



# Dennistoun Community Council

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## Dennistoun Community Council

### Ordinary Meeting

#### MINUTES

7pm – 9pm, Tuesday 10 November 2020

Online, via Zoom

**CCllrs Present** Lauren Bennie (LB); Stephen Birrell (SB); Jonathan Deans (JD); Elaine Docherty (ED); Deborah Hamilton (DH); Brian Johnston (BJ); Ruth Johnston (RJ); Valery Tough (VT); Mary Wallace (MW); Wesley Wright (WW) [*Minute taker and acting chair*]

**Others Present:** Ivan McKee MSP; Cllr Allan Casey; police; 3x members of the public.

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#### ACTION

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

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Welcome and thanks for attending.

Apologies: CCllrs Angela Bretherton (AB); David Williams (DW); Paul Lavery (PL). Anne McLaughlin MP; John Mason MSP; Cllr Kim Long; Cllr Elaine McDougall.

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#### 2 Approval of previous minutes and meeting notes

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Draft Minutes of 13 October 2020 AGM (after minor update to assets list) for information pending final approval at 2021 AGM. Proposed by RJ; Seconded by LB.

Minutes of 13 October 2020 ordinary meeting (after typo correction). Proposed by BJ; Seconded by DH.

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#### 3 Police

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After 3-4 months of successful police operations to tackle drug dealing in the area, pockets of activity persist, especially in South Dennistoun. Disorder and bike theft is linked to this. There has been a substantial amount of bike recoveries, but difficulties returning them, so tagging/marking has been promoted. Secure bike storage is being encouraged (See item 3 below). Cllr Casey noted reports of problems with drug dealing being displaced into the Wellpark area. This was acknowledged and will be looked in to. LB asked about the potential value of video footage. Sgt confirmed that this is sometimes admissible, although it is not expressly encouraged due to complications.

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#### 4 Matters Arising

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##### a. Local/Current Issues

- *Noticeboards* >>> Ongoing. LB to arrange for installation or programming for installation by end of year. LB

- *Potential mural on wall at Amore on Alexandra Parade* >>> ED contacted Amore and replied to originator. Cllr Casey suggests shared ownership. No further action noted at present.

- *Low Traffic Neighbourhood proposal* >>> See item 8 below.

- *Glasgow Life Venues* >>> See item 5 below.

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##### b. Space For Distancing/Active Travel

Followed up on previous correspondence with Cllr Casey/Cllr Long (see end of minutes attachment 1 for full text). Updates are: Cllr Casey /Cllr Long

- Footway/pavement parking – Cllr Casey awaiting officer response.
  - Restricted parking zone – No date set for this.
  - Shared on-street private bins – A priority effort on reducing the number of affected properties has reduced this from well over 100 properties to comfortably below 100. Milnbank HA involved to reduce numbers further. WW requested that Cllr Casey
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determine the GCC response to DCCs request (supported by Cllrs Long and Casey) that these bins, where needed, are located on the carriageway rather than the footway, so that active travel is not impeded.

- On-street secure cycle parking lockers – Contract is out to tender. Still awaiting GCC confirmation of timeline and locations.
- Space for distancing: encroaching vegetation – Cllr Casey still awaiting officer response.
- Space for distancing: footway widening – This is now under review, potentially being scaled back or cancelled. The GCC opinion seems to be that the anticipated concerns related to queues outside shops have not transpired. WW and RJ noted that this was not a fair summary of the situation on Duke Street, especially outside food and hospitality premises. WW further noted that an [Animated Spaces fund](#) had very recently opened but *"temporary interventions to help animate the spaces created for safe movement and trading within our town centres"* would be that much more achievable if the promised spaces for safe movement actually existed
- Space for distancing: cycling – Nothing planned for Dennistoun. Not even a confirmation that any consideration is being given to temporary provision on Duke Street between High Street and Bellgrove in response to enquiries by Cllr Long.

