



Dennistoun Community Council

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DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GINGERBREAD HALL 11/3/14

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair), Lauren Amazeen, John Bones, Andrew Campbell, Jane Clarke, Brian Johnson, Ruth Johnson, Anne McKenna, Vicky Melvin, Frank Plowright, Wesley Wright (Council Members)
Councillors Frank Docherty and Jennifer Dunn, PCs ?
Bernard Elliott, Zsolt Kalhar, Clair McKechnie from Centre for Population Health, and Barbara Quigley from St Andrew's East Parish Church.

Apologies: MSPs John Mason, Drew Smith, Humza Yousaf, Councillors Elaine McDougall and Alison Thewlis & Joe Scott from Milnbank Housing.

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

1. **POLICE REPORT:** After discussions between Stephen and London Road, future police attendance will be topic focussed rather than beat by beat statistics. A plain clothes operation has resulted in three arrests for the many house break-ins in the past months. The police advise making a note of all gadget and equipment serial numbers, often on the packaging, marking items via security pen with postcodes, and photographing all items of financial or sentimental value for possible later identification. Basic home precautions include maintaining close lighting, reporting suspicious behaviour immediately, admitting no-one to the close without knowing who they are. Cycles are stolen to order, usually at night, so shouldn't be left in common areas. Many stolen items are sold via websites (Gumtree, eBay), so it's worth attempting to identify items online. This information is on the police website, and we can link via the DCC pages. The theme for next month will be identity theft.
2. **PUBLIC INPUT:** None.
3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14/1/14:** Pending a couple of minor changes the minutes were otherwise proposed as accurate by Brian and seconded by Lauren.
4. **MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Public petition on dog fouling Stephen investigated current policies. A number of initiatives are in place, and in April a Clean Glasgow initiative starts. Stephen felt it preferable to engage with that rather than submitting on the topic to the Petitions Committee. New ward manager Martin Lundy will be invited to a DCC meeting to provide input. Frank noted a petition was suggested as successive initiatives have made no lasting difference, and even attempting to obtain outcomes from the previous initiative had met with no success. Would this be any different? Wesley asked if there would be any specific performance indicators. Quarterly operational assessments exist and Stephen suggested asking for information over a two to three year cycle. Clean Glasgow explained to Stephen that call volume regarding dog fouling is what prompts action, and when a problem area is identified services are deployed. This February in council ward 18, which includes Dennistoun, 24 fixed penalty notices were issued for dog fouling. Councillor Docherty mentioned a planned campaign involving schools, successful six years ago, has been temporarily postponed as the freephone number used by Glasgow Council generates

charges from a mobile phone. This renders existing stationery and leaflets redundant, but once the problem is rectified the school campaign will be revived. Zsolt Kalmar suggested every tenement door be stickered with the phone number, as people tend to let calling lapse between discovery of dog fouling and returning home. Councillor Dunn mentioned current Scottish government discussions on chipping dogs, and suggested passing information on fouling to all owners when this is carried out. She also highlighted a form of dog ASBO where owners can be compelled to take classes. Bernard Elliott commented that Onslow Square's refurbishment included bins for dog dirt, now disappeared. Councillor Docherty's view was that bins won't change the behaviour of owners who don't clear up after their dogs. It was also pointed out that that the refurbished Onslow Square was never intended as a dog walking area.

b) East End Social The May 31st date was confirmed, with events running from late afternoon on Duke Street and adjoining streets, with gigs occurring in around 10 venues, including shops. Some events will be ticketed. No line-up has been announced, but it's anticipated the event will draw hundreds into the area. Stephen suggested tying in a Big Lunch event that day, preceded by a community clean-up. The Big Lunch could be funded by applying for a discretionary grant of up to £400 available to community councils via the Culture Legacy Fund. Additionally it's hoped that there will be a long-term benefit from skill sharing in the area.

c) New Scheme of Establishment There was a slight hitch in that further signatories were required, but this has now been resolved and signed documents have been accepted.

d) 2013/14 Admin Allowance We have responded regarding the apparent confusion over John Mason's letter concerning last year's grant not this year's, but have heard nothing more. Wesley will chase this up.

e) New Park Management rules Our consultation response has been acknowledged, stating the prohibition of radio-controlled vehicles required review. Other content elicited constrasting interpretation. Stephen saw a recognition that the overall wording required review as reducing the rules from the current 5000 words had created ambiguity, while Wesley's interpretation was that the rules would remain with wording changed.

f) Potholes Frank believed Stephen's description of a letter sent to Land Services varied greatly from content agreed at February's meeting. Stephen considered it inappropriate to address the executive director about individual problems as he doesn't deal with them personally, and raising individual overgrown hedges and stretches of faulty footpath as counter-productive to a healthy working relationship with Land Services. He believed it coincidental that some reported potholes were seen to within 24 hours. Frank disagreed due to the relatively large number repaired. Stephen will circulate the letter sent.

