

DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT WHITEHILL SCHOOL
13/11/12

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair), Lauren Amazeen, John Bones, Andrew Campbell, Jane Clarke, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Helen McCarthy, Anne McKenna, Vicky Melvin, Frank Plowright, Louise Williams, Wesley Wright (Council Members)
Police Community Liaisons Sean McColgan, Chris McKane
Councillors Frank Docherty (from 8pm), Jennifer Dunn (to 7.50pm), Elaine McDougall, Russell Robertson, Alison Thewliss
MSP John Mason
Members of public: Lomond Stewart

Apologies: Naila Akram Jenny Mullholland, Councillors Yvonne Küçük, Russell Robertson, Alison Thewliss, MSPs Paul Martin, Drew Smith, and Humza Yousaf

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

1. Local artist Mitch Miller gave a brief talk about his installation in the Market Gallery on Duke St. He will be present between 10am and 6pm on Monday to Saturday until December 7th creating a dialectagram about Duke Street exploring its history and present day. He's particularly keen to talk to older residents of Dennistoun about changes. The completed work will be on display for a week from December 7th and will be kept in Dennistoun as a community resource. Mitch added DCC's name to promotional material on the basis that we've worked in partnership with Market Gallery.
2. POLICE REPORT: a) Once again the figures provided to the police attendees didn't correspond to the exact area covered by the Community Council. Stephen mentioned the inconsistent input and that this would be discussed at his meeting with the police the next day. b) The police noted a seasonal increase in robberies at this time of year, but they have planned extra patrols in previously targeted areas and to date this has resulted in lower figures. People should be vigilant, and report any suspicious individuals either via 999 or the community police number 532 4600. c) The culprit responsible for a robbery outside Duke Street Post Office has been apprehended, but there is no truth to rumours that children have been abducted in Haghill and Barrowfield. The police noted both incidents as being misinterpreted. d) Over the past month In Reidvale (beat 17) 7 of 19 reported crimes have been solved. e) In Wellpark (beat 19) there have been 5 of 7 crime reports solved. f) The figure increases to 50% of 12 crimes solved in beat 20, Dennistoun west of Whitehill Street. g) Beat 21 east of Whitehill Street 6 crime reports including two serious assaults, and 2 have been solved. h) Beat 22 is Alexandra Parade and there were a significantly higher percentage of reported crimes due to what appears to have been targeted vehicle crime blitz. There were 70 crimes, of which 45 were detected. As this was mentioned it was noted that there are concerns about cars jumping the red lights outside Alexandra Parade school. i) In Haghill (beat 24) there were 29 of 43 reported crimes detected. These included an attempted murder and serious assaults. j) Overall the total crimes are down 21 from last year at this time, and the detection rate has increased from 46% to 59.32%. k) A Safe and Secure booklet is available and Jeff Smith from London Road can carry out crime prevention surveys on individual properties. l) The police responded to a question by noting members of the community can make enquiries if concerned about safety following a crime in their area even if not directly involved.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11/9/12 and A.G.M. HELD ON 9/10/12: There was some confusion between Frank and Wesley regarding the A.G.M. minutes and they will be submitted for approval in December. The September minutes were approved via Wesley proposing and Jane seconding. Frank will make the corrections noted in September to the June minutes and submit these to the Community Council Liaison Unit.

4. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: a) By this point the meeting was running very late, and members had just been presented with documents summarising last year's Action Plan and a draft one for this year. should consider the documents. If discussion on these is deferred until December people can consider the documents, and if anything has been missed please notify in and it can be added. It was further proposed that action plans cover the year from October to September in future to coincide with a review at the A.G.M. b) Frank summarised the campaign to save Cubie Street sorting office to date. Stephen has involved Bridgeton & Dalmarnock and Calton community councils, and all local representatives have supported the campaign. Royal Mail's response to date has been less than sympathetic, but they are sending representatives to a public meeting at the Bridgeton Community Learning Centre on Saturday November 17th. There has been an excellent response to the petition sheets to date, and counting the online petition signatures (to date 364), just under 1000 names have been collected in Dennistoun. Elaine McDougall has organised a separate petition in Milnbank already submitted to Royal Mail. Some people have found difficulties in signing up online. Royal Mail chief executive Moya Greene is to look at the closure internally and take transport links into consideration. c) John Bones reported that discussions regarding the pink chip football pitch at Alexandra Parade Primary are ongoing, with the head teacher and Milnbank Housing, and would hope to be able to provide more information at a later date. d) The proposed meal for outgoing community council members was discussed, and it was explained that the tradition was to provide flowers. Helen will arrange this via a local florist at a budget of £20 per head.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT: a) The DCC account currently stands at £2142.42 with receipts of £63.68 still due. Stephen noted the cost of hiring the school for the regular meetings as £10.30, and the A.G.M. hall hire amounted to £19. WE will seek guidance regarding the accounts, and John McKenchnie, proposed at the A.G.M. as qualified to verify our accounts is away until late November. The accounts aren't due to be delivered until February. The addition of Jane and Wesley as signatories still has to be verified.

