

**DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT W.A.S.P.S. 14/2/12**

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair), Jenny Boyd, Jane Clarke, Annette Fowler, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Mary McCabe, Jenny Mulholland, Frank Plowright, Wesley Wright (Council Members)  
Jude Browning, Greer MacKeogh, Sarah Welford (representing associate members)  
Police Community Liaisons PC Guy Aitken & Jamie McCallum  
Members of the public: Clare Darlastan, Helen Moore

Apologies: Lauren Amazeen, Helen McCarthy, Anne McKenna, Louise Williams, Councillors Frank Docherty, Jennifer Dunn, Elaine McDougall and Alison Thewliss, MSPs Humzala Malik and Drew Smith and Willie Bain MP

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

1. POLICE REPORT: a) There continues to be a lack of correlation between the area covered by Dennistoun Community Council and the reports provided by the police. Stephen once again requested that police figures presented to the Community Council correspond to the area within the boundary the Council represents for the sake of consistency. b) Beats 20-22 cover North Dennistoun (excluding Haghill and Reidvale, but incorporating the Necropolis) in which there were 74 reported crimes in January of which 48% have been solved. The others remain active, and this does not mean they've been sidelined. Car crime has been an issue over the past month, with cars being reported stolen and broken into. c) The break-ins and robberies in the area have declined in common with all crimes since Christmas. When asked if those responsible had been apprehended PC McCallum believed this had been hindered by the lack of CCTV cameras in the area and lack of funding for them. The high visibility patrols bringing in officers from other areas have been effective in reducing the problem. d) The regular patrol system in the area has changed, and officers are now given specific duties to incorporate into their patrols involving problem areas. e) Stephen asked about the when the next annual report on community engagement is due. The police liaisons claimed these are apparently not produced annually, but in response to specific concerns. f) Stephen stressed that while appreciating that some police initiatives involve elements of secrecy, the Community Council is keen to be considered a partner and to be involved. g) The bike marking initiative originally planned for January still needs to be arrange with Frank Whitaker from the Crime Prevention Panel and Jeff Smith, police community liaison.
2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10/1/12: Pending a few corrections noted by Frank the minutes were approved via Wesley Wright proposing and Mary McCabe seconding.
3. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: a) The new Associate Members introduced themselves and gave a little information about their organisations The Market Gallery and Dennistoun Diggers. The former is an independent art gallery located on Duke Street with a board and a rolling committee of eight members who serve for two years. Outreach and education are current priorities and seen as a good way to reach an audience. Involvement with the Community Council is being active in the community and a way of keeping up to date with what's going on. They have an opening on Friday February 17<sup>th</sup> for an exhibition running to March 3<sup>rd</sup> and are currently seeking funding to refurbish the front of their premises. Dennistoun Diggers have been running a year and see themselves as creating a space to exchange skills and are keen to work within the community. They have set up a community garden

