



Dennistoun Community Council

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

DENNISTOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD AT GINGERBREAD HALL 14/1/14

- Present:** Stephen Birrell (chair), Naila Ackram, Lauren Amazeen, John Bones, Jane Clarke, Anne McKenna, Vicky Melvin, Frank Plowright, Wesley Wright (Council Members)
MSP John Mason
PCs McCann & McGear, Sheena Birdley, Neil Cameron, Iain Delworth, Bernard Elliott, Sophie Kennedy, David Martin, Jane-Louise Millens, and Lisa Whitaker.
- Apologies:** Andrew Campbell, Brian Johnston, Ruth Johnston, Louise Williams, Councillors Jennifer Dunn and Frank Docherty, Joe Scott from Milnbank Housing.

Minutes provided by Frank Plowright

- POLICE REPORT:** a) There have been 74 reported crimes since the last DCC meeting, of which 42 have been detected. The figure may be higher as a dedicated plainclothes team has been successful in closing 13 robbery cases but without correlating previously reported local incidents. Police continue to stop local youths in response to neighbourhood complaints, but only one in ten searches turns up drink or drugs. The wasteground next to the BP petrol station on the Parade has been checked several times without evidence of drug use, and an address on Craigpark Drive is being investigated as a nuisance spot. b) Be Safe, Be Secure guides were distributed, with bells, used as an early warning in cases of attempted handbag robbery. They later returned with extra copies. c) Stephen requested that DCC is included in the circulation of crime prevention information. d) The police passed on the 101 phone number to be used in non-emergency contact cases. It connects directly with a central switchboard. e) Following the Scottish police forces merger there is a consultation on local policing plans running until January 25th. DCC has circulated information locally for the widest possible response.
- PUBLIC INPUT:** Due to a large public attendance Stephen reprised the role of Dennistoun Community Council. In response to being asked about specific issues Bernard Elliott noted that he was particularly interested in issues regarding Alexandra Park. The former Friends of Alexandra Park organisation is now defunct, but Stephen reported Land Services are keen to liaise and suggested Mr Elliott contact Stevie Scott. David Martin was present researching Duke Street for a possible TV programme, and Dr Lisa Whitaker is following up 1960s research about the lives of young people in the Glasgow's East End. She's keen to speak to people who've lived here since the 1960s.
- MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10/12/13:** Pending the date correction to December, the minutes were proposed as accurate by Wesley and seconded by John.
- MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** a) Public petition on dog fouling Regulations govern petitions Glasgow Council will accept, but a Community Council submitting on an issue circumvents the requirement for a minimum number of signatures. Stephen will create a first draft then circulated to other members. Councillor Jennifer Dunn wrote regarding dog

issues, noting this is being considered at parliamentary level and under discussion are chipping of dogs and the return of the dog licence. John Mason noted it was unlikely that any system of DNA testing would be introduced. b) East End Social Alun Woodward of Chemikal Underground Records is planning a Camden Crawl style event through the East End to coincide with the Commonwealth Games. This is in the early planning stages with venues are currently being sourced, but it's hoped an annual event will result. c) Potholes Frank noted work has very recently started on the deficiencies submitted in October following the DCC walkabout, with the irregular walkway on Craigpark by the intersection with Onslow Drive now seen to. There are still potholes outstanding after being reported over six months ago via the website, and Frank will compile a list of those reported and not yet repaired and submit to Councillor Dunn. Stephen suggested this could also be a matter for the East Area Partnership. d) Associate Members Stephen has e-mailed Milnbank and Reidvale Housing Associations, and noted Market Gallery are keen to renew their involvement and will discuss particulars at a committee meeting. Stephen will also contact Dennistoun Diggers. e) New Scheme of Establishment We were only supplied with the new Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils 24 hours before our meeting. It's a long document, and the concensus was to hold off signing our agreement until all members had the opportunity to read it. Stephen felt there was little contentious remaining, and Wesley will inform Stephen Dowling of the delay. f) 2013/14 Admin Allowance Stephen reported DCC received no admin allowance for the current financial year due to his delay in submitting accounts, although this wasn't helped by lack of action from the person suggested to vet them. It was decided at finance level that the lateness was enough to withhold the admin allowance. There is apparently no appeal. John Mason kindly offered to intercede to see if this can be changed. g) Factoring Commission. Frank had nothing new to say. The report is now with Gordon Matheson, and it's hoped the recommendations will be implemented by full council. The Commission will meet again in the autumn to discuss the progress to that point. h) Community Empowerment Bill Stephen attended an event about this and hoped to have a summary available for the meeting. He will circulate this, and information can be found on the Scottish Community Development Centre website. He found the draft bill very positive, and the response deadline is now early February.

