

DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT WHITEHILL SCHOOL 12/4/11

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair) Lauren Amazeen, Janette Cochrane, Jane Clarke, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Anne McKenna, Frank Plowright, Louise Williams, Wesley Wright (Council Members), Councillor Jennifer Dunn
Police Community Liaisons Gary Aitken and Julie Walker
No members of the public

Apologies: Jenny Boyd, Jenny Mulholland, Helen McCarthy, Councillor Frank Docherty

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

1. POLICE REPORT: There have been 109 crimes reported in Dennistoun over the past month, of which 51 have been solved. 25-30% of the total are traffic offences. There have been nine assaults, the perpetrators of roughly half of which have been apprehended. There are suspects for a series of thefts from shops, primarily on Alexandra Parade, and those responsible for several acts of vandalism to vehicles have been caught. Of the districts in the area Dennistoun is the lower end of reported crime, and the crimes are generally of a less serious nature. The area is currently part of Operation Neptune's high visibility patrols with 10 officers allocated to Dennistoun over five shifts. There is to be Women's Aid meeting in Reidvale on April 21st.
2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9/3/11: The meeting minutes from 9/3/11 were approved. Janette would prefer a printed copy in future.
3. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: a) Council members should be mindful that their comments will be recorded for the public record of the minutes. Should business require confidentiality those speaking should clarify their comments are not for minuting. b) As there are three elected Councillors who theoretically represent a small area within the Dennistoun boundary, they should in future all be provided with the draft minutes of DCC meetings. c) The telephone cards with contact details mentioned by the Police liaison at the previous meeting were provided and circulated.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: The registration process for new signatories to the bank account has been completed, and the £650.01 annual administration grant from the Community Resource Centre received and banked. The grant consists of £500 minimum plus 1p for per resident. The balance is now £3728.84.
5. CORRESPONDENCE: a) A multiple occupancy renewal notification for a property on Circus Drive raised no objections. b) Notification of a Licensing application from Lidl was received too late for discussion last month. The alcohol display is to be reduced to 31 metres and Sunday alcohol sales to run from 10am to 10pm. c) A letter was received from the Community Council Resource Centre reminding all Community Council members that their position is strictly apolitical and should not be used on behalf of any party in the forthcoming election. d) East End Outlook contacted Jennifer Dunn asking for any suggestions for articles. Frank, Stephen and Wesley to collaborate on a piece about the regenerated Community Council. e) Louisa McDaid contacted the Council last month to offer services interpreting for the deaf at future meetings. There was agreement that this would be a useful service and Frank will enquire about cost. f) Debbie McCuish contacted us via the website. She's studying for and HND at Glasgow met and has a project involving photographing Community Council members on the streets of Dennistoun. This would be at 11.30 on Wednesday April 20th. The intention would be to present a positive reflection of the community.

