



Hunters Hall Co-op News

Winter 2017

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New Committee Room

Over the last few months work has been going on to convert the store at 56 Niddrie House Avenue (NHA) into a new committee room for the Co-op. The first stage was to make new bin stores for the tenants living in 56 NHA. This meant the old bin stores could be removed.

The new committee room has: proper heating, an accessible toilet, proper lighting, a ramp so it is fully accessible and a small kitchen area for making teas and coffees. There is

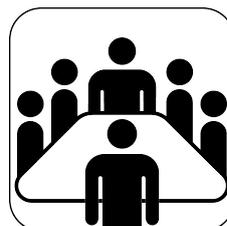
good quality lighting, new insulation to make sure that the heaters will keep the room warm.

The committee room will also be available to hire from the Co-op for a small charge on a sessional basis by local community groups.

The Co-op Office will manage the letting of the Committee Room.

How to hire the committee room:

- The room can be hired by local community groups
- The room is currently only available weekdays during the day
- Your group will need to have a constitution
- A small charge (£1 for Hunters Hall groups) will be made
- You will need to book the room in advance and sign a hiring form
- Just before your booking starts you will need to collect the keys from the Co-op's Office
- The room will need to be left clean and tidy. Once your session is finished you will have to return the keys to the Co-op's Office.



Special General Meeting - Rule Change

*Hunters Hall's
rules are now
up-to-date. The
new rules allow
the committee to
co-opt external
people with expert
knowledge onto
the Committee*

On the 5th July a Special General Meeting was called to approve the Co-op's new rules. Not enough people turned up (the Co-op's rules state 10% must turn up for a SGM to go ahead) so the meeting was re-arranged for the following week.

On the 12th July, enough Co-op Members attended the meeting. The Co-op's solicitor Mark Ewing from T C Young was at the meeting to deal with any legal queries.

The meeting agreed to change the Co-op's rules and on the 2nd August the Financial Conduct Authority approved the changes.

The new rules are the ones which were circulated to all Members before the SGM. They were watermarked "draft" but no changes have been made since then.

If anyone wants another copy of the rules, please contact the office and a copy will be posted out or emailed to you.

Speeding cars

Hunters Hall children are often playing out and about on the estate. Hunters Hall is also home to older people and others who are vulnerable pedestrians. Across Edinburgh, 20MPH speed limits are being introduced to reduce the number of pedestrians being killed and hurt. Hunters Hall has a 20MPH speed limit. Please respect the speed limit.

*You are much less
likely to kill or se-
riously hurt some-
one if you are
travelling at
20MPH rather
than 30MPH*



Help with Personal Finances

All Hunters Hall tenants can get help and support with financial matters—including welfare benefits advice

Fiona Bonar, the Co-op's Welfare Rights Officer, can visit to check that you are getting all the benefits and services to which you are entitled. She can also help with any problems with benefits or tax credits including form completion, challenging overpayments and appeals. In addition she can give advice on the impact of education and employment and can provide money advice if you have debts.

Fiona works with Hunters Hall one day a week, usually Wednesdays. If you would like Fiona to visit now or in the future, please get in touch on 0131 657 3379 to arrange an appointment.

Fiona can help with:

- ◆ Welfare Benefits
- ◆ Opening a bank account
- ◆ Budgeting



Fiona is the Co-op's long-standing Welfare Rights Officer. She normally works with the Co-op on a Wednesday. If you want Fiona's help just call the Co-op - she can meet you in the office or offer a home visit



Monday Meet Ups

MONDAY MEET UP'S

**ADD SOME LAUGHTER TO YOUR MONDAY,
MEET NEW PEOPLE AND RELAX AT OUR NEW
SOCIAL GROUP.**

**STARTING MONDAY 11TH
SEPTEMBER
@ THISTLE FOUNDATION
5.30-7.30PM**

Please feel free to come along , this is for anyone aged 18 or over. There will be opportunity to chat over cake , play board games and compete in quiz nights. This is a new group and each week the group themselves deciding on ideas for activities.

For more Information contact Dani Waddell:
Dani.Waddell@thistle.org.uk
079 09 25 74 15



The Thistle Foundation is very close to the Co-op. Their address is:

13 Queen's Walk, Craigmillar, Edinburgh EH16 4EA

Condensation

Condensation can be a problem in all homes but can actually be worse in homes with up-to-date windows. This is because new windows insulate well and keep cold air out and warm moist air in.

As we go about our everyday lives we produce moisture and steam especially in rooms such as kitchens and bathrooms but in other rooms such as bedrooms too. At night our breath produces half a litre of water as we sleep.



