



Dennistoun Community Council

hello@dennistouncc.org.uk www.DennistounCC.org.uk

Minutes of the Dennistoun Community Council Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 14th November 2023, from 7:00pm, at St Andrews East Church Hall, 685 Alexandra Parade, G31 3LN.

Cllrs Present Steven Campbell (SC); Lisa Clifford (LC); Tom Dickson (TD); Brian Johnston (BJ); Ruth Johnston (RJ); Frank Plowright (FP) [*Minute taker*]; Callum McLellan (Cmcl); Ian Sheerer (IS) [*Chair*]; Wesley Wright (WW)

Others Present: Clare Darlastan; Robert Donnelly (RD);

	Action
<p>1 Welcome / Introductions / Attendance / Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apologies received from Cllr Valery Tough (VT); John Mason MSP; Cllr Anthony Carroll - Cllr not present: Jane Marley (JM); Ellen McVey (EmcV). - Cllrs not present, no contact: Cllrs Alan Casey (ACas); Greg Hepburn (GH); Elaine McDougall (EmcD); Cecilia O'Lone (CO'L); Linda Pike (LP); George Redmond (GR). 	
<p>2 Approval of Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11th October 2023 ordinary meeting minutes: proposed by SC, seconded by BJ 	
<p>3 Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Police – Contact from police noting problem dogs on private property should be reported to landlords in first instance. Posted on Facebook - FP contacted doctors and dentist surgeries to ask about patient levels, staying in Dennistoun, and whether the facilities can cope with patients from new flats. Only Meadowpark Surgery responded. It's been planned for a while they'll move to the new facilities at Parkhead when complete allowing expansion. This is still in the G31 postcode. At the moment they're not accepting new patients switching from other surgeries, and don't feel there's GP capacity within Dennistoun to accommodate new residents from flats on the old abattoir site. Not worth pestering individual surgeries any longer, so IS will contact Greater Glasgow Health Board about capacity concerns. IS - Old matter arising is that the consultation about new flight paths to Glasgow Airport has reached a new stage, and the proposals now seem to be made jointly with Edinburgh. FP to check and report back. - BJ has written to the council concerning work carried out at 20 Craigpark in conservation area. Construction is now complete, and council haven't responded. - Ian's friend who could provide a disability access report for Bellgrove Station is currently away. IS 	
<p>4 Treasure Hunt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FP – Prizegiving and photo op held at Co-Op on 5/11. Posted on DCC Facebook. Full report supplied via Slack and will be appended to the minutes. £125.99 to be refunded to Glasgow Council. As yet haven't responded as to whom the cheque should be made out to. FP to be refunded costs. FP 	
<p>5 Christmas Day Warm Place</p> <p>CD suggested DCC support for somewhere open on Christmas Day for a few hours to supply company, tea and mince pies. DCC agreed and have the budget to cover some costs as publicising DCC's work. SC to approach venues. LC's friend applied for area</p>	

partnership grant, but the fund may now be exhausted for the year. Once a venue is identified FP will approach local business regarding food donations. Will then have leaflet printed and ask for volunteers on social media. Cmcl organised something similar where some volunteers with cars would pick people up and return them home on the day. More discussion next month if venue sourced.

SC/CD/
FP/Cmcl

6 Officer Updates/Reports

Chair – It was agreed to spend money on a DCC phone and sim card.

Vice-Chair – none

Secretary – It's becoming increasingly difficult to use Google for DCC e-mail account. Look into making a change. WW and IS to discuss

IS/WW

Treasurer - Bank account at £3567. £150 to be paid in and expenses for Treasure Hunt to be paid to FP.

- WW hasn't heard back re validation of DCC accounts. RD noted a contact who compiles Parkhead CC accounts for a fee and will forward directly to Laurence and Stephen at Glasgow Council. It was agreed to follow up.

