **Action: Naomi and Tremaine to ensure payment.**