Top 10 Tips to avoid condensation:

- ❶ Avoid drying clothes indoors if you can. When you buy a tumble dryer make sure either you can vent the air or you buy a 'condensing' type of dryer
- ❷ Don't boil kettles or pans for longer than you have to and put lids onto saucepans
- ❸ When you are cooking or having a bath or shower close the kitchen / bathroom door
- ❹ To reduce steam, part fill your bath with cold water before topping up with hot
- ❺ Try not to overfill cupboards and wardrobes. Don't push furniture r right up against walls. Leave enough room for air to circulate
- ❻ Close curtains at dusk to keep heat in. Open the trickle vents on your window
- ❼ In steamy kitchens open a window
- ❽ In really cold weather it can be a good idea to leave heating on a low setting all day

Dog Fouling

Our recent Tenant Satisfaction Survey identified the problem of dog fouling as a serious concern to tenants. We know that most dog owners act responsibly but there are a few who don't.

If you own a dog, please act responsibly and dispose of any mess caused by your dog. The City of Edinburgh Council can impose fines between £80 and £100 on irresponsible dog owners who do not pick up and dispose of their dog's fouling.

You can report dog fouling direct to Edinburgh City Council. There is more information and an online form to report fouling on their website: www.tinyurl.com/y99xyqh9

Dog fouling can have serious consequences. See recent Scotsman article opposite about a tenant who was evicted for allowing their dog to foul.



Litter and dog mess make Hunters Hall a less pleasant place to live. Please don't drop litter, encourage children not to drop litter and don't leave your dog's mess lying around

Hunters Hall Pet Registration Scheme

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the Co-op has a Pet Registration Scheme. This scheme was set up a few years ago to try and control the number of pets within our area and to make sure that Tenants who own pets look after them properly. The

scheme is primarily aimed at dog owners.

The aim of the Pet Registration Scheme is to make sure that all Co-op Tenants benefit from a cleaner, safer and healthier environment.

If you wish to keep a pet, you must apply to the co-op for permission.

If you fail to register your pet or you continually break the Pet Registration Rules you may be required to find an alternative home for your pet.

Please contact Sylvia at the Co-op office if you suspect / know of any Member who has not registered their pet or who allow their dog to foul in Co-op areas.



Housing association tenant in Aboyne evicted over dog fouling

A housing association tenant has been evicted from her property after a two-and-a-half year-long battle over her dogs being allowed to foul in communal areas.

The tenant of Langstane Housing Association was warned about complaints from neighbours as far back as August 2014, with the registered social landlord withdrawing permission for her to keep her pets.

The woman, who has not been named, assured the association there would be no more problems with her dogs, and she was allowed to have the animals live alongside her at the property in Aboyne.

But after further complaints from neighbours, the association again withdrew permission for the pets. It said the tenant was given a “reasonable opportunity” to find an alternative home for the animals but “refused to do so”.

In turn, Langstane began legal action to end her tenancy, with its solicitor applying for an eviction order.

At a hearing at Aberdeen Sheriff Court in December 2016, the tenant admitted she had persistently allowed her dogs to foul in the common areas and had not cleaned up after them.

Helen Gauld, chief executive of Langstane, said issues with dog fouling was a major concern for its tenants across the North-east and warned it would be prepared to take legal action against other owners.

She said: “The association recognises that owning a pet can have a beneficial effect on the physical health and social wellbeing of our tenants.

“However, during our recent customer satisfaction survey dog fouling was highlighted as a major antisocial behaviour issue for our tenants.

Come to our
first Christmas Fair
at Thistle's Centre
of Wellbeing

Saturday 2 December
Doors open at 12.30

Carol singing,
crafts, cards, cakes,
artisan products, gifts,
refreshments and plenty
of Christmas cheer.
Christmas raffle.
Free Tai Chi taster
sessions.

Entry £1
on the door
(under 16's free)

Thistle Foundation
13 Queens Walk
Craigmillar
Edinburgh, EH16 4EA
T: 0131 661 3366
www.thistle.org.uk

Company No. 24409 Charity No. SC016816

thistle
Foundation

The Thistle Foundation is very close to the Co-op. Their address is:

13 Queen's Walk, Craigmillar, Edinburgh EH16 4EA

The City of Edinburgh Council want to consult you on next year's budget. They state: ***“The challenges the Council faces will require further change to the way services operate, it will require the Council to work more effectively with partners to meet the needs of shared customers, and it will require difficult decisions about the role of local government in the provision of some services. It is therefore essential that citizens of Edinburgh and all other stakeholders have a voice in that process.”***



The infographic features a green background with a white grid pattern. At the top left, the title "Council Budget 2018/19" is written in large, bold, white letters. To the right is a 3D illustration of a city street with buildings, a tram, and a church spire. Below the title are four 3D icons: three pound signs in yellow, green, and blue labeled "Decreasing budgets"; a group of people on a rising staircase labeled "Changing population"; a group of people at a service desk labeled "More demand for services"; and a person at a computer labeled "Improving technology". Orange lines connect these icons to a central white box containing the text: "Tell us what you think about our budget plans by 19 December 2017." Below this box is the website "www.edinburgh.gov.uk/PlayYourPart" and the hashtag "#PlayYourPart". At the bottom left is the City of Edinburgh Council logo with the text "HAPPY TO TRANSLATE Phone 242 8381 and quote ref. 17-2590". At the bottom right is the "EDINBURGH THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL" logo.