LC

Planning & Licensing

Planning - 14-16 Annfield Place – erection of 2 no cycle storage units – objection to be lodged

245-249 Duke St Former Eastern District Hospital building. Alterations to residential flats with fabric repairs, render, landscaping and gates.

Status of Planning Applications previously reported

21/03437/FUL Snooker Club/Baths – granted August 23

21/02321/FUL Wishart St – granted March 23 - Conditions apply to both

HMO

20 Craigpark - Application for new license for HMO, Occupant capacity 11 no. of rooms 11

2/1 645 Alexandra Parade – Application for new license for HMO - GCC decision 29 November 2023

Home Sharing

So far applications have been for one room 1/2 persons where the owner is onsite – no objections have been lodged

Area Partnership – Discussion about Pollokshields and Calton budget breakdown of NICS grant as circulated by Glasgow Council. Both allocate £100,000 (10%) for inflation, and spending is heavily weighed to projects that would otherwise fall under standard council repairs. IS noted that Dennistoun AP would decide how the consultation would be carried out, and how funds were dispersed, voted for by elected members. As the allocation area differs from the DCC area, this includes councillors who have little contact with DCC. It was noted the Liveable Neighbourhood Consultation had taken place, so why is another needed? Public can attend.

- We produced a very specific document with recommendations in format of other documents councillors receive. It's disappointing that only one councillor responded. IS considered the correspondence had an effect at the last AP meeting. Nothing will be approved until costs have been supplied and the way the system works, the absolute earliest anything will be approved is three AP meetings ahead.

7 Consultations

Scottish Government -

Tackling the Nature Emergency: Consultation on Scotland's Strategic Framework for Biodiversity – **Closes 14/12/23**

Glasgow City Council -

My Neighbourhood, My City – Where should new homes, schools, facilities and open spaces be located – **Closes 1/2/24**

Glasgow City Centre Strategy 2024-2030 – **Closes 3/12/23**

We've been sent a questionnaire about community links by Alexandra Parade Primary. To be shared in Slack for members to complete.

8 Current Local Issues

a) Housing Associations – A ballot about Reidvale Housing Association's takeover is with tenants with a deadline of December 10th. It's a simple yes or no to the takeover with a majority decision prevailing. The ballot is being independently overseen.

b) Infrastructure – The cycle stands have been relocated away from library and moved to where there are already racks across Duke Street. Concern about the positioning of electric charging points with two more on Reidvale St again narrowing the footway to slimmer than the 1.5 metre Glasgow Council benchmark. Do the chargers require planning applications as there was no consultation. IS to follow up with a letter to Cllr McDougall as there has been no response to correspondence sent on Oct 6th. It was noted Cllr McDougall very rarely attends DCC meetings enabling questions to be asked in person.

IS/CMcL

CMcL will try to find out more information about approval process, and we will pursue through GCC community liaison Charlie Keane.

c) Glasgow Life – no updates

9 Public Input

None not already noted

10 Elected Member Updates

Cllr Carroll appended

11 Any Other Business

- Parking on pavements. Edinburgh are enforcing legislation from December, but Cllr Carroll's notes indicate Glasgow don't seem inclined to follow. Lack of permission to enforce via CCTV is a problem.
- We have been invited to take a stall at Whitehill School Christmas Fair. No deadline. To be discussed on Slack.
- A number of Burglaries reported on drives, mainly on ground floor flats. Access is via close doors left open, open storm doors or from the back via open bathroom window. In previous years police have identified culprits. CMcL to raise with police.
- Haghill bin units. Three weeks into the trial LC believes it's largely working well, but an issue is flip top bins not properly returned after emptying meaning people have to go into the road to use them. Food bins are filling beyond the scheduled collections, and despite promises of daily monitoring they're not emptied. Also no response over the weekend to messages left on the helpline. As this is the pilot, now is the time to complain. FP to supply LC with the name of the officer he talked to at the launch. LC has been told a £1m pilot scheme is not going to fail, and if bins need emptied every day they will be. Whether that's the case once the system is fully in place is another question.
- FP to look into current flight paths over Dennistoun for RJ.