DCC contacted John Mason MSP and Ivan McKee regarding pavement parking for an update further to <https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=12878&i=116410&c=2285971>  
In summary: Transport (Scotland) Act passed on 15 November 2019; implementation requires secondary legislation and consultation; this was temporarily paused during Covid restrictions; it had restarted as of 7th Oct 2020 (*"Officials are currently developing an updated timeline for the secondary legislation and the consultation requirements for the implementation of the provisions"*); no guarantee of completion before dissolution of Parliament in May 2021.

Response dated 9<sup>th</sup> Nov, from Jane at Ivan McKee's office: *"Just to let you know we've sent a letter to Michael Mathieson Transport Secretary on this - we'll let you know as soon as we get a response."*

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### c. Streetscape Maintenance

Followed up on correspondence with all Dennistoun and Calton Ward Cllrs (see end of minutes attachment 2 for full text):

- Flooding and standing water
- Areas around cycle racks
- Carriageway condition on duke street and adjoining roads
- Footway condition along duke street

All Ward  
22 and  
Ward 9  
Cllrs

Response dated 9<sup>th</sup> Nov from Cllr Hepburn: *"We have identified the issues that relate to Calton Ward and have engaged with the department in relation to them. We will get back to you in due course."*

Response dated 10<sup>th</sup> Nov from GCC via Cllr Casey: *"[...]arrangements are in place to target [the delayed] gullies over the next two weeks. [...] If underlying issues are noted a specialised contractor will undertake a detail camera survey identifying any blockages to allow further works to be arranged. Arrangements are in place to assess the condition of the gullies within Alexandra Parade [and] within Duke Street between Bellgrove Street and Melbourne Street and instruct works as required. [No date confirmed.] [...] Duke Street between Sword Street and Bathgate Street is included in this year's resurfacing programme and these works are expected to be undertaken early in the new year. The remaining sections of Duke Street, including its junctions, have been assessed and included within a list of future potential resurfacing schemes [but] it is unlikely that [they] will be included within the 2021/22 carriageway resurfacing programme. However, we will continue to monitor these areas and instruct temporary repairs and any permanent carriageway patching works as required. Investment Strategies and works programmes are generally delivered in two tranches. The first tranche of schemes forms an optimised programme of works for the key strategic routes, which is developed by the Neighbourhood Teams [...] In normal circumstances the second tranche of schemes will be informed as a result of further community engagement, such as feedback from Area Committee Meetings and Local Area Partnerships. This is a means of advising Elected Members and the public of planned works and providing them with an opportunity to influence works programmes. However, due to the current pandemic we have not be able to request and collate such feedback. For your information, further resurfacing schemes for Wards 9/22 include Bannatyne Avenue (full length), Crownpoint Road (Abercrombie Street to Brook Street) and McIntosh Street (full length). I can also report that sections of London Rd and Gallowgate have been targeted already this year. My officer will assess the footway at Alexandra Parade, instruct make safe repairs as required and follow-up patching will be organised."*

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## 5. Local Current Issues

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### Property Factors

- Enquiry regarding fee charged for provision of out of hours emergency maintenance contact number. This is being dealt with by Ivan McKee's office and is quite a specific point of contention. DCC will circulate advice if/when this becomes available. [Shelter Scotland](#) and [UnderOneRoof.scot](#) noted as being especially useful resources for this kind of query.

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### Glasgow Life

- DH updated on the 15<sup>th</sup> Oct Save Whitehill Pool meeting, where the comparison to private pool provision was noted, as well as the potential for employment opportunities linked to Glasgow Life venues reopening. Clarity is being sought over the 'hub' model of provision. Save Whitehill Pool will continue to focus on not just the pool, but all GL venues.  
- See also item 7 below.

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## 6 Public Input

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Covered by item 5 above.

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## 7 Elected Members

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### Ivan McKee MSP

- Latest Traders Association meeting had a slightly disappointing attendance but there were many good ideas discussed. Will continue to explore options.  
Attended pool working group with Cllr Casey.

