



Dennistoun Community Council

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MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT GINGERBREAD HALL

14/10/14

Present: Stephen Birrell (chair), Michelle Coulter, Ruth Jackson, Jennifer McGlone, Ally Meek, Michael Melvin, Frank Plowright, Christine Quinn, Caitlin Quinn, Elena Trimarchi (Council Members), Associate members Claire McKechnie from GCPH, Joe Scott from Milnbank Housing, Rosie from Market Gallery. Zara Kitson, Anna Miele, Helen Quinn

Apologies: Lauren Amazeen, John Bones, Jane Clarke, Ruth Johnston, Brian Johnston, Wesley Wright (Council Members) MSP Humza Yousaf and Councillor Jennifer Dunn.

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

- POLICE REPORT:** No police presence. Stephen explained policy for new members. Joe Scott noted Milnbank Housing Association receive detailed policing information, which contrasts DCC's variable experience. He met new area Inspector Matt Webb, who committed to community engagement and was passed contact details to arrange attending a meeting.
Frank mentioned a poster to Dennistoun Forum living in Whitehill Place reporting repeatedly phoning police about teenagers entering the flats and engaging in disruptive behaviour to no response. Community police officers consistently advise calling in these circumstances, and it was agreed we would raise the matter with the police.
- PUBLIC INPUT:** No public input.
- MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9/9/14:** Ruth provided amendments about her report from the East Area Partnership, and the minutes were otherwise proposed as accurate by Ally and seconded by Jennifer.
- MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**
 - DCC Induction. The Community Council Support Team is working on an induction pack to be circulated to all community councillors when complete.
 - Supporting Communities Scheme. Stephen explained for new members. We should consider our aims for a fuller discussion next meeting. Despite missing the inaugural session new community council members are welcome to participate.
 - LES. Stephen is to follow-up with David Mullholland. The quarterly cleansing report provided to Pollockshields Community Council was circulated and it was agreed to request a similar quarterly report from Land Services.
 - Nursery Place Provision. Stephen outlined the disparity between available free nursery places in the area and Glasgow Council's position as explained at September's meeting. Councillors have pledged their assistance, and we've requested further information. Rather than duplicating work, Stephen will liaise with those already on the case.
 - Stephen has followed up on the World War I memorial once in Dennistoun Baths mentioned by John Mason MSP in September. It would be appropriate to have it re-sited in the vicinity of its previous location, now Craigpark Masters. It could be incorporated into the new development planned at the site of the BP petrol station, and City Park was also mentioned.
 - Frank apologised for not yet circulating provisional text for an introductory document about DCC for the public attending

meetings. He will provide this in time for the next meeting. g) Bike Scheme. Stephen outlined the issue for new members, but no progress since the last meeting.

