



Dennistoun Community Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GINGERBREAD HALL 8/4/14

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair), John Bones, Brian Johnson, Ruth Johnson, Anne McKenna, Vicky Melvin, Frank Plowright, Wesley Wright (Council Members)

PCs Craig Davies & Barry Pritchard, Bernard Elliott, B.Gault and Mark Scott from Dennistoun Photographers, Joe Scott from Milnbank Housing

Apologies: Andy Campbell, Jane Clarke, MSPs Hanzala Malik, John Mason, Drew Smith, Humza Yousaf, and Councillor Russell Robertson

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

- POLICE REPORT:** The attending police weren't from Dennistoun, and not told tonight's theme was online security. Stephen downloaded a briefing on the topic from the police website, and this can be edited for posting on DCC's website. Joe Scott announced Milnbank Housing had renewed funding for additional policing for a further year, and that the hand-held technology provided is now being considered by other forces and housing associations. Joe offered the Milnbank funded officers to attend DCC meetings as part of their duties, but it was decided this should be supplemental to regular police attendance. Another initiative has begun in Dennistoun without the community council being informed or consulted, despite numerous representations and offers to help. Operation Relay targets several issues of local concern including bogus callers and traffic offences. There have been calls about vandalism in the area, particularly in Finlay Drive, and people are urged to phone if they see anything. The police passed on concerns of the elderly regarding groups of youths. This should be targeted by Youth Services, but there's a difficulty in getting youngsters to engage. The police noted they're now stopping youths from several other areas on their Carntyne beat, with social media being used to arrange trouble.
- PUBLIC INPUT:** a) Bernard Elliott noted the overgrown shrubbery in Alexandra Park that concerned him has been cut back. b) Joe Scott announced funding to renovate Alexandra Park's bowling green area. It's planned to have an astroturf bowling area and greatly refurbish the building to serve as a cycle hub, extending the Borrow a Bike scheme. A police donation has increased Milnbank's holding to 30 cycles including four electric bikes. It was suggested the refurbished facility could include a cafe. c) Milnbank Housing are also organising a Come Dine With Me experience for the elderly to consult regarding the facilities they'd like. d) Ruth mentioned a funding application to transform the lake in the park had been unsuccessful, and perhaps Milnbank Housing could also take this on.
- MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14/1/14:** Pending a couple of minor changes the minutes were otherwise proposed as accurate by Wesley and seconded by Brian.
- MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Dog fouling New ward manager Martin Lundy will attend July's DCC meeting, and we'll attempt to obtain solid information beforehand. Contrary to there apparently being no figures for Dennistoun, Ruth explained dog fouling is included on the detailed form she's required to submit after the monthly

community clean-ups. The reports are now submitted to Ryan Noble, who will be doing a walk-around with community volunteers. It's also possible to report dog fouling online via Glasgow Council's RALF system, and people should phone cleaning to ensure dog bins are emptied more regularly. Bernard Elliott mentioned a big improvement at the park entrance.

b) 2013/14 Admin Allowance In the face of the Glasgow Council's finance department not understanding correspondence was regarding last year's admin allowance there was agreement to let the matter drop.

c) Commonwealth Games Legacy Branding This is not an organisational basis, but project by project, and we have permission to use the Commonwealth Games brand for the Day Out In Dennistoun map and ap.

d) Community Champions Awards There was no response to DCC's application and the shortlist was announced at the start of the month.

e) Duke Street Filming Duke Street from High Street to Parkhead will be the focus of a TV documentary, and filming has started. There were concerns about a negative portrayal, but Brian noted that while he cannot be certain, he didn't feel this would be the case. Filming continues until the end of May, and Brian believed screening will be in June or July.

f) Potholes After last month's disagreement Stephen and Frank met and it was agreed that we would write another letter addressing specific concerns to the head of the department dealing with street repair.