on land donated for use by Milnbank Housing Association, and would currently like to work with derelict areas. b) Stephen has still not been able to arrange a meeting with Milnbank and Reidvale Housing Associations, but is hoping to do so before the March meeting. c) There is to be a consultation about the improvements to Onslow Square on Thursday February 16<sup>th</sup> between 4pm and 8pm. Clare Darlastan voiced concerns that the format of the meeting wouldn't give those opposed to the idea adequate provision to voice their views. Stephen explained it was not Community Council led, and we therefore had no control over the format.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT/NEW SECRETARY:** Stephen has not yet passed all paperwork to new Treasurer Jane, but the current balance of the account is £2289.65 and the petty cash is currently in the red with a deficit of £48.53. The account requires new signatories before any further funds can be released, and this is taking some time. It was suggested that having five signatories would delay such problems in future, but Stephen preferred to increase the number to four. In connection with the matter of signatories, Wesley noted his intention to stand as Secretary. Frank proposed him for the position and Jane seconded. There were no objections, so Wesley was elected to the position.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning Applications. Brian reported that over the past month there has been nothing contentious, and his full report can be seen on the DCC website. Application has been made to open a new deli and bakery on 609 Duke Street, and for a shop to replace their shutters. The vet on Annfield Place has received permission to make alterations expanding into the neighbouring building subject to conditions. There has been no further update about the proposed conversion of the former church on Alexandra Parade to a hotel. b) Licensing Applications. There have been an application for a pawnbroker to operate from premises at 523 Duke Street, the no new applications. c) The website has received a contact note from The Association of Scottish Community Councils, and there has been correspondence regarding problems with factoring. Wesley passed on information about the August public meeting and mentioned the working group follow-ups. Since missing a meeting Stephen hasn't been receiving updates and will contact them. d) Wesley provided quarterly statistics breaking down the website traffic, areas of concern and other assorted information. A précis will be available on the website e) There was mention of the topics e-mailed in a Community Council Resource Centre briefing (Affordable Rented Housing consultation, neighbourhood partnerships in Edinburgh, Planning Perspective meeting in Edinburgh), but it was decided these were better discussed as A.O.B. Time ran out, though.
6. **EAST CENTRE AREA COMMITTEE:** Anne McKenna was present at the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting but not present tonight so unable to provide an update. The next meeting is on March 7<sup>th</sup>.
7. **COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP:** New support worker Isobel Gray held a meeting two weeks ago, but there is still no clarity about the future of community reference groups. Only three people attended, which Stephen found dispiriting.
8. **CRIME PREVENTION PANEL:** Louise wasn't present, so there was no update.
9. **ELECTED MEMBERS:** Jennifer Dunn asked that information regarding the old Golfhill Primary school building be passed on. City Properties reported back to her that they have carried out some repairs to make the property safe. Access, the arms length organisation currently responsible for vacant properties is concentrating on more marketable sites for the time being, but noted that unless a buyer can be found for the site the building is likely to be demolished and the site sold as vacant land.
10. **THE BIG LUNCH:** Stephen presented a proposal that we support the Big Lunch Project by organising an event in Dennistoun on the weekend of June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. It's

designed to encourage interaction in a neighbourhood by having people share a meal together. Stephen also suggested allocating up to £500 from the Community Council funds for this. This was agreed. Stephen further mentioned applying to the East Centre Community grant fund for a gas barbecue and large gazebo that could have wider use. This prompted some discussion about whether it would be more environmentally friendly to hire equipment. Ruth said Glasgow City Council have in the past provided such items without charge for community events. It was eventually decided to apply for the grant and see what happened. Frank noted that when Dennistoun Community Together had investigated an event involving food from the various immigrant communities in the area the Council insisted that food could only be sold if prepared by those possessing something like a food preparation licence. Brian, Frank, Ruth and Wesley agreed to join Stephen in a working group to plan further.

11. CONSULTATIONS: a) Rail 2014 Consultation. Frank explained why there are concerns that Duke Street Station is being considered for closure, and that his assessment via e-mail that a 20 page consultation document be completed for a response to be considered valid was false. It wasn't initially clear that only the documentation providing contact information fell into this category. The consultation ends on February 20<sup>th</sup> and there was approval for Stephen completing the entire response document on behalf of DCC and appending the letter with specific concerns about Duke Street. Three further points in favour of keeping the station open raised at the meeting will be added to the letter prepared by Frank. b) Future Glasgow. The City Council's Future Glasgow consultation only lasted three weeks to February 10<sup>th</sup>, which everyone considered gave little opportunity for response. Stephen responded on behalf of DCC broadly agreeing with the principles put forward, but noting that the document failed to address the inequality throughout the city. He asked that we be kept informed and involved. c) The Licensing Board is consulting on a proposal to increase the Sunday on-sales hours by permitting opening at 11am. Stephen suggested we oppose this as it flies in the face of Licensing Board policy regarding public health and public nuisance. Not everyone agreed, however, and it was suggested as there was enough time to respond we return to this next month.

A.O.B. a) Ruth applied for funding on behalf of Friends of the Necropolis to carry out repairs, and this included backing from Dennistoun Community Council. b) Frank had asked for the Treasure Hunt and wider issue of funding to be on the agenda, but with only ten minutes left and other points still not discussed he was happy for this to be postponed until next month provided it was on the agenda. c) Sarah asked if there was any way of forcing shop premises to upgrade shabby frontage. This is possible in a conservation area, and certainly with regard to temporary signs. d) Having attended the November meeting to discuss problems with changes to the bulk uplift service, Clare Darlastan asked about progress. We've canvassed opinion and compiled a document taking all viewpoints into consideration, but this hasn't yet been presented to the entire Community Council. We had intended to bring the matter up had Clare not attended herself. The comments could be submitted as the basis for a public meeting or supplied to the relevant officials asking for responses. Clare suggested that someone come along to a regular meeting and address the issue, but the general feeling was that this wouldn't be desirable given there's little enough time to complete the agenda in two hours as it is. Clare wasn't pleased at what she perceived as a lack of progress, nor at Stephen's suggestion that the issue of bulk uplift might be incorporated into a broader meeting discussing other topics of concern involving cleansing and environment such as dog fouling and potholes. It was decided to circulate the canvassed opinion and come to a decision next month.