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### Cllr Casey

- Met with Scottish Towns Partnership to discuss various matters, including the potential Traders Assoc and Meat Market site.  
- Media reports citing removal of pool funding are not correct. There is £800k still available for feasibility and minor works.  
- No updated position available for the Library. Still as per 1<sup>st</sup> phase plan - i.e. no date for reopening in Dennistoun). But has been lobbying (in meetings with officers and chair of GL) to get Dennistoun library to the front of the queue, bearing in mind community issues and the services the library officers. Is optimistic on progress.  
- LB asked about the availability of a business case regarding GL venues. Cllr Casey understood that there will be one, but the status of this is unknown. DCC will write to GL. LB  
- Local teams are being contacted to investigate possibilities for sports pitches.

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### Anne McLaughlin MP

- Written report attached (see end of minutes attachment 3 for full text).

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## 8 Slack/working groups

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Based on Scheme of Establishment rules, levels of engagement, difficulties organising in person under Covid restrictions, availability of digital options, and us all being volunteers, pursuance of formalised subcommittee s has been halted. After reviewing our current projects the following Slack channels have been set up to accommodate discussion in a transparent and flexible working group format. Cllrs are free to join/leave these working/groups channels as they deem appropriate and as projects evolve.

- i) Associate Members
- ii) Communications
- iii) Dennistoun Business
- iv) Sustainable Dennistoun
- v) Transport/Travel/Traffic

Re: ii) – WW to create a WordPress login for ED to enable web content creation. WW

Re: v) - Further to the Oct meeting, WW drafted a proposed email Cllr Richardson regarding the LTN proposal received from Derek York (DY). The draft included a request that traffic movement in, through, and adjacent to the whole DCC area be considered, along with school car free zones, the number and quality of pedestrian crossing points, and an extension of the Avenue scheme. This draft gave rise to discussion on a variety of points. VT commented regarding consultation with emergency services, potential knock-on effects in surrounding

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roads and areas, efficacy of planters if not sufficiently substantial, potential conflict with temporary roadworks and signals. DY commented to emphasise the minimal level of intervention required for the Drives area, the quality of life improvements, that any effect on main roads can be expected to be temporary whilst modal shifts occur in response, to support consultation, that emergency service issues would be unlikely. Cllr Casey confirmed that GCC are already seriously looking at the possibilities for an LTN under Spaces for People provisions and that by definition this would mean there would be no formal consultation, that school zones are also being considered. ED noted problems with other schemes in London, where a lack of consultation was seen as a major issue. JD highlighted legal challenges to an Edinburgh LTN. Further discussion required after this meeting, with WW to redraft accordingly.

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ALL/WW

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**9 DCC Account Signatories**

See item 10 below.

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**10 Officer Updates**

a. Treasurer

- Signatories: Currently SB and WW. To be changed to: AB, WW, and MW. Difficulties with RBS. AB/JD
  - Current account balance of £2285.24.
  - Petty cash balance of £21.91.
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b. Secretary

- GCC City Centre Strategy got in touch and have arranged to do a 30 min presentation at our December planning meeting, on phase three of the District Regeneration Frameworks (DRFs) which include Cowcaddens, Townhead, Learning Quarter and Merchant City (parts of which are within the DCC area).

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c. Planning and Licensing

- Planning: 29 Whitehill Street – Application for conversion of existing shop unit to form a flat.
  - Licensing: 19 Onslow Square – Application to vary an existing licence for an HMO by removing internal partitions and reducing the number of rooms from 18 to 15 (with tenant capacity to remain at 18).
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d. Dennistoun Area Partnership

- First meeting since March to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December.
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**11 Any Other Business**

- LB noted an intention to step down as Cllr and that this would be the last meeting in attendance. Thanks were expressed for the valued contribution made by LB to many aspects of DCC, not least in tenure as chair.
  - In response to public enquiry, we will look into the potential of hosting discussions with the public within Slack.
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JD/ED/WW

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**12 Note of Next Meeting**

Planning Meeting, 7-9pm, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020, online via Zoom.

Ordinary meeting, 7-9pm, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021, online via Zoom.