5. **ACTION PLAN:** a) Day Out In Dennistoun. Andrew supplied a draft map incorporating all items of note in Dennistoun suggested to date. He will soon consult with local schools, and the map will then be formalised. Draft written content is scheduled by April's DCC meeting, to be finalised in May with the map print-ready by June. Printing will require more funding, and the bid for £2000 with ScotRail will be considered later in March. The written content will be passed to Future Cities/Glasgow for inclusion in one of their demonstrator projects. Assuming funding is successful printed copies should be available in August ahead of Doors Open Day in September deadline. b) Duke Street. Stephen investigated funding for charette style community engagement. It's provided in increments of thousands of pounds and involves a management company, so is beyond our needs. A springtime consultation costing several hundred pounds is still planned, possibly working with Reidvale Housing Association.
6. **DCC MEMBERSHIP:** a) Milnbank Housing Association will finalise DCC Associate membership, and Linda Scott of Reidvale Housing Association has responded positively. With Market Gallery and Dennistoun Diggers that leaves one associate membership remaining. Dennistoun Photographers Club was suggested, but the Dennistoun designation

refers to location rather than specific local interest. b) Stephen has been trying to contact Louise to confirm her apparent resignation, but has received no response. Wesley will now attempt to verify. It was suggested we proceed to solicit new members irrespective of Louise's response, but Stephen pointed out that should we start now, and Louise confirms her resignation the ballot and nomination process may have to be repeated within months. Lauren enquired about a strategy. There are plenty of options available, soliciting via Facebook, our own website, and the Glasgow City Council website in addition to posting leaflets and posting on the Dennistoun Online Forum.

7. **FINANCE:** a) Our current bank balance is £3177.43, including a £2000 grant for the Day out in Dennistoun project, leaving £1177.43 of unrestricted funds. Expenditure since last month has been the Gingerbread Hall let fee, £200 taken for petty cash, £112.19 refunded to Wesley for website and stationery expenses, and the agreed £250 donation to Friends of the Necropolis. b) Glasgow Council have now acknowledged receipt of our audited accounts for 2012-2013.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. Nothing of significance over the past month, but Brian noted work proceeding at two properties with no planning permission applied for. Councillor Docherty will follow up. Brian has not received planning lists for the past two weeks and has e-mailed asking why. If there is no response he should make a complaint. b) Licensing On behalf of DCC Wesley has objected to two new applications for houses of multiple occupation as per DCC policy. We will also object to the new sun bed premises being constructed on Duke St on the basis that 30 of 140 premises on and around Duke Street are already hairdressers or assorted beautification premises and there is an over-supply. An application for new food premises was rejected last year for this reason. An application has been submitted for a new for a new micro-brewery pub and restaurant at 85 Drygate operating between 11am and 1am. This is considered to add value to the area. The former Alberto's premises at 506 Alexandra Parade have applied for a licence between 11am and 10.30pm. Councillor Docherty said the application originated from one of Glasgow's top 20 restaurateurs and it would also add value to the area. c) Correspondence
 - i) New counter hours at London Road will be 7am to midnight.
 - ii) We were asked to contribute to hire costs for an annual summer bus trip for the elderly attending the keep-fit class at Dennistoun New Church. The closure of the church in 2013 has limited fundraising and the total cost will be between £400 and £500. Councillor Docherty said that provided the organisation is constituted the East Centre Area Committee can fund up to £250, and he would be able to source a further £100 from an anonymous donor. Stephen noted that we can't offer donations on a discretionary basis.
9. **REPORTS:** a) East Area Partnership Ruth will attend tomorrow and asked for areas to be addressed. Dog fouling, premises being altered without planning applications, the Duke Street Audit, the Big Lunch and the state of the paving on Duke Street were mentioned. b) Friends of the Necropolis A gathering of youths drinking in the Necropolis was organised by social media, but they left when asked. Other nuisances over the past month include smashed monuments, deposited syringes, excrement and a naked rambler at 6.30pm. c) Elected Members Councillor Docherty's report included the following:
 - i) The new Drygate Brewery is making a big investment in the area bringing 50 jobs with their micro-brewery and pub. The trees on John Knox Street have been illuminated and Tennents are investing £100,000 in a giant projection screen.
 - ii) Golfhill and St Denis' primary schools have adopted Duke St station and have prepared decorations for the Commonwealth Games, which will receive TV coverage. Scot Rail provide free transport for school outings in exchange. On March 26th between 10am and 2pm St Denis' and Haghill primaries will showcase an art project at Celtic Park, while Whitehill pupils have

reached the final of Determined To Cook which will be held in Tennent's Training Academy on March 28th.

iii) There has been significant investment in upgrading St Denis' and Alexandra Parade school buildings and Onslow Drive day nursery with work already in progress.

iv) The Annfield Place Christmas lighting will be restored well before Christmas and a community switching on ceremony is being considered.

v) The population of Ward 18, incorporating Dennistoun, is 29,872 according to the last census figures. Stephen noted Dennistoun accounts for more than half the ward's population.

vi) Wellpark Community Hall has been upgraded with more facilities.

vii) Scottish architect David Sim from Danish company Gehl will be talking at 19 Vale Rock St, Cranhill on March 22nd about the results of placing people at the centre of urban planning, what makes a community feel safe and possible uses of the spaces between buildings.

10. **A.O.B:** a) Claire McKechnie from Representing Communities has a grant to empower communities in health and wellbeing over a 30 month project, and Dennistoun is one of several areas across the U.K. being targeted. The project will research the area's cultural representation distilling what reflects Dennistoun, then community arts projects will use the information with the aim of building a healthier community. The results will be fed to policy makers and it's hoped this will be a sustainable legacy project set up to access repeated funding.
- b) Ruth thanked DCC for the £250 contribution to the Friends of the Necropolis and announced that 500 plants will be planted at the east wall of the Necropolis on March 22nd. All are welcome to help.
- c) Ruth updated on Century Films who're still interested in Duke Street being the focus of a TV programme relating the history of a street.
- d) Stephen has submitted our nomination for the Evening Times Community Champions awards, but there has been no news as yet.
- e) Barbara Quigley talked about her role in The Granary, a youth club for older people and called for volunteers to attend a session on Friday March 28th between 2 and 3pm at St Andrew's East Parish Church. Anne, Jane and Vicky said they'd attend.

NEXT MEETING: At 7pm Tuesday April 8th at the Gingerbread Hall, Armadale Street. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.