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be at Whitehill School at 7pm on Tuesday March 13<sup>th</sup>.

# Some DCC Internet Stats, as of 14 Feb 2012

## DennistounCC.org.uk

### Visits, this quarter

<u>Home page</u>	
November	279
December	207
January	278

Avg. per day 8

### All pages

November	859
December	556
January	958

Avg. per day 26

### Visits, previous quarter

<u>Home page</u>	
August	243
September	179
October	334

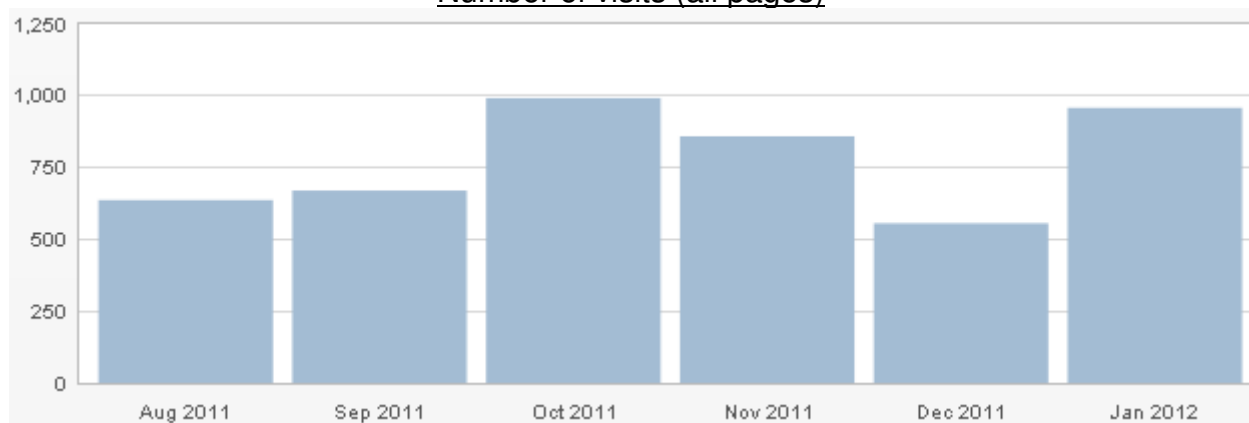
Avg. per day 10

### All pages

August	636
September	670
October	992

Avg. per day 25

Number of visits (all pages)



### How people have found DennistounCC.org.uk during this quarter.

Search Engines\*: 555

Dennistoun.co.uk: 75

Facebook: 68

Twitter: 34

Communitycouncilsglasgow.org.uk: 14

Wikipedia.org: 7

Dennistouncommunitytogether.org.uk: 6

\*Google accounts for 90%+ of search engine traffic to the site. Prior to the most recent quarter, very little traffic was arriving via search engines, and approximately half of the traffic driven by search engines has occurred in the last 30 days. This is in spite of the fact that, unfortunately, the site is still not appearing regularly on the first page of a Google search for "Dennistoun".

## Page views, this quarter

Home page:	731
Minutes:	231
Dates:	144
Representatives:	74
Action Plan:	72
Applications:	65
Links:	46
Contact:	41
Locality:	39
HELP!:	36
About:	17

## Page views, previous quarter

Home page:	757
Minutes:	218
Dates:	124
Representatives:	76
Applications:	67
Locality:	57
Links:	55
Action Plan:	50
HELP!:	48
Contact:	39
About:	29

