Doug Neville, NTBCC convenor for Culture & Communities.
Report for meeting of 14 September 2026.

C&CC

Since the last meeting of NTBCC on 10 August 2026 there have been two meetings of the C&C Committee. My notes below refer to items that appear to relate to NTBCC, either directly or by being citywide.

Meeting of 13 Aug 2026

Core Agenda.

7 Items for Decision

7.1 Petition for Consideration: Save Gate 55 - referral from the Education, Children and Families Committee

7.2 Petition for Consideration: Urgent Investment Required Play Facilities at Inverleith Park – Report by Chief Executive

7.3 Management Rules for Streets and Civic Spaces – Report by the Corporate Director of Place

7.4 Visitor Levy - New Project Update – Report by the Corporate Director of Place

7.5 Third Party Cultural Grant Funding 2027-28 – Report by the Corporate Director of Place

7.6 Public Art Update – Report by the Corporate Director of Place

7.7 Edinburgh Museums and Galleries: Policy Renewals 2026-2029 – Report by the Corporate Director of Place

7.8 Novation of Edinburgh Leisure Energy Contracts – Report by the Corporate Director of Place.

8 Items for Scrutiny

8.1 Police Scotland - Edinburgh City Division Scrutiny Report 2025/26 - April to September 2025 (Quarters 3 and 4) – Report by Chief Executive

8.2 Decisions taken under urgency by Corporate Directors - Summer of Sport 2026 – Report by the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Communities.

9 Motions

9.1 Emergency Motion by Councillor McFarlane - Conservation of the Parliament Cairn.

My Notes

The agenda included item 7.5 – Third Party Cultural Grant Funding 2027-28. (Including the use of Visitor Levy proceeds.) A deputation by the Edinburgh Festivals was to be made to the meeting. In the event the Chair noted that this matter was to be referred to a future meeting. This was widely reported in the press at the time.

The Agenda noted the following items relevant to NTBCC through the **Ward Calling and Special Interest.** Process. (Wards 5, **11** & 12):

6.1 Business Bulletin - Park Lighting Update: Ward 12

Citywide approval for £500k funding, including Calton Hill:

"*In relation to **Calton Hill**, the initial proposal is likely to be phased. The first phase will consider a review and an upgrade of the existing lit routes, where necessary, which officers aim to progress in 2026/27. However, subsequent design to consider new lighting will involve World Heritage Site and other stakeholders. Any new lighting should recognise Calton Hill's heritage and other designations, which have important implications on the forms of lighting that may be suitable. Future phasing should coincide with the masterplan work for Edinburgh Visitor Levy investment (earmarked for 2029/30)*."

6.1 Business Bulletin - The Edinburgh Nature Network: Ward 12

This relates to the Edinburgh Nature Network project. Leith was chosen as a pilot, hence the notification to Ward 12.

7.3 Management Rules for Streets and Civic Spaces: Ward 11

The C&CC is asked to

"*Agree that wider "Management Rules for Streets and Civic Spaces" will be developed for various activities including, but not limited to, busking, street trading, providing street tours and unauthorised political activities;"*

The executive summary states:

"*This report responds to the request from Committee that Officers develop on-street management rules for areas where busking is an issue. The report expands on the action to create on-street busking rules and proposes additional management rules to regulate and manage unauthorised political activities, begging, street trading and advertised tours.*

Following further development and engagement to develop "Management Rules for Streets and Civic Spaces", under Section 112 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, a Public Notice will be issued outlining the proposed on-street management rules. This will be supported by an online system that will be developed to manage approvals for the activities noted above."

Discussion on inclusion of begging in the report. Discussion on busking rules, certain areas highlighted but would apply citywide. Also rights to protest. Overriding requirement to allow activities whilst ensuring public safety.

A further workshop to be held.

Items of Citywide interest

9.1 Emergency Motion by Councillor McFarlane - Conservation of the Parliament Cairn.

A presentation was made for CEC to adopt the Cairn and maintain it through the Calton Hill Management Plan. The motion was agreed.

Meeting of 13 Aug 2026 – Special Meeting

Core Agenda.

7 **Items for Decision**

7.1 Firework Control Zone Implementation – Report by the Corporate Director of Place.

1.1.2 Agree to implement five FCZs in Corstorphine, Longstone, Gracemount, Moredun, and Sighthill/ Broomhouse for two years, with timings aligned to Police Scotland Dispersal Zones for Bonfire Night;

1.1.3 Agree to implement five FCZs in Lochend, Liberton, Stenhouse/ Gaskell, Wester Hailes and West Pilton for the period 30 October – 8 November 2026 (inclusive); and

1.1.4 Note that an update will be prepared for Committee in February 2027 on the outcome of the 2026 FCZs.

All items were Approved.

7.2 Third Party Cultural Grant Funding 2027-28 – Report by the Corporate Director of Place.

The Committee did not reach full agreement on the report and the amendments. Now referred to full Council.

END.