CMcL

FP/LC

FP

FP

12 Next Meeting

- Planning Meeting on 12 Dec 2023.
- Agenda will be circulated with invites in advance and published to Dennistouncc.org.uk/dates.
- **Apologies to be submitted via hello@dennistouncc.org.uk**

WW

APPENDIX ITEMS ATTACHED:

- **APPENDIX A: Update from Cllr Carroll**
- **APPENDIX B: Report on Dennistoun Treasure Hunt**

Appendix A

Just a quick update for folk this evening on things I have been up to for this evening's meeting.

The Haghill Bin Pilot has come into effect, and I've been monitoring the scheme. Bar one close that had to be allocated to another bin hub, it seems to have went well so far. Food Waste bags are available via Milnbank for folk needing them.

One of the key things I have been chasing up have been street lights that have been out on various number of the Drives, from Golfhill, Garthland, Finlay to Whitehill St. I hope this will be carried out asap.

I am keeping my push to NRS about urgent work needed outside 261 Whitehill St, and the whole end junction by Golfhill Primary of Onslow Drive to address the drainage. There seems to be capacity issues in taking away water moreso than drains being clogged up, but the flooding has been causing detrimanetal impact to the road and pavements the water lies on. I will keep pressing NRS on this to have a long term solution to this, as the call-outs that have occurred when I report them does not clear the drain for long.

I have been chasing up with the Housing Department too on the long term future of 148 Garthland Drive following last years fire, and what work with the factor will be carried out to redress the property.

I have received a response from the Council on pavement parking, of which Scottish Gov will give enforcement ability to councils on the 17th December. It does not seem to be something the Council is ready to enforce. CCTV cameras also cannot be used to enforce this, and I have asked that the Scottish Government consider allowing this for Councils. The lack of timeframe for the Council to enforce this is disappointing, so will press for them to come with a plan of enforcement.

Over the past while, I have been pushing on 2 particular areas policy-wise: that being Free Bus Travel for those Seeking Asylum, and sustainable funding for Community Link Practitioners. I was happy to see the free bus travel announced, and have since been engaging with Asylum support groups, asylum seekers themselves, HSCP, & Scottish Government in terms of how this will be rolled out. On CLPs, I believe that there will be positive news this week on ensuring funding for them by Scottish Government, however whatever is said, I'd re-iterate that they ought to be fully funding in a multi-year programme, so we don't lurch year to year losing key support workers helping vulnerable people in our communities.

There have been other pieces of work of course, however hope that gives a flavour of what I've been up to.

DENNISTOUN TREASURE HUNT 2023

report by Frank Plowright

Background – The Dennistoun Treasure Hunt revives an event last run by the Community Council in 2016 (I believe). It takes place for five days over the September weekend and is open to children attending any of Dennistoun's four primary schools. It's run in co-operation with the schools who help with the distribution and collection of entry forms, and hand out certificates to children who've taken part.

The event itself involves the children looking for an object in the windows of participating shops, this year a card picturing a vehicle, and noting the vehicle name on their entry form, which is handed in to their school teacher.

A prelude involves participating schools having pupils design the certificate awarded to any child who hands in a completed entry form.

The purpose is a fun event for local primary school children that promotes awareness of the Community Council while also meeting the brief of engaging with the community.

Participating Shops – I carried on the policy of not involving premises unsuitable for children. Bookies (fewer now), off-licences and tanning studios were previously identified, and I added tattoo parlours, vape shops, and shops not selling vapes exclusively, but with them prominently displayed in windows.

Fewer bespoke shops exist in Dennistoun since 2016, and many more no longer have any form of window display other than a generic plastic sheet picturing products. It means the choice is far more limited if the Treasure Hunt is to be more than just an item pasted to a window.

