



Dennistoun Community Council

email : hello@dennistouncc.org.uk www.DennistounCC.org.uk

DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT WHITEHILL SCHOOL 11/6/13

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair), Lauren Amazeen, John Bones, Andrew Campbell, Jane Clarke, Helen McCarthy, Anne McKenna, Vicky Melvin, Frank Plowright, Wesley Wright (Council Members), Police officer Richard Webster

Apologies: Naila Akram, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston and Louise Williams, Councillors Frank Docherty and Jennifer Dunn, MSP Drew Smith

Members of the public: Sam Boyd, Bill Elliott, Louisa McDaid, D. McGowan, M. McGowan and W. Orford

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

- POLICE REPORT:** a) There was once again no map identifying police beats, but liaison Geoff Smith has promised it to Stephen this week. b) There was no written report, but between May 15th and June 11th there were 272 crimes reported of which 194 were detected, a success rate of 71%. Of particular concern, though, was the lack of arrests for thefts from vehicles and homes. Bike thefts have been common, with thieves cutting through padlocks, often entering properties through open close doors. The largest percentage of arrests were for street drinking and other alcohol offences, and the road traffic initiative continues with arrests for no seatbelts, speeding and use of mobile phone while driving and speeding. There have also been arrests for drug use and cultivation. c) It was noted we could inform local campaigns instead of just hearing about them, and there's a continued lack of consultation. DCC is no longer contributing to the Crime Prevention Panel due to the feeling that it's exclusively focussed on the Carntyne area. d) It's been suggested that briefings on specific issues would be more beneficial than statistics, and various topics have been suggested by Geoff Smith. Although mindful of the time the police report occupies each meeting, it was agreed to try this for the July meeting.
- MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13/5/13:** The minutes were proposed as accurate by Wesley and seconded by Helen pending Frank correcting several errors. Frank agreed the minutes would be on headed sheets in future.
- MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Cleansing. Barbara Fernside was unable to make tonight's meeting, but should attend in July. b) Community Council Liaison Group. The group consists of representatives from 15 of the 80 Glasgow community councils, and will meet monthly until November before reporting back with suggestions about future engagement. Only five community councils responded to the Scheme of Establishment consultation last year, and the reason given for not providing feedback was that the officials were waiting to be asked. A report should be provided in the next month. Other areas being looked at by the CCLG are Area Partnerships and community engagement. c) Tree clearance at Wellpark. The number of trees removed around the Wellpark brewery is a concern, with use as drinking dens given among the justification, and no paperwork identifying the actual number of weak and damaged trees. Frank has

received an assurance that no development is planned for this area, and a map showing the replacement tree planting programme. The nine replacement trees on the Duke Street side of the brewery are significantly fewer than the number removed, and Frank will ask why this is the case. Frank has written to request that the community council be informed of all tree cutting plans in Dennistoun in the future and the reasons for it. As yet there has been no response.

d) Alexandra Park Festival It was agreed to take a stall on July 27th, to be shared with Dennistoun Conservation Society and Friends of the Necropolis. Among suggestions for use were again auditing community concerns on a map, handing out DCC information cards, and providing copies of the Factoring Code of Conduct. The fruit supplied last year was popular, and we will consider further options before the July meeting.

e) Necropolis Ruth provided a written update noting that concerns about long-standing and knowledgeable staff requesting moves elsewhere after attacks have diminished following police communication. In future Friends of the Necropolis are to be kept informed of issues.

f) Potholes Frank reported over 30 potholes in February, and wrote to Land Services asking why little had been done and requesting an estimate for completion. The letter was copied to all councillors in the area and within two weeks most repairs have been carried out. It was promised larger areas requiring re-surfacing will also be dealt with, but as these don't appear on the list of roads to be resurfaced supplied to DCC Frank has requested clarification of this apparent contradiction. Frank will set up a password accessed DCC account with Land Services enabling all members to report incidents.

g) Wesley will write regarding an invitation to the Executive Group meeting in Easterhouse last month arriving on the morning of the meeting, as such short notice sets up the event to fail. Only six people attended. The next meeting is in Scotstoun on June 30th.

