



Dennistoun Community Council

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DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GINGERBREAD HALL 8/7/14

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair), Naila Akram, John Bones, Andy Campbell, Ruth Johnston, Brian Johnston, Jennifer McGlone, Ally Meek, Frank Plowright, Christine Quinn, Wesley Wright (Council Members)
James Cowie, Bernard Elliott, Barbara Fearnside and Martin Lundie from Community Safety Glasgow, Joe Scott from Milnbank Housing, Noor Mohammed and Bill Kelly from Tartan Lodge

Apologies: Lauren Amazeen, Jane Clarke, Ruth Jackson, Anne McKenna, and Vicky Melvin, MSPs John Mason and Drew Smith, Councillor Frank Docherty

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright and Ally Meek

1. **POLICE REPORT:** No police attended.
2. **PUBLIC INPUT:** Bill Kelly & Noor Mohammed from Tartan Lodge attended in response to DCC concerns about redevelopment of the old Masonic Lodge building on Alexandra Parade. The main issues were deviation from the submitted planning application and possible use as a homeless hostel rather than the originally specified hotel. It was explained the original submission with 24 bedrooms would require pricing equivalent to city centre rooms. New plans had been submitted and approved for a backpackers style hostel with some dormitories, and Councillor Frank Docherty has a copy of the new application. The owners were adamant that this will be a hostel refusing social work bookings. There has already been use from Royal Infirmary visitors. Final tourist board approval is still required, and registration has been submitted to appropriate organisations. There will be no alcohol permitted in the building, and everything has been carried out to required specifications. Redevelopment costs were low is due to Mr Mohammed operating a building company. There are currently no plans for the other half of the building, but a basement restaurant will open. The owners invited DCC members to visit at any time and inspect a room to ensure high standards prevail, and also offered support for future DCC projects.
3. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10/6/14:** Pending some minor amendments, the minutes were otherwise proposed as accurate by Brian and seconded by Wesley.
4. **MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Meeting with John Quinn Frank and Stephen attended and both considered it a productive meeting. John took all comments on board and offered insight as to why some work is problematical. Binmen are instructed to close and lock doors they've opened (not doing so is a disciplinary offence), and litter bins have been replaced multiple occasions in some areas, but are vandalised again, John will look into bins less liable to vandalism and pass on information about blocked drains. He planned to attend tonight's meeting, but was unable to do so. He is available for future meetings. b) Bus Services. An e-mail arrived from Iain Gray MSP explaining the lack of progress following the bus service consultation was due to the sad illness and subsequent death of the primary researcher. Response analysis has now taken place, and there is hope of progress in the near future. It was agreed Frank will follow-up if there's been no news by

December. c) Big Gig. Jennifer, Naila and Stephen have organised the Big Gig at 6pm on July 12th, Reidvale Hall. It'll be free with donation buckets on site and £400 of specific purpose music-based funding will cover payments to musicians, venue hire, and transport cost. £100 contingency funding from DCC was agreed, including money left over from the Big Lunch. DCC will use the event to consult on Duke Street and the Day Out In Dennistoun map and ap. d) Area Grant Forms. Our letter to Richard Kelly has been acknowledged and circulated to those currently undertaking the Integrated Grant Fund review. e) Alexandra Park Festival June 21st This was a valuable community consultation increasing our public perception and mailing list. The cost to DCC was £32.60 for fruit we distributed. There were particular comments on the excellence of the procession, and agreement we should support the event next year. f) City Development Plan. Stephen and Brian responded to the plan, which required adhering to subject-related templates. Our responses covered Town Centre Networks, Heritage and Historic Environment. The lack of response to our comments on the previous draft has been acknowledged, and a commitment given to improved communication. The Inner-East strategic plan has yet to be developed and this is a good opportunity for input. We should consider how our area can be approved. what we want. g) Communication with North-East Community Councils. Cranhill and Easterhouse community councils made contact at the Alexandra Park event, but the problem remains few in the North-East are contactable by e-mail. Stephen is drafting letters, but acknowledged this would have to be a back burner project. h) Scottish Community Development Centre. It was agreed to take up the service last month, and mindful that we're all up for re-election in October it was suggested we begin sessions on a Tuesday night in mid-August. The training is bespoke at our pace, and Stephen stressed that not everyone needs to participate although all are welcome.