5. **ACTION PLAN:** a) Day Out In Dennistoun. Stephen precised previous discussion for the benefit of the attending public. No further progress, although Andy has been passed contact details for a long-term local resident by Vicky for suggestions, perhaps of the Did You Know? nature. A deadline of Doors Open Day 2014 in September is now likely. b) Duke Street. Stephen precised previous discussion for the benefit of the attending public. The working group supplied a report, and audit of shops along Duke Street and Stephen talked about separating those supplying value from others taking money out of the community, and consulting with a cross-section. The report also notes improving signage and facades, improved use of premises, environmental improvements and a possible community noticeboard. There is a plan to provide a springitme community engagement event on the issue, ideally with the funding available for charettes. Stephen estimated £300 would be required, but Naila thought more and will consturct a budget.
6. **DCC MEMBERSHIP:** a) Stephen precised previous discussion for the benefit of the attending public. We have four vacancies to promote, and ideally new members would come from areas of Dennistoun currently under-represented on the Communiuty Council. Eligibility requires being 18 or over and listed on the electoral register as resident in the area. We will promote the vacancies, beginning with a page on the DCC website.
7. **FINANCE:** a) Our current bank balance is £1599.44 and petty cash stands at exactly £130.90. Despite not having received written notification Jane discovered she and Wesley

are now registered as signatories on the RBS account. She will pursue a complaint about the long delays and bank incompetence in registering new signatories, pointing out possible loss of grant money due to not being able to operate our bank account. On the positive side, the Communities grant for the Day Out In Dennistoun project can now be transferred.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** a) Planning. Brian passed on that there has been nothing of significance over the past month. b) Licensing There has been an application for the renewal of a late hours catering licence at either 1 or 12 Marne Street (notification may have wrong number). c) Correspondence i) We have been given information about the local policing consultation as mentioned above. ii) There is a consultation on park management rules with a deadline of February 14th. iii) The DCC website has now run for three years and Wesley provided a statistical print out. Frequently viewed pages tend to be those with information not readily available elsewhere online such as the food bank, the borrow a bike scheme and the sorting office closure. Also well viewed are advice pages for Dennistoun residents. .
9. **REPORTS:** a) East Area Partnership No meeting since the last DCC meeting, with the next due in two weeks. b) Community Council Liaison Group Last night's meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum. Stephen reported further resignations leaving the future of the group in doubt. He regrets this as a lost opportunity. c) Elected Members John Mason noted that Parkhead has benefitted greatly from City Plan funding and the plan provides a ceiling for certain types of business. Unfortunately this doesn't include the proliferation of bookies springing up to circumvent the restriction on the number of large payout gaming machines per shop. It would require a change in national legislation to prevent this, although John Bones noted that one possible loophole is that legislation requires a betting shop takes more money from wagers than from machines. John Mason will look into this. John noted that contrary to reports police stations aren't closing, but hours are being reduced. Matters with which John is involved in the Scottish parliament include same sex marriage, the problems of single fathers, sectarianism and the shaping of Scotland's future.
10. **A.O.B:** Wesley provided some posters for distribution with the dates of our meetings for 2014 along with the new venue. Vicky pointed out that the change of venue renders our printed postcards redundant.

NEXT MEETING: At 7pm Tuesday February 11th at the Gingerbread Hall, Armadale Street. Please notify Wesley if unable to attend.