



# Dennistoun Community Council

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## Dennistoun Community Council

### Ordinary Meeting

#### MINUTES

19:00 – 21:00, Tuesday 09 March 2021

Online, via Zoom

**Cllrs Present** Stephen Birrell (SB); Angela Bretherton (AB) [*Chair*]; Steven Campbell (SC); Jonathan Deans (JD); Elaine Docherty (ED); Deborah Hamilton (DH); Brian Johnston (BJ); Ruth Johnston (RJ); Sean Kelly (SK); Paul Lavery (PL); Valery Tough (VT); Mary Wallace (MW); Ezra Wilson (EW); Wesley Wright (WW) [*Minute taker*]

**Others Present:** Cllr Kim Long; Cllr Allan Casey; Cllr Elaine McDougall  
~14x members of the public

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#### ACTION

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#### 1 Welcome / Introductions / Attendance / Apologies

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Welcome and thanks for attending.

Apologies: Cllr David Williams (DW); John Mason MSP; Ivan McKee MSP; Anne McLaughlin MP (attended partially).

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#### 2 Minutes of 9 February 2021 ordinary meeting

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Proposed by JD; Seconded by DH.

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#### 3 Matters Arising

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- *Glasgow Life Venues* >>> Recent news that library, pool and Haghill gym will re-open is received positively.

- *Noticeboards* >>> AB to contact VHE to ask when they may be back working on the sites and can install. Location TBC. AB

- *Climate Change Consultation Plan* >>> Reviewed by individual Cllrs.

- *dog fouling* >>> AB is noticing an improvement. Cllr McDougall believes that a persistent offender has moved away from the area.

- *Living Rent* >>> DCC have promoted via social media and DCC website.

- *Quality of GCC Comms* >>> DCC to put concerns in writing. AB

- *Pavement Parking* >>> Contact MSPs to ask for an update. ED

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#### 4 Police Update

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- Dubiety expressed by officers as to whether the SfP 'LTN' scheme is enforceable, or will be enforced, despite a Traffic Order being in place.

- Bike thefts are prevalent, but no specific spike noted, but reporting is encouraged in all instances.

- Cllr McDougall noted awareness of a number of break-ins locally.

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#### 5 Associate Members

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- ED circulated notes of interest to Cllrs (3 individuals and one group) prior to meeting.

- AB summarised activities and invited persons proposed

- Emma Jones spoke as chair of Glasgow Saints Football Club. Started out March 2020 and do much more than just football club activities.

- Verity Hocking spoke as a resident with a background including architecture and arts and an involvement in community activities.

- Nicola Garmory spoke as a resident with a background including landscape architect.

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- ED noted the requirement to ratify the proposals by vote. No concerns raised or objections raised by any Councillors in advance or at this meeting. All duly approved by acclaim.

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## **6 Holyrood Elections 2021 Hustings**

- DCC ran a hustings for the 2019 election.  
- An organisational conversation after the meeting for interested Councillors will develop plans, and continue work via the Slack channel.

DCC Councillors

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## **7 Spaces for People 'Low Traffic Neighbourhood'**

- AB invited Councillors to speak first.  
- Cllr Casey: Noted that DCC have discussed the Spaces for People scheme at the last three meetings at least. Has pushed for completion of implementation, which was believed to be a cause of many concerns. Has passed resident concerns and support received to date to GCC.  
- Cllr McDougall: Ditto to Cllr Casey's comments. Invited contact similarly.  
- Cllr Long: Frustrated with the plan to start the scheme just before Christmas despite staffing pressures. And to do it alongside changes to bins. Concerns about safety. Next steps to finish the scheme should be this week. Notes requirement for enforcement.  
- Public comment: severe reservations about suitability of planter boxes; inherent contradiction between 'LTN' and low emissions due to winding/meandering traffic.  
- Cllr Casey highlighted that the idea is to reduce short journeys; noted survey of traffic numbers beforehand and plans to repeat for a comparison after; temporary traffic order is the reason for no formal consultation, but has highlighted with GCC officers the need for a clear point of contact and method for feedback.  
- Cllr McDougall: Uncertainty over who is to enforce is a concern.  
- Cllr Long: Also noted enforcement uncertainties. It is enforceable by the police as an Order is in place.  
- Public comment: expressed a belief that the scheme is inappropriate under Spaces for People (SfP) provisions and that proper SfP measures for pedestrians and cycles have not been implemented, with dangerous results arising from the current scheme. Contradictions with the approval of Starbucks drive-thru.  
- Public comment: very concerned that some streets have seen a big increase in traffic with a resultant safety risk.  
- WW summarised the approximately 30 items of correspondence recently received by DCC, expressing a broad range of sentiments on the scheme, noting that repeated common themes have emerged, regardless of whether the sentiment is broadly for or against:

- Better, safer, provision around schools is generally supported in principle.
- Better, safer, active travel provision and public transport as a general principle are supported.
- A feeling that the no entries and one ways have rerouted traffic, for reasons that have not been clearly explained, to minimal or no obvious benefit at best, or to a clear detriment at worst.
- Reasons for particular dissatisfaction or concern included road safety issues created arising from non-compliance of vehicular traffic, increases in volumes of traffic on roads not suited to it, removal of contraflow cycling provision and overall available roadspace, noise concerns, and potential pollution and air quality issues arising if traffic levels are not sufficiently reduced as a counter to the longer through routes created.

- Councillor discussion prior to this meeting identified the following queries:

1. Why have multiple through routes been left open in both directions between Duke Street and Alexandra Parade?
2. Temporary signage with poles in concrete blocks has been deemed sufficient in certain locations, so why have numerous new permanent signposts been installed elsewhere, for a scheme which is initially temporary and said to be easily changed in response to feedback?
3. The completion of the scheme and installation of missing no entry signage and markings Why do the no entry points on Craigpark (at Craigpark Dr, and at Golfhill Dr), and on Armadale Street (at Craigpark Dr) have no entry signs on only one side of the

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road whilst other no entry points have signs on both sides of the road?

4. What feedback has been received from emergency services?
5. Why has a Spaces for People active travel scheme ended up with less usable road space available to cycles - i.e. if a road was previously suitable for two-way mixed vehicular and cycle traffic, what specific additional risk was identified by having contraflow cycling permitted on a well-marked and signed vehicular one-way street (especially when it is within what is now being described as a low traffic neighbourhood and of identical geometry to vehicular two way roads which have no constraints on access to cycles)?
6. Why has a scheme initially given a two week installation programme ended up with three months being the revised installation period?
7. The drawings circulated showed the removal of pedestrian barrier at Alexandra Parade primary school and appeared to show a build-out feature or marking realignment at the corner of Whitehill St and Duke St (outside Coia's) – are these elements of the design still due to be implemented?
8. What arrangements are in place for compliance monitoring and enforcement measures?
9. How are various factors contributing to success or failure being measured and determined?
10. What and when are the next steps for traffic safety and management, and active travel provision, in Dennistoun in the event of success/failure (e.g. removing/reducing/keeping and maintaining/enhancing/extending this scheme; introducing similar measures elsewhere in Dennistoun; introducing the 20 mph limit previously proposed by the RPZ, etc)?

- AB concurred with the above summary and list of queries.

- Cllr Casey noted that police concerns played a part in the removal of contraflow cycling, apparently due to space issues. WW requested clarity, noting the ambiguity of that position when the geometry of adjacent streets are considered.

- Public comment: issues acknowledged, but positive about the scheme with hope that, in time, the scheme will show positive benefits.

- Cllr McDougall: Suggested encouraging attendance by A Beglin (GCC Assistant Group Manager for Parking).

- AB and WW: reiterated the concern that general aims are relatively clearly aligned amongst those contributing feedback, but that the method(s) of achieving them are not being made clear.

- EW: identified a need for more clarity of how success/failure is being measured. Keen for an evidence-based approach to be transparently applied.

- Public comment: Not achieving the aims of an LTN. Confusion about how contraflow cycling is supposed to be a particular danger.

- Public comment: The emotion is entirely understandable, considering what's at stake.

- AB closed the discussion by asking Cllrs to note the concerns raised, and that DCC would follow-up with contact with GCC, including points of enquiry raised by the public.

