



Dennistoun Community Council

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DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT WHITEHILL SCHOOL 10/12/13

- Present:** Stephen Birrell (chair), John Bones, Andrew Campbell, Jane Clarke, Brian Johnston, Anne McKenna, Vicky Melvin, Frank Plowright, Wesley Wright (Council Members)
Councillor Jennifer Dunn
PCs Gary Aitken & Graham Aird, Paul Jameson from Bridgeton Citizens Advice Centre and one anonymous member of the public.
- Apologies:** Lauren Amazeen, Ruth Johnston, MSPs Hanzala Malik, John Mason and Humza Yousaf, Councillor Elaine McDougall, Joe Scott from Milnbank Housing, and Barbara Fernside.

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

- POLICE REPORT:** a) Stephen again re-iterated the value of the Community Council offering input into local police activity as there has been no take-up. This will be reported back to Inspector Paul Cameron and he will contact DCC. b) There have been 115 reported crimes in Dennistoun since the last meeting. Detection rates are high, but figures incorporate a seasonal traffic initiative. There have been 19 break-ins. Two people have been apprehended, but it's not yet known how many they're responsible for. The most serious incident was an attempted murder outside La Cala bar last week. c) Specific problems investigated include reported drug use in the area next to the BP petrol station on the Parade where no paraphernalia was found, and groups of youths gathering in some areas. No drugs or drink have been found on them, but they've been encouraged to disperse and the situation is being monitored. d) John reported many Milnbank residents don't call the police, citing slow response times and a seeming lack of interest in the break-in at the Gingerbread facility. A two hour night walk around Dennistoun revealed three areas where teenagers were drinking, but no police were seen patrolling. PC Aitken stressed the police should always be contacted. If they're not able to attend due to other priorities there will be a logged record, and repeated calls indicate areas to be targeted. North Dennistoun is allocated two beat officers per shift, backed up by patrol vehicles based in Shettleston. e) The Scottish Crime Resilience Unit has produced a 14 page pdf including practical crime prevention advice for householders. Stephen suggested we could circulate these as a flyer.
- PUBLIC INPUT:** No specific concerns
- MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12/11/13:** Pending a correction regarding BUPA's offer of aid to a community allotment, the minutes were proposed as accurate by Wesley and seconded by Brian.
- MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Potholes Repair work began on Duke Street outside Tennents the day after the last DCC meeting and there was some surprise that Councillor Docherty seemed unaware of this. Otherwise potholes reported as far back as last April and logged on Land Services' RALF system remain untreated. Councillor Dunn will

investigate this. Frank reported that as of this morning few elements of the community audit conducted on September 18th had been rectified. The fly-tipping has been cleared and two adjacent overgrown hedges have been cut. Stephen only submitted the report in October, but officers are aware of the problems. Wesley has updated our website incident map and will circulate revisions for additions before posting online. b) Meeting venue It was agreed that the benefits of having a meeting place that doesn't close during school holidays and which feeds funds into a community asset outweigh an additional cost of £10 per meeting. As from next month our regular meeting place will be the Gingerbread Hall adjacent to Alexandra Parade Primary on Armadale Street. c) Dog Fouling report. There has still been no report on the summer's dog fouling initiative in Haghill and Stephen has been referred to the Performance Management Unit. This was part of an ongoing initiative begun in Summer 2011, and all wards are covered by patrols able to issue fixed penalty notices. It was deemed desirable to have specific achievement figures, and Councillor Dunn will also ask. Dog ownership was raised at full council after a child was savaged in Garthamlock. The council is currently monitoring the licencing of dog walking services in Edinburgh before deciding whether Glasgow requires similar policy. The council do have the ability to apply a form of dog asbo, but this is not widely used. Stephen suggested the topic for a possible petition via the Public Petitions Committee.