6. CORRESPONDENCE: a) Planning Applications. A complete list of planning applications is appended. There was only one contentious application in the district, for a car park in Wishart Street bordering the Necropolis. Plans were very vague, but the only way of gleaning further information is to object. There was a majority in favour of DCC adding their objection to Friends of the Necropolis and Dennistoun Conservation Society. While not in Dennistoun, a majority of members also voted to object to Glasgow City Council's plans to remove all statues from George Square prior to having any plan in place for the square's re-design. b) Licensing Applications. There have been none received, but it was noted that despite a request these are not being provided as a matter of course. Frank docherty was able to inform us that there is a licence renewal in for the Po San Chinese takeaway on Alexandra Parade and a new application for the visitor centre within the Tennents brewery. The centre opens in November, and it was suggested we hold a future meeting there for a change of scenery. Frank docherty would be able to arrange this. Changes of business premises were also mentioned, and it was suggested DCC should be informed of such changes of use. c) Correspondence Wesley reported correspondence as follows: **DCC election** – confirmation letter; **Scottish Water** – From 12th November, for approximately 12 weeks, works will be carried out in Duke Street, Bellgrove Street and the Gallowgate. Traffic management will be in

operation during this work. Work will start on Duke Street at the junction of Bellgrove Street. After the Christmas holiday period work will start at the Gallowgate at the junction of Bellgrove Street for approximately 3 weeks. If you require further information please contact their customer helpline on 0845 601 8855 quoting reference "Capital / 402244 / Farrans"; **Book week Scotland** will be between 26 Nov and 2 Dec; **"Our Neighbourhood Needs You" Event** – Network for adults with learning disabilities and mental health problems. As per website printout; **Glasgow Disability Alliance** – Nov 2012 update bulletin; **Community council funding opportunities** – VAF, GCC area committees, and SCF; **Local Development Plan** – Extension to 'Potential additional sites' consultation until 7th December 2012; **Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils and Associated Documentation** – Public consultation documents available via www.communitycouncilsglasgow.org.uk. Deadline 11th January 2013. As this contains significant modifications to the way a community council operates, Stephen, Frank and Wesley will look at this and report back with a draft proposal at the December meeting; **National Planning Framework** – Public Event at St. Enoch's Centre, 29th November 2012, 3pm - 7pm: drop in at any time. The National Planning Framework sets the context for development planning in Scotland and provides a framework for the spatial development of Scotland as a whole. Work has started on the third revision which will set out the Government's development priorities over the next 20-30 years; **Commonwealth Games** – Promo material.

7. EAST CENTRE AREA COMMITTEE: There was a proposal to move to area partnerships in the future, presented as a decision already taken. This goes to the Council executive on Thursday for ratification. Ruth is to attend the next meeting to report back on funding for Friends of the Necropolis and will also represent DCC there.
8. COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP: Stephen reported that engagement has not been satisfactory over recent months, but a report is due in January regarding reconfiguration. Stephen will express concerns to the support officer.
9. CRIME PREVENTION PANEL: Louise was unable to attend, but Elaine McDougall reported that the panel would like to extend the cold calling scheme to Dennistoun. There was some surprise at the accusation that DCC gave no support, when we feel there has been little response to our attempts to engage. Stephen will raise this issue when meeting the police tomorrow.
10. ELECTED MEMBERS UPDATE: a) Elaine McDougall noted that Milnbank has already sent their petition regarding the closure of Cubie St. The wards in the Lightburn Hospital are to be upgraded, and there is a proposal for funding for Alexandra Park pond as a boating area. Four exclusive car club parking spaces have been approved in the area, and there were 64 fire reports in Dennistoun during October. b) Frank Docherty is attending a meeting about cold callers on Friday. There is an investigation into the possible historical dumping of harmful substances in Alexandra Court. A geo-tech survey will be carried out, but it was stressed this is a precautionary measure rather than cause for alarm. There will be a public meeting to answer questions in Alexandra Parade primary on Friday between 5.30 and 7pm. Whitehill Secondary has been awarded Sports Leadership academy status, one of only three schools so far in the entire country, and other announcements are forthcoming. The Christmas lights are switched on in George Square on November 15th, and there is the annual Glasgow Life charity Christmas fair in the City Chambers on November 24th. c) John Mason sits on the Scottish parliament Finance and Equal Opportunities Committee, due to discuss universal benefits. Also up for discussion is reducing the amount of permissible blood alcohol levels when driving from 80mg to 50mg, extending freedom of information legislation to arms length local authority organisations, and whether the Royal Family correspondence should be exempt or not.

11. A.O.B. a) Ruth reported that Friends of the Necropolis have received Scottish Community Foundation money for marketing materials and stationary. They donated £25, 000 for the restoration of five mausolea, and noted that the money was largely raised through organising tours and giving presentations. Last year one member contributed £14,000 to the restoration of the Edington Gates. Future plans include restoring a monument to Joseph Gomoszynski and a radar scan of the Jew's Enclosure area, while the photographic stone survey is ongoing. b) There was no time remaining to discuss Frank's proposal for modifying monthly meetings, and Stephen promised time would be made for this at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: At Whitehill School 7pm Tuesday December 11th. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.