



# Dennistoun Community Council

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## NOTES OF MEETING AT WHITEHILL SCHOOL 8/11/16 – not quorate

**Present:** John Bones (Chair), Stephen Birrell, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Frank Plowright (DCC) Glasgow Caledonian University student journalists James Cairney, Laura Webster, Dennistoun resident Laura Gurd, Joe Brady representing Anne McLaughlin MP and Ivan McKee MSP, Inspector John Gormley, PCs Amy Campbell and Peter Stewart

**Apologies:** Lauren Amazeen, Jane Clarke, Wesley Wright, John Mason and Ivan McKee MSPs, Councillors Jennifer Dunn, Greg Hepburn, Elaine McDougall and Russell Robertson

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

- POLICE REPORT:** New Area Inspector John Gormley introduced himself as a policeman with 28 years experience, most recently based in Easterhouse. He would like a proactive relationship with members feeding information to a circulated list of phone contacts.  
Area reorganisation has rolled back previous restructuring that resulted in more community police and fewer available for emergency response. In practice community terms were frequently pulled away for emergency duties. There'll now be a larger emergency response team, but twenty officers forming a dedicated community problem solving team. All these changes will be sustainable for the long term. Stephen welcomed the intentions, but mentioned our frequent request to be involved in consultations and initiatives, and a commitment was given. More serious crimes in the area include a person arrested for street attacks whose conditional bail will be robustly managed, and a person arrested for breaking into commercial premises at night. Daytime housebreaking is on the increase, largely attempts to force doors, and patrols will target this, and four bicycles have been reported stolen. A person has been arrested and is definitely responsible for one of the thefts. A disturbance on Duke Street highlighted on social media on October 22<sup>nd</sup> was mentioned, but Inspector Gormley had no knowledge, and this possibly wasn't brought to police attention. Ruth raised disturbances at the Necropolis, and monthly incident lists supplied by staff. Police resources can't be regularly committed for Friends of the Necropolis meetings, but any incident should be raised via telephone and Inspector Gormley would like the incident reports to continue.
- ELECTED MEMBER UPDATES:** Joe Brady reported for both Anne McLaughlin MP and Ivan McKee MSP. a) Anne has been appointed SNP Civil Liberties spokesperson, and has been busy with a proposed British Bill of Rights following the Brexit vote. Since that there's been a rise in hate crimes, although less in Scotland, but still a concern. Anne's office is to be a reporting centre, and this can be done anonymously. Many women remain unaware of changes to pension regulations until asking about retirement. 2300 are affected in North-East Glasgow, and the WASPI campaign offers advice and help. Anne knows of people being left destitute when tests by Concentrix have wrongly removed Child Tax Credits, and has been involved in campaigns against this. Still no confirmation from Royal Mail regarding the possibility of Duke St Post Office closing. John noted this has been mentioned in a union publication. b) Ivan now has constituency premises at 12 Hillfoot St, and a planning application has been submitted for necessary work. He and Anne are acting jointly regarding Health Board proposals with facilities at Lightburn and the Homeopathic Hospital under threat. There will be a meeting about this at St Andrews on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Feedback from constituents indicates some feel Lightburn isn't fit for purpose. A decision is expected late winter/early spring. Ivan has been receiving complaints regarding private landlords and factoring, and about dog fouling and lack of bins south of Duke St. He's awaiting a response from land services.
- PUBLIC INPUT:** None.

4. **REPRESENTING COMMUNITIES RESEARCH:** Claire McKechnie Mason came to address this three year project, which we believed complete. This isn't the case, as reports will be completed by the end of March. She addressed the project to date, noting Dennistoun as one of five communities across Britain chosen to represent how people feel about their living environment. People were interviewed and the data analysed to distil eight themes for further exploration. Assorted art-based events over the period fed in, including some short films that had been made. These can be made available for uploading onto the DCC website. A research development officer will link with the communities, and Dennistoun Library is keen to continue work. Stephen noted the importance of any results and conclusions being fed back to the community following the final assessment. This will raise the area's profile and celebrate achievement. The possibility of DCC sharing the results was discussed, maybe via the Alexandra Park Festival in 2017.
5. **MINUTES OF A.G.M AND ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 11/10/16:** Not quorate so could not be approved. Frank will make any e-mailed corrections before next month. There was discussion about minute format. Frank suggested changes and took on board suggestions from others. Matters noted as appended haven't been forwarded of late, so aren't being filed with minutes.
6. **MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Bellgrove timetable changes: Joe noted Scot Rail respond to complaints, and the more people that contact them directly, the better. b) Membership: John contacted members who've not been attending. He noted it as very disappointing that there's been no response from Caitlin or Christine, but he will follow-up. Michelle now has too many other commitments, so tendered her resignation. c) Charette Fund Application: Stephen reiterated there has been more interest than anticipated and a decision has been delayed. It may come next week. Ruth asked if Stephen could circulate the submitted application. d) Day Out In Dennistoun reprint: We now have three quotes of £830, £759 and £666, but can't make a decision without being quorate. John will e-mail Andy about this.
7. **FINANCE:** a) Jane absent, but told Frank balance is what was quoted last month minus hall rental for November to January.
8. **ACTION PLAN:** Stephen circulated a revised note with the topics remaining after the July meeting. Discussions about the basketball court have stalled. Brian mentioned the large carousel style community noticeboards seen in the west end, and the possibility of having one in Dennistoun. It was suggested we apply for funding, but Stephen feels this is a core service that should be provided. We should consider possible locations.
9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Planning: No concerns. See table A below. b) Licensing: None received. We don't receive feedback when we lodge an objection unless a planning or licensing matter goes to a public meeting. There is no online listing of licensing applications as there is with planning. c) Correspondence: i) Stephen circulates notifications received via DCC e-mail. ii) The environmental report from Land Services for the East Area Committee was welcomed, and it would be good if we could receive these in future.
10. **REPORTS:** a) East Centre Area Partnership: Meeting is tomorrow and Ruth noted agenda items in case we wanted to contribute. Much didn't apply to Dennistoun, and there wasn't much detail. It was noted repairs to the RBS cashpoint on Craigpark had been carried out and the situation will be monitored. Among the discussions will be a plan for managing primary school estates, and the abolition of the Community Justice Act.

**NEXT MEETING:** At 7pm on Tuesday December 13<sup>th</sup>, at Whitehill School Library. Please notify Stephen if unable to attend.

## Planning applications

Detail	Location	Concern
Convert retail unit to food takeaway	10 Marne St	No
Convert retail unit to office	12 Hillfoot St	No
Advertising hoarding upgraded to internally illuminated display	Birkenshaw St/Cumbernauld Rd	No

## Matters outstanding

Matter outstanding	Minuted	Responsible
What's happened to the council's traffic & parking consultation for Dennistoun?	August	Elaine McDougall, Russell Robertson
Royal Mail still to respond re Duke St Post Office closure plans.	October	Anne McLaughlin
Response about bins South of Duke St where dog fouling is frequent	Nov	Ivan McKee

## Actions

Action to be taken	Responsible
Circulate application submitted for charette fund	Stephen
E-mail Andy re delay in approving Day Out In Dennistoun quotes	John
Follow up with Caitlin and Christine re attendance	John