



Dennistoun Community Council

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Minutes of the Dennistoun Community Council Ordinary Meeting

held on Tuesday 14th May 2024, from 7:00pm,
at St Andrews East Church Hall, 685 Alexandra Parade, G31 3LN.

CCllrs Present Steven Campbell (SC); Lisa Clifford (LC); Tom Dickson (TD); Frank Plowright (FP) [*Minute taker*]; Ian Sheerer [*Chair*]; Valery Tough (VT); Wesley Wright (WW)

Others Present: Cllr Allan Casey (ACas); Public – Queralt Capsava, Greg Hawke, Michael Hughes, Emma Jones, Greg Steer, Catherine Tate – parent council Golfhill School.

	Action
1 Welcome / Introductions / Attendance / Apologies - Apologies received from Brian Johnston (BJ); Ruth Johnston (RJ); Calum McLennan; MSP John Mason; Cllr Anthony Carroll (ACar) - CCllr not present: Jane Marley (JM); Ellen McVey (EmcV). - Cllrs not present, no contact: Cllrs Greg Hepburn (GH); Elaine McDougall (EmcD); Cecilia O'Lone (CO'L); Linda Pike (LP); George Redmond (GR).	
2 Approval of Minutes March minutes proposed by WW, seconded by VT pending date of forthcoming meeting being changed. April notes proposed by WW and seconded by IS	
3 Matters Arising Infrastructure ACas chased on various issues mid-March, but there's been no response. Costings for new pedestrian crossings via the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund were due to be put to May's Area Committee meeting, but weren't supplied, and will now have to wait until September. Councillors were direct about wanting proposals going forward, and there were accusations of playing for time. ACas noted the message was explicit yet council officers "didn't hear the calls", and he had pre-agenda papers changed to reflect the position. ACas very aware that delays in spending mean lesser value for money due to inflation. Pending other data it may be that crossings opposite Co-Op on Alexandra Parade and at Duke Street Station's side entrance won't be supported. ACas noted the Safer Streets concerns are being combined with parking initiatives. WW concerned that a noted forthcoming GCC consultation will be limited to considering the traffic regulation order for a parking zone and 20 mph limit, incorporating the 'Spaces for People' measures introduced in 2020/21 (billed at that time as a Low Traffic Network), and that it will not be set up to consult on the Liveable Neighbourhood 'Streets for People' proposal intended to provide more accessible pedestrian routes and safer streets, as was promised by GCC in March 2023 in response to a DCC enquiry (but with no update since, despite requests for further information). DCC proposals for pedestrian accessibility improvements along Craigpark Drive and Onslow Drive pavements to be progressed as a Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund project have not been approved by the GCC Area Partnership, and traffic is prioritised. ACas confirmed these concerns will be addressed as part of the current consultation plans, but we've asked about the information for months and no-one has replied. ACas believes the forthcoming consultation will be people-centric. He's to ask, confirm and supply specifics on any forthcoming consultation. Plans are also being revived to explore and Eastern entrance to the Necropolis. This is still being costed and any proposal should be sympathetic to the historical importance. ACas is	ACas

aware of concerns about anti-social behaviour.

After delays of well over a year, inspection work is due to begin of Dennistoun's 1500 drains, a process that will continue until June 5th. Frank to post on Facebook page. When completed and blocked drains have been identified DCC will press for repair timetable.

FP/WW

Whitehill Pool

RAAC concrete has been identified in the adjacent school as well as the pool, and ACas believes combining any repair on the site would offer best value for money. There are currently struts in place supporting the school roof, but it may need replaced.

Bill Stark heading the campaign to save Whitehill Pool left notes, and the latest information he had was that Glasgow Council are still in the process of appointing Quantity Surveyors to assist with producing accurate costings for RAAC replacement. No change since March. ACas said the surveyors have "probably" now been appointed and their brief would consider the entire Glasgow Council estate, but there would be no firm dates soon. FP asked if council officers might have informed someone who's been campaigning for several years and the Community Council about this step forward. ACas felt the appointment was a minor step and communication would come when a major announcement could be made. FP felt communication was poor, and not informing people gives the impression of nothing being done.

IS

It was decided to invite David McCready to attend a future meeting and address these concerns.

FP

Others

There has been no further communication from Kelvin College. WW will try again before end of week.

WW

Unused funds from the Area Committee grant for the 2023 Treasure Hunt to be returned. FP to provide LC with the address.

LC/FP

4 Officer Updates/Report

LC - DCC funds as £3921.92, with £40 to be deducted for hall hire and cheque for £118.99 refunding portion of grant as above.

WW – No further news re commercial property in Garthland Drive.

BJ – **Planning** – Application for internal and external alternations to listed building at 2b Craigpark, including access gate to lane.

Application for change of use for a shop to a cafe, 410 Cumbernauld Rd.