5. **ACTION PLAN:** a) Day Out In Dennistoun. Andrew supplied draft content, and the general feeling was more text was required. This will probably be the final opportunity to flag up additional items of interest, highlighting the positive. DCC was unsuccessful in applying for ScotRail funding, which was massively oversubscribed. Stephen will use the same information to apply for a Comic Relief grant via Foundation Scotland as soon as possible.
b) Duke Street. The sub-group report has not been completed, but Stephen noted considerable change since the shop audit was taken. Linda Scott at Reidvale Housing Association is willing to help with a community consultation event.
6. **ACTIVITIES ON MAY 31st:** a) There is no draft programme as yet for what is now the Duke Street Expo. Some events will be ticketed with charge, others ticketed without.
b) Brian, Frank, and Stephen agreed to organise a Big Lunch event, focussing on a single location. Wesley couldn't commit to full participation, but will also help. Stephen will apply for £400 from the Community Council Resource Centre to fund the event. c) It was decided not to hold a clean-up on May 31st. The admin involved is now onerous and it was felt too ambitious given other commitments on the same day. There was also some discussion about Dennistoun Community Council taking over the monthly community clean-ups, but no decision was reached.
7. **DCC MEMBERSHIP:** a) Louise has now confirmed her resignation to Stephen. It was decided to have an election at the June meeting, giving ten weeks to promote the five vacancies. Candidates need to inform DCC two weeks before the meeting, and we will place nomination forms in the same locations we promote meetings. b) Stephen proposed Claire McKechnie from Representing Communities as an associate member. There was general support, although she was unable to attend this meeting. c) Frank will liaise with Jane regarding ordering flowers for Louise in recognition of her long service with Dennistoun Community Council.
8. **FINANCE:** Jane wasn't present, but it's assumed that there has been no significant change from last month. Wesley has a £5 claim for paper.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. Nothing of significance over the past month, but anecdotal evidence suggests work being carried out at the old Masonic Lodge on Alexandra Parade varies considerably from the permission granted in May 2012. There were concerns

about use as a hostel at the time, and permission was for 22 rooms, while apparently 40 are being constructed. Brian will flag this up with Planning, Building Control and Councillor Elaine McDougall, who was involved in setting planning conditions two years ago. Wesley will send the correspondence as secretary, but noted that in such cases it was preferable others draft the letters.

b) Licensing i) The re-named Dog & Rabbit at 187 Reidvale Street has applied for extended Sunday opening hours and a drinking area for 20 outside the premises. It was decided to object to the application, primarily on the basis that this area would be directly opposite Reidvale Adventure Playground. ii) There is an application for the Alexandra Park Festival on June 21st. In the interest of disclosing possible conflict of interest Stephen noted that his partner submitted this. There were no objections. iii) We object to a new tanning studio opening between 8am and 10pm on Alexandra Parade on the basis of over-provision in the area. There was concern about the basement location of some beds and lack of adequate fire exit, but this falls under Building Control, not Planning. c) Correspondence A full list was circulated, but matters discussed were i) Charlotte Bozic from the Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice requested community representation at April 29th's Engage With Strathclyde event. No-one volunteered.* ii) David McCrae offered to attend to discuss changes at Parkhead hospital. We agreed. iii) Sarah Wellford asked for contractor recommendations, but we cannot favour individual contractors. Frank is happy to talk with her about self-factoring.

10. **REPORTS:** a) East Area Partnership Ruth attended March's meeting. Full minutes are available on the Glasgow City Council website and can be linked from the DCC website. A precis of Dennistoun-relevant material was circulated by e-mail. i) The clerk to the licencing board has been asked to provide a more detailed map of the locality with regard to over-provision of licensed premises as only Carntyne and Haghill were identified. There was concern over the boundary, which will be discussed before 2016's consultation ii) Under-age test purchases at off-licences had only a single failure, but four required management intervention. Supermarkets and pubs will be tested next. iii) Stephen will supply the community audit template used by DCC for wider circulation, and Dennistoun's issues will be included in future reports. iv) 400 people from the wider area have engaged in two youth programmes since November 2013. v) The area budget for grants stands at £63,964. There was concern that despite a policy statement about this, funding was still awarded to Glasgow City Council service and associated arms length organisations with council connections. It was felt the primary focus should be community and volunteer groups.
11. **A.O.B:** a) Frank mentioned a possible petition about reducing the 12 page form required to apply for small area budget grants. He preferred this was carried over to next month and discussed during matters arising with more members present. b) A Local Development Consultation starts on May 1st running for eight weeks. We provided a detailed response to a consultation 18 months ago, but funding has been allocated elsewhere. We will compare with comments made then. c) Stephen highlighted an international conference showcasing community values and solutions to be held in Glasgow. Subsidised places are available at £35 per day and it was agreed Stephen should attend. d) Ruth will pass on future community clean-up audits to be submitted via DCC, as this will register as raising issues. e) 350 trees were planted by Dennistoun Conservation Society on March 22nd by 15 volunteers, and some have already begun to sprout. The Conservation Society will fund planting of the 150 remaining trees.

NEXT MEETING: At 7pm Tuesday May 13th at the Gingerbread Hall, Armadale Street. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.

* In the days after the meeting Stephen committed to participating on behalf of DCC.