5. **ACTION PLAN.** a) Day Out in Dennistoun. Stephen outlined the project for new members. Andy is still working on the map and ap, so it wasn't launched at Open Studios weekend at WASPS last week. b) Duke Street. Stephen outlined the audit for new members and will provide a copy for them. It's hoped to have a public consultation at the Market Gallery. c) Action Plan 2014/15. Several suggestions were made, including the traffic problem in Dennistoun, Elena noted the Corner Shop's willingness to help out with art based projects, and a community garden behind the old Golfhill school. We agreed to defer final decisions until we've discussed the Action Plan as part of the Supporting Communities process. Stephen highlighted the Shawlands Action Plan, a funded endeavour with community buy-in and a planning officer allocated from Glasgow Council.
6. **FINANCE:** Our current balance is £2902.85, £1000 of which can only be applied to the Day Out In Dennistoun project, and £375 is allocated to cover as yet unbilled charges, leaving £1552.85 including a petty cash balance of £27.36.
7. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. There was discussion about the planned demolition of the BP petrol station on Alexandra Parade and replacement four storey flat block with access via Lloyd Street. It's hoped the high number of submitted objections prompts greater community consultation. Children in the area are upset about the proposed removal of trees, and there are concerns about clearing vast petrol tanks. This occurred on Great Western Road a few years ago, and residents there may have more information on procedure. It was suggested community payback could be used clear the currently vacant land, but ownership issues would be relevant. We will post any updates on the DCC website. An application for flats at the top of Wishart Street mentioned in passing as standard at the September meeting has also drawn objections regarding parking. Some felt it a shame that another grassy area was being lost. b) Licensing Nothing received. c) Correspondence No-one attended a community payback event, and community councils have been surveyed in response to comments that the annual allowance does not enable them to fulfil obligations in a meaningful manner. Office bearers will respond. Stephen highlighted Napier University's Centre for Social Information's report, which singled out DCC as an example of effective online communication. In September Wesley indicated he'd prefer to separate the social media element of the Secretary's duties, with Ally and Ruth interested, but it was decided to defer a decision until more members were present next month, as part of action plan discussions. A full list of correspondence is appended to the minutes.
8. **REPORTS:** a) East Area Partnership Ruth supplied notes from September's meeting, with the full list appended. The frequency of Area Partnership group meetings is to be reduced to quarterly, with the quorum at 25% of membership with one elected member. Community members want to add agenda items, particularly regarding neighbourhood management. A community safety report covered data going back three years, and more recent information was required. In our ward Wellpark/Necropolis was identified as a priority area, but the figures provided omitted this despite Ruth regularly submitting incident reports on behalf of Friends of the Necropolis. This will be raised at an October 7th meeting with Land Services. Friends of the Necropolis was awarded £3000 to restore World War I family memorials subject to a Land Services report. Next meeting at 10am on 14/11/14 at City Chambers. b) Elected Member updates. None present. Frank suggested writing to elected members regarding attendance. Paul Martin has only attended three meetings since January 2011, while Willie Bain has never attended. Attendance from local councillors has dropped sharply, with no appearance from Elaine McDougall or Russell Robertson in over a year.

Stephen included attendance figures in his A.G.M. report, and will write to all elected members inviting them to meet new DCC members.

9. **A.O.B:** a) Dog Fouling. There has been some confusion among members of the public regarding instant effect when reporting dog fouling, whereas services are allocated due to accumulated reports. Stephen provided cards with the phone numbers now free from all phones. b) Zara Kitson has just moved from Striling, where she was a community councillor. She advised that if elected members fail to attend regularly this is reported on our website, and the same should apply to police non-attendance. c) A lot of money has been spent on new gym facilities at Whitehill, but swimming changing facilities were described as disgusting. Comment forms have been submitted, but there was speculation as to how seriously they were taken. Having worked for Glasgow Life, Stephen gave assurances they were taken seriously, and concerns about staff at a venue not passing complaints on could be addressed by reporting online. d) Michael Melvin asked about plans to refurbish Whitehill Gardens. This will be added to action plan topics to be considered. It was revealed problems regarding emptying dog bins at Onslow Square were due to their installation without making arrangements for emptying. e) Refurbishing the Reidvale railway line bridge was suggested for the action plan, and there were concerns about the closure of the basketball court there due to youths drinking. Stephen noted we would have a process of prioritising, and that we should be thinking for the future, not just the present. Michelle mentioned how children from the area were involved in a big refurbishment project at Reidvale years ago, and having contributed ensured it was maintained. RAPA has been awarded £10,000 of lottery funding. f) Stephen mentioned Dennistoun hosting the highest proportion of artists outside East London and would like to see them involved in a project that will bring people into the area. g) An event for new members will be planned. A Burns Supper and ceilidh was suggested, and could involve the Glasgow Fiddle Workshop, now based at John Wheatley College. h) Stephen attended a meeting providing Big Lunch feedback, describing it as really positive. i) Dennistoun Diggers will hold a winter fair in November and have plans for a spring produce swap meeting.

NEXT MEETING: A.G.M. at 7pm Tuesday November 11th at the Gingerbread Hall, Armadale Street. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.