Application for erection of extension to rear and external alterations to 31 Westercraigs.

Planning was granted with conditions for the conversion of the former Dennistoun Baths/Snooker Club. New owners propose a change, now converting the main building only to 8 single bedroom flats. This didn't appear in the Planning List.

Licensing – 2 applications for new short term let licences for single occupation at Flat 0/1 8 Kennyhill Sq and Flat 2/3 80 Meadowpark St.

5 Consultations

Fire and Rescue Service consultation has been promoted on Facebook page.

6 Current Local Issues

Reidvale Housing Association – A new board has a budget and directive in place, is bringing people up to speed and is in contact with regulator.

Milnbank Housing Association has submitted plans to convert the old Haghill primary school to social housing. Funding still to be confirmed. EmcD has resigned from the Milnbank board.

7 Public Input

Play Parks – QC noted the lack of playparks in the area and both Alexandra Park and Wellpark could do with upgrades despite good use. RAPA only open in afternoon. WW summary of 2021 promise to upgrade, with funds announced and confirmed. GCC publish a timetable for assessments and timetable for work to be done. Some work is underway and ACas will pass on schedule to DCC. There are few potential locations for additional facilities.

ACas

ACas noted an area land audit is in progress as GCC doesn't own all open areas. Swings in Alexandra Park have been replaced and he'll look into anything else that needs repaired. Wellpark may be affected in the short term by brewery infrastructure plans. There is a budget to spend on parks and open spaces, but so far it's been allocated to projects other than play areas in Dennistoun. They fall within the remit of the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund, so a request could be made to the Area Partnership for costings.

ACas

The pink pitch on Onslow Drive was earmarked for redevelopment as part of nursery expansion pre-covid, but there's been no further news.

MH - Schools could be using facilities after school hours. ACas noted a condition of funding play areas within Alexandra Parade primary was after school access.

8 Elected Member Updates

ACas – The Glasgow Council budget has been approved over a three year period. The council has to balance the budget otherwise no new spending is allowed. The city benefited financially from not raising council tax due to extra central funding supplied for that decision. Despite a three year holiday from paying into pension fund as amount is up to date, significant savings are needed. Numbers finalised for year 1, but not year 2 or 3. Social care accounts for just under 30% of the total budget and is ring-fenced, and education is 45% of the budget, has been relatively protected in previous years and is now bearing the cuts. Equivalent savings would as an example wipe out Glasgow Life's entire budget.

There will be 175 job losses over the entire education estate. CT unhappy that no long term impact assessment based on educational cuts has been carried out, only an assessment of immediate effects. All hiring is on a temporary basis, and no new teachers have been taken on at Golfhill only probationers.

A political oversight group has been set up to identify options for generating additional income. Congestion charges, workplace parking levies and social care partnership savings are possibilities, which ACas isn't happy about, but is being honest about the situation. There was discussion about funding priorities for local government, Scottish government and UK government.

IS concerned about declining business rate income and the local tax burden being shifted to people. FP raised e-mail DCC received prior to budget claiming there would be no capital spending after first year. ACas said that wasn't the case and the capital budget is publicly available.

ACas has tried to set up a drop in session concerning plans for the old Golfhill school building. The developer's architect didn't attend, claiming they didn't realise a date was confirmed. 25 people attended and plans are to invite both developer and architect along for a future meeting. As plans are now to dismantle and reconstruct listed areas ACas nervous about it. Protections are needed.

Funding allocated for redeployable CCTV on Ark Lane and Onslow Drive due to problems, and now put out to tender.

ACar supplied a written update:

There is concern about trees cut down by workmen between the golf course and motorway in Alexandra Park. This has been agreed with Amey who need access for essential repairs to Monklands Canal. When work is completed Amey are to plant twice as many trees as have been removed.

Trees on Firpark Street are being cut back to allow monitoring for issues of vandalism and illegal dumping. Ash trees are being monitored for signs of disease.

Co-Wheels parking bays require repainted, with no news as yet from Co-Wheels.

NRS have not responded to contact about traffic regulations on March 18th. A follow-up letter has been sent as the lack of response is common to other councillors.

9 AOB

Treasure Hunt – All four primary schools are on board this year. Frank to distribute paper, arrange certificate art competition and apply for grants. FP

It was reported to police that a cygnet was attacked by a dog at the pond in Alexandra Park. Regulations require a dog to be under control, which doesn't mean on a lead. Can council make pond a special case? ACas – Better signage is the only real option other than looking at CCTV, but members of the public could involve SSPCA.

There's been a spate of mugging. Someone was caught, but released. The Police are next due to September's meeting.

It was agreed to begin the process of soliciting for new Community Councillors. IS to write to existing members who don't turn up. IS

10 Next Meeting

- Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 11th June 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
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