When collecting the items from the shops only a couple mentioned a pushy parent, and all considered it a positive experience. Some mentioned there seemed to be parents not often on Duke Street as they mentioned being surprised at a particular shop despite it being there for years, and several thought there was a marked increase in children who weren't Scottish born. The guy who runs Keys Galore said a kid came into his shop, said he'd been there for the Treasure Hunt the day before and wanted to come back and say how much he liked the shop. That's the type of joy you can't buy.

Participating Schools – There were a few communication problems regarding the initial certificate designing portion. One head teacher said I wasn't replying to e-mails (so I ensured they received a printed letter subsequently) and all seemed well with another until I went to collect the certificate art and was told they hadn't got around to it, which was disappointing. It meant only two of the four primary schools were involved in the certificate design.

This having been ironed out, I thought everything had gone well until receiving an e-mail from Haghill Park two days after the Treasure Hunt had ended saying they'd forgotten to give out the forms. They asked if the Treasure Hunt could be extended over the weekend, but by then I'd collected all items from participating shops.

Financing – DCC received a grant of £318.99 from Glasgow Council's Area budget to cover the printing of entry forms and certificates. Because the printing costs were estimated on the schools being at capacity when they're not, printing costs reduced between applying for the grant and the actual printing. Under the terms of the grant £125.99 is to be refunded. The Co-Op Community Fund donated £150 toward the cost of prizes for two children from each primary school (8 x £20 voucher for Miller's Art Store) and for the winner of the competition to design the prize certificate (£20 voucher for Miller's Art Store). As maximum grant per Co-Op branch per event is £150, this would under other circumstances leave a shortfall of £30 the cost of prizes to be covered by DCC, but as Haghill Park didn't participate there's £10 left over. Next year I should also factor in the cost of a taxi from the printer back to Dennistoun (£7), and possibly different items to go in shop windows.

Returned Entry Forms - Shopkeepers told me they felt there had been a fair amount of children going round, yet only 24 entry forms were returned by Alexandra Parade, 18 from Golfhill, and 20 from St Denis', which is a disappointing total. Even allowing for pupils taking part, but not handing in forms and Haghill Primary not distributing the forms, the total returned forms represent around 10% of eligible pupils.

Prizegiving – Four of six winners were able to come to the Co-Op for a short photo op and collect their prizes. Pictures posted on Facebook and DCC website without naming children. The Co-Op Community Fund will also use the pictures for promotion.

Identified Problems and Possible Solutions

1. Inadequate communication with the schools over the initial stage of certificate design, resulting in only two schools participating. I thought I'd done enough contacting the schools by e-mail and dropping off paper, but this wasn't enough. I think this is just a teething problem of reviving an event with different head teachers in place and this shouldn't happen going forward.

2. One shop dropping out once the leaflets had been printed. They didn't bother contacting me despite my leaving e-mail and phone number. In future contact all participating shops again before the leaflet goes to print.

3. Communication with printer not good enough. I should have specified that the certificate was to bleed off the edge of the sheet, and there's an awkward border. My fault. Won't happen again.

4. Selfish and ignorant parents filling in the sheet without children, although the reports were of barely any this time, which is good. Some shopkeepers have raised the issue and take the parents to task, and it's noted on the entry form that the competition is for children. The best solution I can come up with is to ensure the prizes are something without great appeal for adults.

5. The late surprise of one school not having distributed the forms. Next time I'll just have to be a nag with that school and phone them up the day before.

6. The big one. The total of returned forms is poor. I don't think the task was too difficult, although the shops were spread out, so is it just the case this is an outdated form of entertainment? Should the schools big it up more?

Outcomes – The event was fun for the children who took part, and met DCC's brief of engaging with the community. A promotional video was uploaded onto Facebook, You Tube and DCC's own website, and the event was also promoted on other DCC accounts.

The Future – Do we do the Treasure Hunt again? Not my decision. On the one hand the total of returned forms was disappointing, but on the other 62 local children enjoyed themselves doing an event that's relatively easily organised and it promotes DCC. Total costs are roughly £400.