

**DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT WHITEHILL SCHOOL**  
**13/9/11**

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair) Lauren Amazeen, Jenny Boyd, Janette Cochrane, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Mary McCabe, Jenny Mulholland, Frank Plowright, Louise Williams (Council Members), Councillors Frank Docherty and Elaine McDougall  
Police Community Liaisons Jim Kidd and Sharon McPeek  
Members of the public: Matty Sutton

Apologies: Jane Clarke, Helen McCarthy, Anne McKenna, Wesley Wright, Councillors Jennifer Dunn & Ruth Simpson

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

1. POLICE REPORT: a) There have been 120 incidents reported in Dennistoun over the past month, of which 72 have been solved, investigation into the others is still ongoing. The majority of these crimes are traffic offences. b) The theft of number plates continues for use to steal petrol. People should be vigilant about this. c) Investigation is ongoing into thefts from cars in Firpark Street. d) We were assured that following the reorganisation of the police into a national force there would still be local liaisons. e) The Scottish Executive has published statistics regarding recorded crime, and these can be found online at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/trendvol> f) Elaine McDougall asked about the spate of fireraising in Haghill and blatant drug dealing in the area. The police liaisons had no specific information, but will look into this. g) Phoning 0141 532 4638/39 will link directly to the local community liaison officers. h) There were 110 stop and searches in the area over the past month, but no record of the results was available to the meeting.
2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10/5/11 & 14/6/11: Both sets of meeting minutes were approved pending minor corrections.
3. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: It was decided that it would not be possible to have one delegated membership position on the Community Council occupied in a rotating or shared role by all three local housing associations as previously decided. Furthermore there was doubt that the Haghill Strategy Group is still meeting. Janette, Lauren and Stephen are to comprise a working group that will report back to the next meeting, having compiled a list of all local groups and identified possible groups to approach regarding Community Council membership. received the minutes no matters were discussed.
4. TREASURER'S REPORT: Helen McCarthy has resigned as treasurer, but will continue with day to day duties until a new Treasurer is appointed at October's A.G.M. Any Community Council member interested should notify Stephen or Janette at least two weeks before the next meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Expenses associated with the Alexandra Park Festival have now been settled, and the overall balance remains healthy.
5. CORRESPONDENCE: a) Joseph McGuire from The Glaswegian is keen to receive any information from the Community Council and having minutes forwarded. b) It was pointed out that Matty Sutton who regularly attends DCC meetings works with the Evening Times.
6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS: Brian noted that some weeks he isn't receiving e-mailed notification of applications, and Janette isn't receiving the printed copies. She will check about this. The only concern was regarding an application to turn the

former church premises opposite the WASPS building at 235 Alexandra Parade into a hotel with 24 en suite rooms, breakfast room and Cafe. The £100,000 allocated for the conversion seems very low, and no provision has been made for car parking. It was noted that the original conversion of the premises would carry restrictions regarding future use. Brian noted there were parallels with the case of the property at 2 Craigpark, where the applicant pulled out when presented with a document noting the planning requirements they needed to comply with. Councillor Docherty advised that all such applications are stringently assessed and require fire, police and environmental reports. He noted that his comments pertained to the general requirements and not any specific property as he sits on the relevant Council committee.