6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** Brian submitted a precis of all new applications, and had no objection to the content being uploaded to the DCC website ahead of the minutes being approved. The only item discussed at length was the proposals for the Wishart Street structure, now reduced to 47 micro flats with subterranean parking according to the architect's website. Brian commented that it seemed to be a well conceived building that would generally be an asset to the area, most likely to be used for student or nursing accommodation. It's uncertain how many parking spaces will be provided. The development does fall under EMB2 local authority regulations concerning the development of green space. Jennifer Dunn has looked into this, but noted that £46, 800 likely to be raised from this can be allocated to projects anywhere within a radial area of the new development and may not necessarily be spent directly on facilities for Dennistoun. There are four categories on which this money is permitted to be spent: Green space, children's play areas, informal sport and formal sport. Recent beneficiaries have been RAPA, Alexandra Park and Bannerman High Sports Project. If the sum received is under £50,000 the Executive Director can decide what should be funded, but higher sums are decided by the Executive Committee. This is useful knowledge, enabling the Community Council to flag items for the greater good of the area. Jennifer Dunn noted suggestions regarding green space areas would be broadly supported.
7. **LICENSING APPLICATIONS:** None. Stephen noted that there is an automatic universal one hour extension for the royal wedding day, but was unsure if this only applied to the city centre.
8. **EAST CENTRE AREA COMMITTEE:** Anne attended the last meeting, which was largely occupied by a presentation by the Fire Service, who will supply information if required, and a review of health services with Lightburn and Parkhead soon to close. £500 was granted to Dennistoun football team, and £10,000 for Alexandra Park and Cranhill Park. Dennistoun Community Council's application for funding to illuminate the library was rejected on the basis that it did not represent value for money. There was some confusion as to whether this may be considered again at a later date, and Patricia Chalmers suggested afterwards that application is made to the Heritage Lottery Fund whose brief is for such projects. Jennifer Dunn said she would look out the relevant application paperwork. Dennistoun Community Council were given no notice of this meeting and Karen Kenny is to be reminded and given contact information.
9. **COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP:** Stephen attended the meeting along with 25 or so other people. The Community Engagement Officer gave a lengthy talk, dropping in about halfway through that it had been decided that the feeling was Community Reference Groups didn't work and would in three months time be replaced by focus groups consisting of 100 people from the area. There may be a possibility of inclusion, but clarification is required. Most present felt any failure in CRGs was a failure of planning and communication rather than any other reason
10. **ELECTED MEMBERS:** a) Jennifer Dunn has a meeting with First Bus tomorrow and asked if any topics needed raised. A bus service from Alexandra Parade to Parkhead Forge has frequently been promised but not materialised, and when STV and BBC moved across the Clyde First Bus held a meeting with both companies promising services or connections from all areas of Glasgow that have also not materialised. b) The deadline for postal votes in the forthcoming election is Thursday. Frank to download a voting form for Annette. c) Dennistoun Community Youth Project has began a mentoring system with attendees at John Wheatley college. d) Jennifer was open to people mentioning any requests not pertinent to the Community Council after the meeting, and holds surgeries at 6pm every 3rd Tuesday of the month at Haghill Park Primary, and every 4th Tuesday at 6pm at Dennistoun Library.
11. **WEBSITE:** Both Facebook and Twitter are recording a surprising number of views, and both pages feature pointers to the website. Wesley has greatly expanded the useful numbers pages into a comprehensive reference, and included a page noting

the nomination of Alexandra Parade primary school in three categories in the Scotland Education Awards. He's welcome to further suggestions for improvements, and Stephen noted that should he require any help with the website he should ask.

12. ACTION PLAN: Stephen, Brian, Frank, Janette and Wesley met between DCC monthly meetings to conceive an action plan for how Dennistoun Community Council can proceed. There were a considerable number of suggestions, and a draft was circulated for comments by May 3rd to be discussed at the next meeting.
13. A.O.B: a) Minutes were circulated from the area Crime Prevention Panel's last meeting. They meet approximately every six weeks, and it was felt it would be useful to attend their Thursday meetings in Riddrie at 7.30. Louise volunteered to do this, but cannot attend the meeting this Thursday. Jennifer can report back. b) Brian attended a meeting regarding the proposed Alexandra Park Gala Day to be held between 12-4pm on July 23rd. It was agreed we would like to have a presence as Dennistoun Community Council. The cost of a stall is £30 and it was presumed this could be covered as part of our admin costs. If not, it's possible to provide donations. Several years ago the maximum sum was £25, but this is now likely to have increased. The next meeting is to be in Milnbank Housing Association in May (date unknown). Stephen believes there should be a template information leaflet provided by Community Planning which can be adapted for our needs, and it was suggested any leaflet could ask people to rank community concerns in order of priority. Further ideas for promoting the Community Council could be sourced from the Action Plan, with the photographic competition as a suggestion, possibly with us distributing disposable cameras.
14. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is at Whitehill School at 7pm on Tuesday May 10th. There was still some failure of communication regarding the booking being until 9pm. Stephen will clarify by the next meeting.