



## Dennistoun Community Council

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### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE 12/5/15

**Present:** Stephen Birrell (chair), John Bones, Jane Clarke, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Michael Melvin, Frank Plowright, Christine Quinn, Wesley Wright (Council Members) Anna ?, Fraser McKurdy, Jane McLenahan, Vicky Melvin, Hugh Stewart Police Inspector Matt Webb

**Apologies:** Lauren Amazeen, David Houston, Ruth Jackson, Ally Meek, Angela Mills, Elena Trimarchi, MSPs John Mason, Humza Yousaf

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

- POLICE REPORT:** Inspector Matt Webb reported that a) a man has been arrested and charged for six local house break-ins. If anyone has noted suspicious people in their block in recent months, particularly claiming to be calling on someone, please inform the police. b) There are regular patrols in Alexandra Park to combat youth disorder, and police are aware of issues at Golfhill Primary. c) If anyone has issues they shouldn't be put off calling again if the police didn't respond as quickly as they'd have liked. This is due to limited resources having to be prioritised. d) Inspector Webb encouraged DCC representation on the area Crime Prevention Panel. It meets monthly during the day, and he has encouraged them to spread meetings across the entire ward to be more inclusive. Jane volunteered, with the proviso meetings concluded before school finished. e) In response to comments about continuity, Inspector Webb has piloted a scheme with a single point of contact for local community councils. A supervisor will be allocated to each individual community council and will attend meetings accompanied by an officer from the area. Stephen hoped this would provide consistency of information. f) Ruth mentioned Clayton Terrace had been targeted at the weekend, with one break-in, two attempted break-ins and an old lady conned out of £200. g) The community council's wider role of disseminating information, crime prevention and safety messages was mentioned, and Stephen noted our use of social media and stressing the positive rather than alarming people. The Crime Prevention Panel can access funding to aid this. Inspector Webb left at this point.
- PUBLIC INPUT:** a) Jane McLenahan experiences continual disturbance from customers of the Ladbrokes shop on the corner of Meadowpark St and the Parade. There is littering, an instance of vomiting in a garden, people under substance influence staggering from the premises, and folk lurking in doorways watching flats. She's approached Ladbrokes locally and nationally, and they have no good neighbour relations policy. There also appears to be drug dealing taking place across Alexandra Parade. It was noted police sometimes don't target minor drug offences as their concern is the bigger picture. It was suggested we report this to the police, and contact elected members regarding their colleagues on the Licensing Committee. b) Fraser McKurdy raised the disused basketball court, and was referred to Ally who has followed up. Reidvale Housing have also investigated, and it was suggested DCC could be an official keyholder. Wes will follow up via e-mail and copy Fraser in.
- MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 13/3/15 and 14/4/15:** Much debate about March minutes until Jane McLenahan said she felt awkward and uncomfortable and this wasn't the place for the discussion. Stephen noted few changes to previous draft minutes, detail was not

needed, it wasn't helpful to record evidence of disputes, and quoted City Council guidance. Frank explained the changes made, his reasons for producing minutes in the current fashion (as per last month), expressing concern about police attempting to remove valid comment. He agreed to remove some comments, but John objected, also quoting guidance that minutes should be a full record of the meeting. Jane McLenahan said that as a member of the public she felt the minutes dense and off-putting. Ruth suggested a way of reducing length by appending, not quoting reports, such as that by Claire McKechnie-Mason. Stephen suggested a policy be discussed appointing a single community councillor responsible for all communication as Frank's correspondence with police muddied the waters. Frank greatly objected to the suggestion he should be denied a right of personal response when his accuracy was called into question. Stephen felt many points raised in the discussion about March's minutes last month weren't minuted. Frank replied that this was due to a clear message that members present didn't want disagreements minuted. March minutes remain unapproved. With one minor change the April minutes were proposed as accurate by Wesley and seconded by Michael.