5. **COMMUNITY SAFETY GLASGOW.** Martin Lundie and Barbara Fearnside from Community Safety Services Glasgow attended in response to frequent comments regarding dog fouling. CSS is an arms-length organisation with a remit to oversee problems associated with low level crime and anti-social behaviour, and environmental issues. Regarding the latter there are regular liason meetings with David McGoldrick from Land Services. Martin Lundie noted that historically services had been equally applied throughout Glasgow's electoral areas, but a better use of resources responds to the greatest need, assessed via volume of calls and complaints. He stressed that the way to more resources being applied is to let CSS know about problems. Currently the Dennistoun area receives an average of 185 patrol hours per month, exceeding the city average, and in the drives in April and May 13 fixed penalty notices were issued for cigarette littering, 3 for general littering and 4 for dog fouling. These were considered high figures by CSS, but it was acknowledged that public perception may be otherwise. Every second month there is a month of targeted intervention. The recent poster campaign encouraging people to phone is still active, but concerns about anonymity have proved problematical as if a cases reaching court name complainants.

Ruth noted there has been little improvement, particularly regarding ease of access from the Eastern wall, and CCTV promised as the nights grew lighter has not materialised. CSS do have a community payback team due for work in the Necropolis. Anyone in the area can nominate a project for community payback teams, but tasks can't supplant contractually maintained work, and any materials required must be supplied. Barbara Fearnside noted grants are often available for these. A further restriction is that those involved have differing court applied constraints limiting access to some areas, so centrally located projects are preferable. An idea Frank had for community payback carrying out community audits in Dennistoun wouldn't work on that basis. Brian noted lack of communication with locals over community payback projects. A team removing weeds and flowers alike from the lanes connecting Craigpark and Westercraigs for ease of access for emergency and refuse

vehicles was unaware these were private lanes, and refuse services are very clear about being unable to use them. Frank mentioned the time-consuming conditions applied to neighbourhood clean-ups, but Ruth noted these have eased since discussion at an earlier meeting and are now manageable. Wesley commented that dog fouling is a consistent complaint and reports with solid statistics would be useful in answering these. A commitment was given to provide quarterly reports, with DCC having input into how these are formatted. A meeting will be arranged at Eastgate for this. CSS will also attend DCC meetings twice a year if required. Frank suggested CSS post directly on Dennistoun Online, but this wasn't considered possible, although no reason was given.

6. **ACTION PLAN:** a) Day Out In Dennistoun. The content is relatively complete, the design in place and Andy is meeting with Dennistoun Photographers regarding picture content. A final consultation will take place at the Big Gig, and it's hoped design and content will be signed off at the next meeting. Suggestions are solicited for the cover. Wesley needs to discuss digital aspects. b) Duke Street. Stephen said the report is almost ready and will be circulated via e-mail once the working group has met to finalise content. The community consultation will take place at the Market Gallery, probably in late August. c) Action Plan 2014/15. New community councillors can consult the previous Action Plan online, and we should consider revisions before re-election in October.
7. **FINANCE:** Jane was absent, but left a report noting our current balance as £2622.06, £1000 of which can only be applied to the Day Out In Dennistoun project. The petty cash balance is £115.63.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. No contentious new applications. The most interesting is to transform a former Glenpark Street warehouse into a dance studio. b) Licensing There has been an application for late hours at 629 Duke Street, a Chinese takeaway. Although under a residential block, the hours aren't as late as those proposed by a takeaway application last month and we voted not to object. Outwith our area one pharmacy application for the Forge has been rejected and new application submitted. c) Correspondence A full list was circulated to be appended to the minutes, but Wesley highlighted Barbara Hoyle's enquiry about Mary Groat, and offered to circulate information about processions. No response from Resource centre regarding AGM as of yet. Stephen discusses DCC members' personal information being shared within the group.
9. **A.O.B:** a) Naila has been contacted by a representative from Bard in the Botanics, who are distributing free tickets to community groups. Information will be circulated via the website, Wes will deal with responses. Naila suggests that this may be a good group activity for DCC members. b) John has been made aware that furniture from the Glasgow 2014 athletes' village is to be donated to Milnbank housing association to be distributed to tenants. More info to follow, and details will likely be posted on the website when they become available. c) John also mentions that Scotrail/Transport Scotland are meeting on 08 Aug 2014 to discuss potential introduction of a Sunday Service on Alexandra Parade line. Stephen suggests DCC should write ahead of the meeting outlining our support for this being introduced. d) There has been an £8900 Heritage Lottery funded award to develop a WWI project. Also, Fiona Robertson is installing a "green man with flowering head" sculpture on the Necropolis grounds. Further details provided.

NEXT MEETING: At 7pm Tuesday August 12th at the Gingerbread Hall, Armadale Street. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.