



# Dennistoun Community Council

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## Notes of the Dennistoun Community Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 13th February 2024, from 7:00pm,  
at St Andrews East Church Hall, 685 Alexandra Parade, G31 3LN.

**Cllrs Present** Steven Campbell (SC); Frank Plowright (FP) [*Chair and Minute taker*]; Wesley Wright (WW)

**Others Present:** John Mason MSP; Michael Carberry

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### ACTION

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

- Apologies received from Lisa Clifford (LC); Tom Dickson (TD); Brian Johnston (BJ); Ruth Johnston (RJ); Ian Sheerer (IS); Valery Tough (VT)
- Cllr not present: Jane Marley (JM); Ellen McVey (EmcV).
- Cllrs not present, no contact: Cllrs Anthony Carroll; Alan Casey (AC); Greg Hepburn (GH); Elaine McDougall (EmcD); Cecilia O'Lone (CO'L); Linda Pike (LP); George Redmond (GR).

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#### 2 Approval of Minutes

Community Council not quorate, so not able to approve January 2024 meeting minutes.

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#### 3 Matters Arising

- Garthland Drive property – Allan Casey's office has fielded enquiries in the past

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#### 4 Officer Updates/Report

Nothing to note

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#### 5 Consultations

Current Scottish government consultation on Heat in Buildings with net zero in mind. Some initiatives have been piloted including heat pumps on properties with balconies in West Dunbartonshire and using water power from the Clyde. The latter ended up costing more due to weather and price changes, while the Commonwealth Games village didn't present any cost savings.

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#### 6 Current Local Issues

Reidvale Housing Association – Considerable discussion.

As matters stand the takeover by Places for People has been rejected and the Regulator has given the current Reidvale board until February 24<sup>th</sup> to come up with an alternative. JM wrote to the Regulator about this, and the indication has been that more time will be given as there's not been enough to devise a plan addressing current concerns. People for Places aren't withdrawing immediately, but may eventually allocate resources elsewhere.

Michael Carberry represents Reidvale tenants opposing the transfer and attended wanting to know about discussions taking place during Community Council meetings. He was advised to look at the minutes of meetings during 2023. He feels it's not up to his group to provide solutions as they don't have access to all Reidvale management information, but aimed to stop the transfer and then consider the situation. The aim would be to come up with a policy once all information is available. Looking from the outside he can't see how the organisation can fail as there is no debt, the area is in high demand and Reidvale could raise the funding quoted. He's astounded the buildings are being donated for free, and from the outside their condition doesn't seem that poor.

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SC noted the current situation is to have a plan satisfying regulator in short term.

Reidvale Community Centre was run by a different organisation now defunct. PFP stepped in because reopening was a high priority for the local community, sourcing a partner in Bluevale, who are subletting. PFP will continue funding for the time being, but there's uncertainty in the long term.

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**7 Public Input**

As above.

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**8 Elected Member Updates**

JM – The first debate on the Scottish Government budget is on Thursday. A Council Tax raise will provide funds for some people, but so many groups need more money. The Capital budget is a problem as the Scottish government can only borrow 10% to make up for what's not coming from Westminster.

There's a particular impact on homelessness due to asylum seekers having been given permission to remain, but the change of status meant the loss of their flats. The council have a budget to buy properties, but it's relatively small and no long term solution.

The minimum price for alcohol will be increased to 65p from September, which affects cheaper drinks disproportionately. SC asked why the raised revenue isn't in the public purse. JM explained the method is via a duty, which is a reserved matter. The only tax devolved to Scotland is business rates. Extra rates were applied to supermarkets, but that's now stopped, but there is a proposal to do something similar.

Scottish government can technically stop individual councils raising extra tax, but that's not seen as desirable.

XL bully ban. Banning breeds not an answer, but the dogs are coming to Scotland, so by Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> new owners must register their dogs, while existing owners must do so July, includes neutered dogs.

After claiming their systems were not set up to implement pavement parking regulations, Glasgow Council are now starting to implement having taken on more staff. WW noted parking bays a possibility for Dennistoun relaunched by Council.

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**9 Next Meeting**

- Planning Meeting on 12 Mar 2024.
  - Agenda will be circulated with invites in advance and published to [Dennistouncc.org.uk/dates](https://dennistouncc.org.uk/dates).
  - **Apologies to be submitted via [hello@dennistouncc.org.uk](mailto:hello@dennistouncc.org.uk).**
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