4. **MATTERS ARISING:** a) Planning application An HMO application from Barnado's in Onslow Drive has been passed. Brian noted it was despite not being valid in the designated conservation area. b) Parking in Clayton Terrace: A consultation process starts next year regarding parking in Dennistoun, discussing speed bumps, residents permits and parking meters among other topics. c) Grant application forms: Consultation among area committees has taken place regarding this and other matters of concern, but we didn't respond. Frank suggested if the current complex form remains for small grants we revert to asking for change via the Petitions Committee. d) Paving and road repair: A letter sent in December regarding problems wasn't received. It was sent again, these will be checked and a response given. Frank was told the cup of tar approach was an essential immediate response to safety issues, and didn't exclude further repair. Frank will follow-up. e) Friends of Alexandra Park: Stephen attended an inaugural meeting, finding it very useful. They will tie into the MyparkScotland website.
5. **DCC MEMBERSHIP**: Only one application was received for the vacancy, so David Houston was duly elected. He was unable to attend, but supplied an introduction paragraph.
6. **ACTION PLAN.** a) Art Group: No information. b) Environment Group: Possible meeting next week. c) Events Group: Not met as per previous decision it would be better for members to organise individual projects rather than have an over-arching structure. Frank reported that Michelle would like to discuss Christmas ideas, so any members interested should contact her. d) Billboard Project: A bid for £15,000 is to be made to Creative Scotland, and £2000 from the Hope Scott Trust. The money will cover artist fees, project management, and wider communication. Four artists from the 1990 project are now on board and an open call will be made. e) Days Out in Dennistoun: Frank contacted Andy, who reported all that's outstanding for the print version is some text from Stephen and to be forwarded e-mails confirming Milnbank and Reidvale Housing will cover the shortfall in printing costs. Stephen said the draft text would need checked and he'd not seen it, although Frank passed this to him during March's meeting. f) Duke St. The group should reconvene and plan community engagement. The head of Urbanism at Architecture and Design Scotland has been contacted and is interested, as is Andy Dale, principal planner at Glasgow Council. g) Communications: Meeting tomorrow at Redmonds at 7.30. Documentation will be circulated in advance.
7. **FINANCE**: Our current balance is £2778.05 with petty cash at £172.20. Stephen has roughly £22 to claim.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. Three objections to the proposed new development in Meadowpark Street on the basis of only offering 8 parking spaces for 26 flats. Despite this contravening policy, Brian wasn't optimistic it would be enough to block the application. He considered six complaints the minimum needed. There have been conflicting applications for a property at 9 Oakley Terrace. We've previously objected about an HMO licence, and a renewal has been applied for, but additionally an application to convert into flats. Brian will check further. b) Licensing None other than above. c) Correspondence Wesley apologised for no advance circulation, but he's been experiencing computer problems. i) There have been complaints about parked Connie's Bathrooms advertising vehicles. A tow notice on the trailer parked on the Parade resulted in it being coupled to a car. Wes will check regarding options. ii) There has been a suggestion that the old abattoir site can be converted into a skatepark. This is not in our area. iii) We have been offered photographs of Thomson St from the 1940s. These have been directed to the Conservation Society. iv) We have been asked to announce the RAPA A.G.M, on June 16<sup>th</sup>, v) An enquiry about Alexandra Parade station being disability compliant has been directed to Scotrail, vi) Ruth will append a monthly report on Necropolis incidents, and other correspondence as appended.
9. **REPORTS:** a) East Centre Area Partnership Next meeting is on 27/5 with a pre-agenda meeting for community representatives on 21/5. New bins have been purchased, with £4000 spent spread around the ward. There is evidence of this in Dennistoun, and Frank suggested we thank John Quinn as this was raised when he attended our meeting. Stephen remarked we'd not been consulted about placement. b) Elected Members: None present.
10. **A.O.B:** a) A Friends of the Necropolis are having a bio-blitz on 28/29<sup>th</sup> of May setting up a wildflower meadow among other projects. The Drygate have been very helpful. There is also the possibility of CCTV at the Bridge of Sighs to deter intrusion. b) The Factoring Commission produced a report about the take-up of recommendations. Frank will circulate. c) Frank said the only regular meeting place meeting the criteria of being available on the second Tuesday of each month, relatively central and not associated with licensed or religious premises is Whitehill School. Stephen checked the Tennants Academy, but it's unsuitable as attendees would need to be bussed to the room and the cost was roughly £20 per person. Ruth has been working with a City Park based group involved with community improvement and will check with them. We don't pay at Kelvin College, but tea and coffee is at a cost. It was stressed again that the Gingerbread Hall remains unavailable. d) Area boundaries have been redrawn and our area now incorporates the south side of Duke St leading east to the Forge. The scrapyard was noted as unsightly and traffic to it causing problems. e) John reported that with the change of service provider from First Group to Abellio it's now financially viable to provide an hourly rail service on Sunday from Bellgrove to Cumbernauld stopping at Duke St and Alexandra Parade.

**NEXT MEETING:** 7pm Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup> at Kelvin College. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.