7. LICENSING APPLICATIONS: Applications have been made for renewal of multiple occupation licences for properties at 20 Craigpark and 15 Westercraigs. It was thought the latter had not displayed the renewal notice as required. It was decided that as a matter of policy the Community Council would only raise objections to such renewals in the case of established problems. There is no enforced quota of multiple occupations, and an item should be added to the action plan to discover how many there are. An application has been made for the Happy Day premises at 629 Duke Street to have a late licence every night running to 1am. This contravenes local policy requiring licences to cease at midnight, and on that basis Dennistoun Community Council will raise an objection.
8. EAST CENTRE AREA COMMITTEE: Anne was not present and hadn't submitted a report, but as chair Elaine McDougall was able to provide some information. She noted that full information is available online. The committee has been surprised how many applications have been received, and for the first time in memory is having to restrict funds to ensure they last the entire financial year. It was asked whether Glasgow City Council departments are accessing this funding to top up shortfalls in their budgets. It was admitted this is the case, but that each application is decided on its own merits. Friends of the Necropolis have been awarded funding for a project surveying the condition of the stonework and other elements of the Necropolis. Frank Docherty announced that Bereavement Services will also contribute funding.
9. COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP: Janette will attend a meeting on Monday September 19<sup>th</sup> at Reidvale Hall.
10. CRIME PREVENTION PANEL: Louise missed the last meeting, but will attend the next. As it's difficult returning home after the meeting via public transport it was agreed that Louise will be provided with funds to take a taxi home after meetings.
11. ELECTED MEMBERS: It was asked if elected members could submit written updates in future in order to minimise time taken at meetings.
  - a) £635,000 is allocated for a substantial upgrade to the Whitehill Pool premises. The money will cover upgrading the fascia, the changing rooms and the reception area. A significantly improved gym will be located on the first floor including equipment from Tollcross purchased only 18 months ago as Tollcross gym is upgraded for the Commonwealth Games.
  - b) Wellpark Tenants Hall will also be upgraded, primarily for broadband access, for use as an adult learning centre in conjunction with John Wheatley College.
  - c) There will be a major roofing and environmental upgrade to the housing stock in Wellpark starting on Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>. This is expected to take two years.
  - d) There is funding for a six month course for one parent families after 24 people attended a preliminary event.
  - e) Dennistoun New Church premises are to undergo refurbishment starting around February next year. A lift will be fitted enabling more facilities overall. While the work is taking place some existing groups using the premises will be aided with alternative accommodation.
  - f) A report has been provided on the use of the Whitehill lecture theatre for cinema use. The sound system will be upgraded thanks to the donation of equipment from Glasgow Film Theatre, and it's hoped that video installation project will come to Dennistoun if a success in the city centre.
  - g) On Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> the Whitehill gym will host the

Scottish wheelchair rugby league. h) 97 Sannox Gardens has been upgraded with new kitchens and bathrooms. i) The meeting held regarding factoring problems has resulted in Elaine McDougall being contacted by several factors requesting knowledge of problem areas. Stephen will represent Dennistoun Community Council on a working group of nine to investigate problems, including decaying buildings without property management. j) There is a meeting at the Scottish parliament on September 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss the proposed closure of the Lightburn Hospital. k) There will be a cycling gala in Alexandra Park on Saturday between 1pm and 4pm.

12. ACTION PLAN: It was noted that items A5, B3 and E5 had been erroneously omitted between drafts 2 and 4 of the plan, and will be restored. A meeting of the action plan working group was held in August, and minutes are available from Frank for any interested parties. The plan was adopted in principle to form the basis of an annual report in the future.
13. A.O.B: a) Attending the Alexandra Park festival was deemed a worthwhile exercise. b) The Treasure Hunt for primary schools in the area has started with the children designing a certificate to be given out to every child that hands in a completed form. The actual treasure hunt will be starting on Tuesday September 20<sup>th</sup> leading up to the September weekend holiday. Forms, certificates and teacher sheets are with the printer, and it was noted that in future such items should have the Dennistoun Community Council logo in place. The forms will be given to the schools, and items to the 18 participating shops on Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed to have a presentation ceremony at 6.30pm before the A.G.M. on October 11<sup>th</sup> and MSP Paul Martin will be approached to hand prizes to the winners. c) First Buses have responded to the request for a representative to attend a public meeting by suggesting a representative from Dennistoun Community Council meets them at their offices. Frank will write back explaining the purpose of the meeting in greater detail, emphasising what the community council is, and that the meeting is not intended as an ambush or slanging match. Stephen will chair if no-one else is suggested. d) Frank, Janette and Stephen will arrange a meeting to go through the A.G.M. Agenda, procedure and how to publicise. Notice will be given and others welcome.

NEXT MEETING: Our A.G.M. will be at 7pm on Tuesday October 11<sup>th</sup>. Stephen is keen that if anyone is unable to attend future meetings, as a matter of policy could they inform him or Janette rather than others. He feels that it's better if the people noting absentees at a meeting is limited.