4. **ACTION PLAN:** a) Factoring. There has been no contact from Maxine Anderson, and preliminary research revealed that rules governing float charges are far from universal, and can involve title deeds. As such, the suggested public meeting is not likely to be much help. Instead our website will post a link to the Factoring Code of Conduct introduced last year and Frank will provide brief context. The Code of Conduct can also be distributed at the Alexandra Park Festival. b) Duke Street. The sub-committee looking into improvement ideas for Duke Street has not yet finished deliberating. c) Dennistoun Mapping. Funding of £2000 has been granted by the East Centre Area Partnership with modified terms of community engagement, providing 25% of the total required. This will be enough to provide a draft branded map for public consultation at the Alexandra Park festival. The printing will cost £800 for 5000 leaflets, and assorted sites for distributing the leaflets were named. Andrew re-iterated that his own practice has submitted a bid for the work, but he'll not be involved in any decision. Doors Open day on September 21st remains the proposed launch date for the full project. d) Big Lunch. It was decided that rather than have a sub-group meeting as last year, people will take on individual tasks. Initially Frank will contact Edzell regarding sponsorship. Impact Arts are holding a similar event on June 15th, and there's a Reidvale Fun Day on June 29th. e) Meeting Format. There were concerns about our meetings not offering adequate opportunities for public contributions, so it was agreed that the public section is moved nearer the start of the agenda. We will also promote the opportunity for members of the community to have their concerns added in advance as agenda items.
5. **FINANCE**. Some points require clarification in our audited accounts, and these will be addressed. Helen has yet to receive a bank statement this month, so it is hoped that RBS have progressed the change of signatories and positions. There is no change from last month's account balance of £1928.71 with Stephen holding approximately £25 in petty cash. Wesley submitted petty cash claims totalling £29.58 for stamps, paper and envelopes.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. Brian provided a written report noting no contentious applications. b) Licensing. There have been no licensing applications received, but there appears to have been an application to extend hours at the Variety Bar that we've not received. c) Correspondence. Wesley's complete correspondence list is appended to the minutes. i) Alan Barclay offered to give a briefing about the new food recycling caddies to be introduced to every household, but given time considerations at meetings it was decided this would be better provided as part of a general public meeting at the end of the summer covering cleansing and environmental issues. ii) MSP Drew Smith is canvassing support for Iain Grey's proposed Bus Regulation Bill to provide local authorities with greater power over how services are run. There is a 12 week consultation. iii) There was a Q & A leaflet about the closure of Parkhead Hospital. This is being carried out on the basis of a consultation that took place over a decade ago, and the suggested supply of services from Stobhill with its lack of accessibility via public transport is not considered acceptable locally. Local councillors have a campaign organised about this, and despite Parkhead being outwith the DCC area it serves our community, so John will respond with our concerns.
7. **REPORTS:** The East Area Partnership had a presentation from the fire brigade about how to cook without setting fires, and the police noted they've written to Justice Secretary Kenny McAskill regarding their view that current sentences for bogus callers are disproportionately lenient. With the shift from the old East Area Committee there's the opportunity for local representatives to have greater input and a vote on matters, but this would require presentations. Anne is not comfortable with this and would prefer someone else take over her role. Nominations have been requested and a decision will be taken at our next meeting. Anne will attend the July East Area Partnership meeting as this falls beforehand.
8. **ELECTED MEMBERS:** There were no elected members present.
9. **PUBLIC INPUT:** People living near the Variety Bar have endured unacceptable noise levels, describing the recent period as four years of hell. There have been four tenants during that period, but residents have to put up with antisocial behaviour, and noise until midnight from Thursday to Sunday. Protests have achieved little other than a respite that sometimes lasts mere minutes after a police visit. Sound engineers have measured noise levels, and local residents are concerned that previous restrictions will not apply to new pub tenants. An application has been made to extend opening hours, and residents have opposed this, while there has been no notification to the Community Council. Wesley will write lodging our objection to any change in licensing hours, mentioning the concerns of the residents.
10. **A.O.B:** a) Brian will attend the Inspiring Communities event at Tollcross on June 21st and Frank will attend the City Chambers Community Payback Orders consultation on June 26th, both on behalf of DCC. Stephen is also likely to be present, but in an another capacity. b) Jenny Mullholland submitted a letter resigning from the Community Council, and it was agreed her many years of service should be recognised with a bunch of flowers from us as has been traditional for retiring members.

NEXT MEETING: At 7pm Tuesday July 9th at Haghill Primary School. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.