Council Budget 2018/19

Decreasing budgets

Changing population

More demand for services

Improving technology

Tell us what you think about our budget plans by 19 December 2017.

www.edinburgh.gov.uk/PlayYourPart
#PlayYourPart

HAPPY TO TRANSLATE
Phone 242 8381 and
quote ref. 17-2590

EDINBURGH
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

If you do not have access to the internet or if you would just like more information there are a few leaflets available from the Co-op's Office. Just pop in during opening hours to pick up a leaflet.

Committee of Hunters Hall Co-op

The Committee are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

At this year's AGM held on 7th September, new members were elected and the longest serving

committee members who needed to step-down were also re-elected.

After the AGM there were thirteen committee members, The maximum number is fifteen.

The committee will be looking to appoint external co-optees with specialist knowledge to support the committee.



After the AGM

there were thirteen

Committee

Members.

The Co-op must

have at least seven

Committee

Members or it

cannot continue.

Who are the Committee?

After the AGM the Committee were:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Elizabeth Clark | Chair | • Tapiwa Matipano |
| • Hannah Williamson | Vice chair | • Roisin Smith |
| • Laura McLachlan | Treasurer | • Asu Negash |
| • Clare Fleming | | • Frank Grozier |
| • John Radcliffe | | • Ezani Baharuddin |
- (one member has left the committee since the AGM)

Annual General Meeting

The Co-op's Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday, 7th September. Twenty six Members attended the meeting. New committee members were elected, the accounts were approved and RSM were appointed as the

Co-op's auditors for the next year.

After the formal meeting closed, there was a raffle and a tombola.



Piping-in at the AGM



Tombola Prizes at the AGM

Co-op Skip Service

Please use the skip service responsibly!

The skip usually arrives in the morning of the first Wednesday of the month.

(Note the January skip is the **second** Wednesday in Jan)

The skip is left in front of the Co-op's Office. It fills up by midday - so come early if you want to be sure that it won't be full when you arrive!



The January 'double skip' outside the Co-op's Office

For the rest of the year there is only one skip

Co-op Skip dates for 2017 / 2018

Wednesday	6 th December 2017
Wednesday	10th January 2017 Note this is the second Wednesday in January
Wednesday	7th February 2017
Wednesday	7th March 2017

Please follow these rules when you use the Skip:

- **Do not leave items before the skip has arrived**
- **Check the skip is not full before you bring items down**
- **Do not overfill the skip**
- **Do not leave any items beside the skip**
- **Do not leave any items after the skip has left**

Anyone leaving items beside the skip or after the skip has been removed is fly-tipping.

There is a fixed penalty of £200 for fly-tipping so please do not fly tip.



Midlothian Skip Hire
Our skip service contractor

IMPORTANT

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Co-op Office will be CLOSED for
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

The Office will be closed from:
Friday 22nd December at 12:30PM

The Office will re-open on:
Monday 8th January 2018 at 10.00AM

**For emergency repairs,
call the Co-op's main number**

Hunters Hall Housing Co-op

77 Niddrie House Drive
Edinburgh
EH16 4TR

Phone: 0131 657 3379

Director - Nick Dangerfield:
ndangerfield@huntershall.org.uk

Senior Housing Officer - Sylvia Clyde:
sclde@huntershall.org.uk

Housing Services Asst - Lesley Hamilton:
lhamilton@huntershall.org.uk

Senior Administrator - Alison Morton
amorton@huntershall.org.uk

Technical Services - Roger Gibson
rgibson@huntershall.org.uk

Welfare Rights Officer - Fiona Bonar
fiona@huntershall.org.uk

Upcoming events

Co-op Annual Trip to the Pantomime

- Friday 08 Dec 2017
- King's Theatre, Edinburgh
- This year's Panto is Cinderella



Co-op Office opening hours:

Monday	9.00am	-	12.30pm
Tuesday	10.00am	-	12.30pm
Wednesday	9.00am	-	4.00pm
Thursday	9.00am	-	12.30pm
Friday	9.00am	-	12.30pm

(phones open until:
2.00PM Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
4.00PM Wednesday
12.30PM Friday)