Cllrs

DCC Cllrs

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## 8 Other Current Local Issues

None noted additional to item 7.

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## 9 Public Input

None noted additional to item 7.

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## 10 Elected Member Updates

Anne McLaughlin MP

Written report circulated to Cllrs prior to meeting. See end of minutes.

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## 11 Officer Updates/Reports

a. Treasurer

-New administration allowance received from GCC.

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- Bank balance is £2552.16. Petty cash £0.91. Treasurer owed £49.00 for the Zoom account. Will wait and raise a cheque at a future date.

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**b. Secretary**

Correspondence received:

- About a variety of bin issues.

- Ownership of neglected empty properties on Broompark Drive (23 is noted as being in very poor and deteriorating state). It was suggested that DCC could initially check for a listing on the Buildings At Risk register and, if absent, request an addition via the online form.

DCC

- TSB building appears to be lined up for sale to be a restaurant, despite potential for use as a community space.

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**c. Planning and Licensing**

- HMO renewal: no action required.

- Cllr Long updated on progress of Starbucks Alexandra Parade application. Boundary has been clarified. Deadline for comments is 16<sup>th</sup> March. Previous comments will remain logged.

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**d. Dennistoun Area Partnership**

- RJ circulated minutes of last meeting to Cllrs (including an update on the Spaces for People 'Low Traffic Neighbourhood' and food waste bins in the Ward area).

- Available via [GCC Committee page here](#).

- Next meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

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**12 AOB**

None noted.

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**13 Note of Next Meeting**

Planning meeting, 13th April.

Ordinary meeting, 7-9pm, Tuesday 11th May 2021, online via Zoom.

Agenda for Ordinary meeting will be circulated, and published to [Dennistouncc.org.uk/dates](http://Dennistouncc.org.uk/dates).

Apologies to be submitted to Secretary via [hello@dennistouncc.org.uk](mailto:hello@dennistouncc.org.uk).

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- **REPORT ATTACHED: Update from Anne McLaughlin MP – March 2021**

## Update from Anne McLaughlin MP – March 2021

Much of the work I reported on in my January report is ongoing and therefore not included in this report which focuses on new developments from then until now.

### Constituency casework

In the past couple of months things have picked up again in terms of people needing support – of course that's the function of a constituency office, to support constituents and we are always busy and always proactively reaching out to get more people to let us know if they need help. However there has been a massive increase in the number of those people coming to me spontaneously. Fortunately the parliament has given additional resources and I've used those to employ another caseworker. Enquiries from Dennistoun tend to be mostly about navigating the changing restrictions but there are still many who are experiencing extremely difficult personal circumstances.

### Constituents' correspondence

This is what is often referred to as 'round robin' emails where constituents will use an online site to generate a letter to an MP about a matter of importance to them looking for that MP's opinion or information on how they have or how they intend to vote. Because of COVID 19 last year I had a backlog which we've been catching up on for the last 2 months. We're nearly there and it's been great to be in touch with people. I had wondered if it was worth responding to people, some of whom had written many months previously but I took the decision simply to explain the delay and answer their questions and I've had some very strong feedback from people. I should say, a high proportion of them come from Dennistoun – we are a very politically engaged community.

### Parliamentary matters

Since the last meeting I've become the SNP's spokesperson on Immigration at Westminster and Shadow Justice Secretary so I've been busy meeting with organisations and getting up to speed with my new roles. I've asked questions in parliament about human rights legislation, about international trade and the impact on hire companies in the constituency, wifi in asylum accommodation where children are cut off from home schooling and bursaries for students who come from the care system, amongst other things.

### Constituency meets Parliament

Next Monday, 15th March, I will host an online event for businesses in the constituency who are interested in knowing more about exporting their goods or services. I will host, the Department for International Trade will provide the expertise. It's part of the Parliamentary Export Programme and a limited number of MPs were able to pilot this so I'm looking forward to seeing how the department can work with local companies to support them over the coming months. Please let me know if you'd like to attend or pass on the information (which will be on social media this week) to anyone you think could be interested.

Anyone who needs the help and support of myself or my team should email me on [anne.mclaughlin.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:anne.mclaughlin.mp@parliament.uk) or phone 0207 219 6484 and we will be very happy to help.