5. **ACTION PLAN:** a) Day Out In Dennistoun. Local schools are due to be consulted. There is a concern that ongoing bank account problems may result in the withdrawal of funding awarded. Stephen and Andrew have talked with Chemical Underground's Alan Woodward who has funding for music events in Dennistoun during the Commonwealth Games. There is an interest in linking our map and app with this and it was suggested he come along and present to a meeting. b) Duke Street. The working group has carried out a walk after dark, but will meet again before presenting a report to the full community council. There is currently no Duke Street retailers organisation, and it was mentioned that forming one could see Duke Street eligible for Business Improvement District status and attached funding and provide greater leverage at local level. Wesley noted the online version of our action plan is outdated, and Stephen or Ruth will provide the revised version.
6. **DCC CONSTITUTION:** a) Our plan to increase membership to 17 has been approved, but it was decided active recruitment was better postponed until the new year. As associate members haven't been active for some while it was decided to write asking how they view their future involvement. b) A new scheme of establishment for community councils has not been supplied, yet it's expected we sign the new constitution referencing it by the end of December. It was decided to delay signing in the hope that the scheme of establishment will be circulated before our January meeting.
7. **FINANCE:** a) Our current bank balance is £1599.44 and petty cash stands at exactly £153. Wesley supplied a receipt for printer ink. b) Stephen raised the issue of our 2013 admin grant being withheld with Stephen Dowling, who believed it had been paid. It doesn't appear in our bank statements. Stephen explained the queries raised by Lee Handlin mentioned at the last meeting have been resolved. Stephen Dowling will now check what the problem is and contact us.
8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. There have been no new planning applications over the past month, but Brian followed up on a few previous matters. The illuminated sign erected without permission at 287 Duke St has been referred to the Planning Enforcement Committee. On the matter of the hairdresser now operating from former food premises (328 Duke St?) Brian assumed this would need change of use certification. As one cafe has now closed, theoretically the over-supply cited in rejection of an October application no longer

applies. Stephen raised the matter that neighbour notification for the proposed traveller site on Paton Street had been restricted to five premises, and that Clyde Gateway have provided financial support for the site redevelopment. Given their brief this could be viewed as indicative of a desire to move the current site from the vicinity of Commonwealth Games venues. Wesley raised a peculiar and confusing long-winded application for premises at the Forge Retail area. A petrol station was mentioned in passing, but this didn't appear the thrust of the application. There was a discussion regarding whether we should become involved as while not directly in our area, there is currently no Camlachie community council Brian will check the Forge application and report back to the next meeting about that and Paton Street.

b) Licensing The new owners of Mills Bar have applied to vary the current licence to permit opening until midnight between Sunday and Thursday, and to open from 11am on Sunday. Along with the new times they intend to increase capacity to 189 from 120, and have applied to present live entertainment, gaming and food, permitting children to access the food area until 10pm if accompanied by an adult.

c) Correspondence

i) We were contacted regarding residents' parking, and the writer was invited to a meeting to raise the issue. ii) The consultation deadline for the Community Empowerment Bill has been extended, and Stephen will attend a briefing about the bill on December 14th. iii) The licensing policy statement mentioned at the November meeting has been published and is available online. iv) Dennistoun Photographers have an exhibition at the Briggait between the 16th and 19th of December, with a preview on December 13th. v) Ruth provided a report on incidents in the Necropolis over the past month. Broken bottles and dog fouling are a problem, fencing along the new pathway has been pulled down, and contractors materials have been stolen during a break-in.

9. **REPORTS:** East Area Partnership Market Gallery has been awarded Commonwealth Games legacy funding. Ruth provided notes detailing other funding awarded, and other issues raised. Elected Members No reports provided.

10. **A.O.B:** Frank provided a brief update on involvement with the Factoring Commission. A report has now been submitted to Gordon Matheson suggesting solutions to long-standing problems affecting Glasgow's pre-1920s housing stock. Some will require national legislation, but there has been Scottish government awareness of the Commission's work. It's hoped the full report will be online early next year, and the Commission will meet again next autumn to discuss any response and progress to that point.

NEXT MEETING: At 7pm Tuesday January 14th at the Gingerbread Hall, Armadale Street. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.