



Dennistoun Community Council

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DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING AT SPORTS HUB, ALEXANDRA PARK

9/8/16

Present: John Bones (Chair), Stephen Birrell, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Frank Plowright, Wesley Wright (Council Members)
Sgt Kevin Miller, PC David McWilliams, Baillie Elaine McDougall, Councillor Russell Robertson, Joe Scott from Milnbank Housing, Steve McGowan DRS, Lauren Bennie, Oliver Norton Minutes by Frank Plowright

Apologies: Lauren Amazeen, Jane Clarke, Ruth Jackson, Ally Meek (council members), Greg Hepburn MSP, John Mason MSP, Ivan McKee MSP

- POLICE REPORT:** 94 crimes reported since July 11th, 40 detected. These break down to Wellpark 11 crimes, 5 detected, all theft and road offences; Duke St north to Onslow Dr 22/13 including one major theft on Seton Terrace; Onslow Dr to Alexandra Parade 9/2; North of Parade 31/8, largely theft, and Haghill 25/12 including one major assault. All crimes categorised as house thefts other than Seton Terrace were into sheds and garages.
Frank mentioned a previous request for updated information on prosecution of major crimes in the area, and was referred to the Scot Court website. Frank and Baillie McDougall pointed out this was difficult to search and late to update, but it's what the police themselves use. John again asked that we're informed of initiatives due to run in the area. The East Area Crime Prevention Panel now holds meetings at night, and Baillie McDougall later noted they're open to rotating venues around the entire ward. Councillor Robertson will link in with the chair. The RBS cashpoint on Craighpark was vandalised today. It is to be upgraded and a planning application has been submitted.
- PUBLIC INPUT:** Lauren Bennie raised the problems of parking and enquired about previous discussions. The various problems were noted, and Councillor Robertson will report back on the promised but continually delayed consultation, and suggested checking defined outcomes again in February 2017 as to progress. Baillie McDougall mentioned the last consultation introduced double yellow lines around street corners. Wesley recommended Co-Wheels as an alternative to car ownership. Oliver Norton was surprised at the small attendance, and asked about promotion (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, website) attendance at AGMs (equally small), why Frank wanted information about crime prosecutions (to inform community) and noted a serious assault on a shopkeeper in Ark Lane. Apparently several calls to police about threats were ignored. Joe Scott spoke about the police information Milnbank Housing receive, which is proactive, and the possibility of sharing this beyond the 2500 people in the properties they run or factor. We'd promote via our resources. He mentioned that a murderer was successfully prosecuted via CCTV evidence from their cameras, and the police can log into these in real time. Councillor Robertson considered the response to updates about prosecutions incomplete, and will follow up.
- MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14/7/16:** Approved by Brian and seconded by Ruth pending a few minor corrections.
- MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Golfhill School – No update from Councillor Dunn, but there is a purchase offer being discussed. Councillor Robertson will report back next month. b) The area around the RBS cashpoint on Craighpark has been repaired. Stephen has contacted Elaine Weir at RBS about including a bin, and this has been taken on board. No response yet regarding some form of visor to protect against excess light, but Stephen only sent the request yesterday. There is still no exactitude about the

extent of RBS' responsibilities in the surrounding area. c) Frank hasn't yet managed to contact Pete Seaman about Representing Dennistoun d) Steve McGowan addressed the DRS report into Glasgow's housing (to be circulated and appended to minutes) prefacing it by noting it's a statutory obligation to produce a housing strategy addressing priorities every five years. It's based on research and consultation and attempts to be as broad as possible, taking in feedback to develop further. The report was sent out on June 30th, but there's seemingly minimal awareness of the open consultation. We can respond beyond the August 19th deadline, and a second draft will go out in September/October. Stephen asked about plans for the abattoir site, but it's the responsibility of the City Planning team. Investigations have been taking place, and there will be a consultation in due course. Lauren Bennie asked about consulting the homeless whose voice is often not heard. There has been a workshop with the Glasgow Homeless Network. A discussion about facilities followed, as the traditional ones have closed. Councillor Robertson will speak to Jim Kearns and report back, but considers for the first time in forty years local policy with partners is working as it should. Lauren asked if the council plans to build their own properties. Current policy is to work with partners to meet targets, and encourage housing associations to partner with developers. e) There remains concern about possible plans for Duke St Post Office, with no further information forthcoming. Councillor Robertson will follow up with Ann McLaughlin. Should it be necessary we can begin any campaign against possible closure with the response to our local MP. It was raised that having Cambuslang as the local sorting office from which to collect packages is distant and inconvenient, when Baird St would be more suitable for Dennistoun. This is because the postmen servicing Dennistoun are based there. f) Potholes and footpath repairs – Frank asked what would be a reasonable period before following up on lack of action on repairs submitted via RALF system in May. It was decided better to discuss in person. Councillor Robertson will arrange a walkaround with Calum Stewart from Land Services next week, and pending this it was decided to start again with a clean slate. Stephen considers Frank's correspondence with Land Services has a tone that impairs a working relationship, and feels any FOI request submitted on behalf of DCC should be discussed at a meeting first. Frank considered he'd been polite until very recently, any relationship is a two way street, and repairs still outstanding a year after being promised is unacceptable.

5. **ACTION PLAN:** Not discussed

6. **FINANCE:** a) Our balance is £1778.82. Petty cash is £4.61. Jane absent, so we don't know if Lawrence O'Neill has received our accounts for last year.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning: Brian noted nothing of concern. b) Licensing: New HMO application for 5 Westercraigs flat. c) Correspondence: i) John Mason has followed up on the placement of a plaque at the Craigpark Masters. ii) RBS have responded regarding the Craigpark ATM iii) John Mason will follow up on concerns about changes to the rail timetable affecting Dennistoun now Queen St has re-opened.

8. **REPORTS:** a) East Centre Area Partnership: Ruth was only able to stay for an hour, but the meeting had presentations about roads and housing strategy. b) Elected Members: i) Baillie McDougall gave her report earlier in the evening as she needed to attend another meeting. She listed the road and footpath repairs carried out in Dennistoun over the past year, reported the Environmental Task Force in the area is working well, noted £225,000 spent on Alexandra Park resulting in the fountain restoration, new path surfacing and six new side gates. John suggested the children's play area could be upgraded. There is a community consultation about city wide road investment strategy over the coming year. The only road in Dennistoun mentioned is Circus Place. Frank noted this as odd as other roads are in worse condition, and it's hardly used. 7 Lochs have £4.5 million of heritage funding available. Baillie McDougall will attend a meeting tomorrow and report back. Alexandra Park Festival went well despite parking problems, and it's intended the community have a greater role next year. We discussed this and will add to the action plan, possibly involving

local shopkeepers along the parade route. Stephen reported they watched the parade this year. He also noted that 2017 is the 40th anniversary of DCC, but we're unsure who the original chair was as there's not a full set of minutes archived. ii) Due to meeting over-running Councillor Robertson postponed his update until the next meeting.

9. **A.O.B:** a) John updated on the DCC presence at the Alexandra Park Festival. The comments made pro and con echoed those previously made, and we distributed 1.5 boxes of the Day Out in Dennistoun leaflet. b) With Ally and Ruth leaving the area Wesley will take on full social media duties again, but would prefer this was on a short term basis. c) The library has distributed all Day Out in Dennistoun leaflets and a reprint and discussion about the ap was moved to an agenda item for the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: At 7pm on Tuesday September 13th, at Whitehill School Library. Please notify Stephen if unable to attend.