



Draft Minutes of Meeting Held at Haghill Primary School, Dennistoun

09/04/2013

1. Attendance and apologies

Present: Stephen Birrell (Chair), Jane Clarke, Wesley Wright, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Andy Campbell, John Bones, Louise Williams, Vicky Melvin, Anne McKenna, Lauren Amazeen, Naila Akram (Community Council Members), Maxine Anderson, Gemma Anderson (members of public), Councillor Frank Docherty, Councillor Elaine McDougall, Paul Martin MSP, Jenna Grawning (Police Officer).

Apologies: Jenny Mulholland, Helen McCarthy, Frank Plowright, Councillor Yvonne Kucuk, Councillor Jennifer Dunn, Councillor Alison Thewliss, Humza Yousaf MSP.

2. Police Report

Further request from DCC to Police to provide map showing Beats marked on in order to make sense of crime statistic sheet that are distributed at meetings. Jenna Grawning, police officer in attendance, promised to email this to DCC later in the evening after she returned to station.

Further information was given on Police Report – 11/03/2013, as follows:

- Beat 17 – 3 drug cases noted were students with small amount of cannabis.
- Beat 20 – Much of the shoplifting is occurring on Alexandra Parade shops adjacent to Haghill Primary School.
- Beat 21 – Robbery involved 50 year old male staying at Bellgrove Hotel who was highly intoxicated on a bus and was robbed. Police at the scene were unable to take a statement at the time due to his intoxication. CID are now investigating this and the serious assault noted and no further information is available.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 12th March 2013

Minutes were recorded as accurate by Wesley Wright and seconded by Ruth Johnston. No amendments.

4. Matters Arising

a. Area Partnerships: Area Committees in Glasgow are now named Area Partnerships and are taking a developed role in community services, community planning and area management. An expanded role sees the biggest difference re community representatives being allocated voting powers in decisions. 21 area partnerships feed into 3 sector partnerships in turn feed into 1 executive group.

This model allows Community Councils and Councillors to have more input into council decisions although confirmation is needed into the exact extent of the expanded role.

b. Wellpark tree felling: Area has been cleared and re-landscaped but apologies sent from Councillor Dunn who was expected to provide further information.

5. DCC Action Plan 2013 /14

Stephen handed out DCC Action Plan Draft with Community Councillors comments on which highlighted top 3 priorities:

1. Public meeting(s) on community concerns
2. 'A Day Out in Dennistoun' (Map and App for guided walk)
3. Big Lunch

All were deemed reasonable to advance and Stephen asked for ideas / suggestions for priority 1 re: public meetings. Councillor Frank Docherty suggested that a meeting regarding Factoring services could be most relevant in the area at present. This led to discussions regarding the recent request for a 'float' charge from many factors which may be illegal in some cases. It also led to discussions regarding private factoring companies and models such as Milnbank Housing Association's factoring service which in many opinions provides a better service with profits being put back into the community.

A working group for organising a public meeting on this will be led by Vicky Melvin and assisted by Maxine Anderson (community member) as well as Councillor Frank Docherty. It was agreed that this meeting should take a presentation format from experts informing the public on matters affecting Factor charges and other practices / models and should not take a consultation format. A 'Frequently Asked Questions' form could be created by DCC and circulated for this meeting.

Duke Street Improvements: Public realm and shop front / shop unit improvements were brought up as part of the action plan. Councillor Docherty has looked into funding for this in the last 6 months through GCC DRS and Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) although it was felt that Dennistoun / Duke Street was less likely to access funding than Calton / Barras area and other areas within the Clyde Gateway area.

If DCC want to pursue this action further they should contact Ewan Curtis in DRS and seek a Townscape Heritage Fund from HLF or equivalent from other funders.

Councillor McDougall added that DCC could call on DRS for funding / action to be taken to improve many back courts within DCC boundary as well as taking action in older properties. This could tie back to issues regarding factoring in the area.

Councillor Docherty suggested that general shopping and lifestyle habits have changed and it is no longer feasible to expect a varied shopping experience on the high street of any area. Alternatives for shop units could include refurbishment as dwellings or for community use through community enterprises or similar. This should be considered in any DCC action. A subcommittee to further look at this issue was formed by Stephen Birrell, Lauren Amazeen, Brian Johnston and Andy Campbell.

6. Finance Update

- No update re additional signatories to DCC account with RBS.
- DCC bank balance of £1960.61 with bills of around £60.00 for flowers and approx £50 for S.O.S.O event room hire to be deducted.
- Jane to report at next meeting with alternative possibilities for bank with Co-op and Credit Union being preferred.

7. Correspondence

a. Planning Applications

- No contentious planning applications were received.
 - Note of interest at Necropolis where planning has been granted for 5 restorations including a new gate for a mausoleum. Work due for completion in July.
 - The format of in-coming applications has changed with a vast majority going to delegation (95%) – Brian noted that this may be worth further discussion within sub-group.
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- Recent objections made by DCC regarding work at Westercraigs had positive outcome with conditions attached to works acknowledging and retaining a listed stone wall.

b. Licensing Applications.

No licensing applications have been made.

c. General Correspondence:

- List was distributed with no contentious correspondence.
- DCC invited to attend a community consultation for the development at Sighthill for the proposed Glasgow 2018 Youth Olympic Games Village. Brian will lead on this with any comments from members being fed to him.

8. Reports

a. East Centre Area Committee: No papers were available from recent meeting although Anne made clear that there were no issues that would affect DCC areas.

b. Community Reference Group: Community Reference Group's will become something else in the near future adopting a more relevant role.

c. Crime Prevention Panel: Louise registered her desire to resign from Crime Prevention Panel. It is felt that the majority of interest is focussed on Riddrie and Carntyne due to higher crime statistics and there is a frustration at the lack of focus on Dennistoun. An alternative option was suggested by Stephen, to invite a local officer from Community Safety Services to give a presentation on general safety and crime prevention in the area. The group made clear that this would be a preference.

d. Elected Members Update

- Councillor McDougall contributed a number of updates including Area Partnerships first meeting to be held on 24th April 2013 and one of the biggest issue to be discussed here will be the mapping of the area regarding policing etc. Another note was regarding the new Milnbank Recycling Centre opened Roebank Street for old furniture etc.

- Councillor Docherty contributed a number of updates including on 24th April local schools will be adopting Duke Street train station in a launch to brighten it up. Wellpark Environmental Improvements are ahead of schedule and are part of wider scheme for a lighting strategy, desire lines paved to improve poor environment and help reduce anti-social behaviour and prostitution. Glasgow has been shortlisted for Green City of Europe.

9. AOCB and public input

a. Community Council Liaison Group

- Stephen is now representing the North East of the city in this group. He had a first meeting the previous night which focussed on how community councils link to the council.
- Ian Law has retired from Community Councils Support Unit – we wish him well.
- Brief summary of Action A5 – 'A Day Out in Dennistoun' was given. Total funding required = £8800.00. There may be a clash with potential funding from both GCHT and GCC – this should be reviewed. Foundation Scotland is another potential funding opportunity.

NEXT MEETING: 7-9pm, Tuesday 14th May – Whitehill Secondary School Library, 280 Onslow Drive, Glsow, G31 2QF