## News/blog post views, this quarter

Dennistoun Dog Fouling Initiative (October 3, 2011)	84
Rail 2014 Public Consultation: Duke Street Railway Station (January 17, 2012)	64
Public Meeting to Discuss Local Bus Services (November 18, 2011)	55
Proposed Strathclyde Police Headquarters at Dalmarnock (March 27, 2011)	50
Glasgow Necropolis Tours: January to July 2012	41
Site Update: January 2012	37
Onslow Square Community Consultation Event (February 9, 2012)	28
Next Meeting: January 10th 2012	26
Dennistoun Oral History Project (October 4, 2011)	24
Police and Community Meeting: 20th December 2011	23
Golfhill Primary School: Grow Green Awards Winner (April 27, 2011)	22
2011 Dennistoun Treasure Hunt Winners (October 15, 2011)	22
Dennistoun Community Christmas Craft Fair 2011	19
Community Clean Up: Saturday 4th February 2012	17
2011 AGM, Public Meeting, and Prize-giving	16
Next Meeting: December 13th 2011	16
Community Clean Up: Saturday 1st October 2011	15
Next Meeting: February 14th 2012:	13
The 2011 Dennistoun Treasure Hunt	13
Public Meeting to Discuss Factoring Services	11
Alexandra Parade Primary: Scottish Education Awards Finalists	11
Art and Music in and around Dennistoun	10

## Subscribers

The ability to sign up and receive instant notification via email of all new site posts was added in early 2012. Since then we've had nine people add themselves to the list.

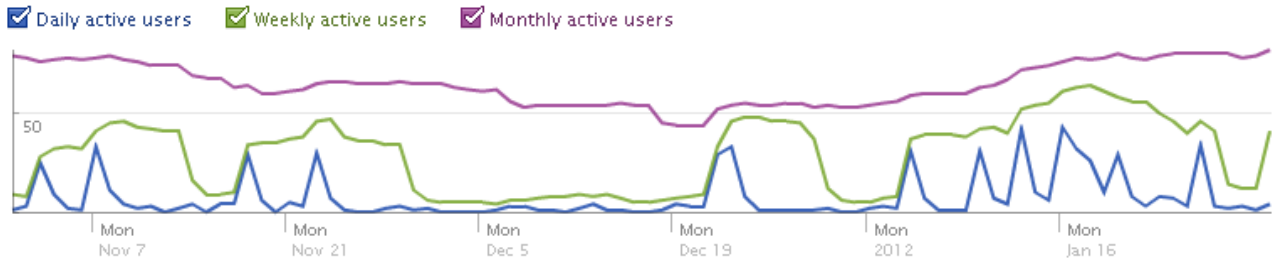
## Facebook.com/DennistounCC

### Currently

71 followers  
85 monthly active users

### Last November

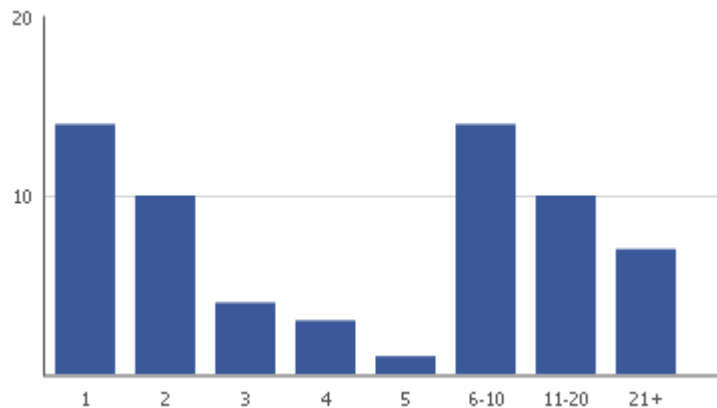
60 followers  
78 monthly active users



### Age breakdown of people reached via facebook over the last month

(prev)	(n/a)	(7%)	(35%)	(7%)	(2%)	(0%)
Female	54%	0%	35%	11%	4%	5%
<i>Age range</i>	<i>All</i>	<i>18-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45-54</i>	<i>55+</i>
Male	42%	4%	18%	14%	5%	2%
(prev)	n/a%	(7%)	(18%)	(8%)	(7%)	(3%)

### Unique number of users by frequency



E.g. 14 people were reached between 6-10 times.

## Twitter.com/DennistounCC

### Currently

DCC has 113 followers  
DCC is following 39 accounts  
DCC has sent out 182 tweets

### Last November

DCC had 89 followers  
DCC was following 38 accounts  
DCC had sent out 151 tweets