Agenda for Ordinary meeting will be circulated, and published to [Dennistouncc.org.uk/dates](http://Dennistouncc.org.uk/dates).

Apologies to be submitted to secretary via [hello@dennistouncc.org.uk](mailto:hello@dennistouncc.org.uk).

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ALL

**ATTACHED ON FOLLOWING PAGES:**

- 1. Follow-up request to Cllr Casey/Cllr Long for update on Space for Distancing/active travel**
- 2. Follow-up to all Dennistoun and Calton Cllrs regarding streetscape maintenance**

## **1. FOLLOW-UP REQUEST TO CLLR CASEY/CLLR LONG FOR UPDATE ON SPACE FOR DISTANCING/ACTIVE TRAVEL**

Further to correspondence noted in October 2020 minutes.

### **FOOTWAY/PAVEMENT PARKING**

1. What's the GCC position on our enquiries regarding funding, exemption audit, and consultation/public enquiry considerations previously raised and noted for reference at end of the DCC Oct 2020 minutes.

### **RESTRICTED PARKING ZONE**

2. What's the timeline for consultation/implementation? How does this tie-in with the mooted Low Traffic Neighbourhood plans?

### **SHARED ON-STREET PRIVATE BINS**

3. Cllrs have expressed verbal support in DCC meetings for these to be located on the carriageway by default, rather than the footway, but what's the stated GCC position? What's the timeline for consultation/implementation?

### **ON-STREET SECURE CYCLE PARKING LOCKERS**

4. Cllr Long confirmed that the contract is in place for cycle lockers. When will they be installed? Which locations?

### **SPACE FOR DISTANCING: ENCROACHING VEGETATION**

5. Acknowledged by DCC as an issue. But what, where, and when in Dennistoun?

6. In addition, GCC-maintained vegetation along Duke Street north side between McIntosh Street and Sydney Street is newly significant and requires to be cut back.

### **SPACE FOR DISTANCING: FOOTWAY WIDENING**

7. Duke Street between Bellgrove Street and Millerston Street was announced months ago, but when will it be in place?

### **SPACE FOR DISTANCING: CYCLING**

8. Is the Duke Street pop-up confirmed? If so, when will it be in place?

9. Duke Street Avenue has been confirmed. What's the timeline?

## **2. FOLLOW UP TO ALL DENNISTOUN AND CALTON CLLRS REGARDING STREETScape MAINTENANCE**

Further to correspondence noted in October 2020 minutes.

### **FLOODING AND STANDING WATER**

1. The given completion date of 23rd October for the gullies identified (ref MLU 1625525) has not been met. Covid disruption is acknowledged, but an updated planned completion date is requested. It is anticipated that some blocked or damaged gullies may require attention beyond the basic clearing exercise and, where applicable, this information is requested also.
2. In addition, a number of gullies along Alexandra Parade appear to be blocked, requiring investigation and action.
3. In addition, there are failed and flooded gullies on the south side of Duke Street between Bellgrove Street and Melbourne Street, requiring investigation and action.

### **AREAS AROUND CYCLE RACKS**

4. The litter bin top of Annbank Street was relocated, but it has since been moved back into an obstructive position (ref NSMLU 1614626a).
5. It is not clear what, if any, measures have been put in place to avoid the repeated issue of large commercial/recycling waste bins being placed directly adjacent to cycle racks. The issue here is not only the placement of the commercial/recycling waste bins themselves, but the bags, boxes, and other detritus that follows on. This is the case in a number of locations. Could markings similar to those placed around NextBike stations be utilised? If not, what alternative measures might be applicable?

### **CARRIAGEWAY CONDITION ON DUKE STREET AND ADJOINING ROADS; AND**

#### **FOOTWAY CONDITION ALONG DUKE STREET**

6. Scoring and ranking in the context of the Roads Investment Strategy is acknowledged and understood. But our query remains unanswered. The references to hierarchy and amenity being a factor, rather than just condition alone, are somewhat irrelevant when this is Duke Street under consideration rather than simply a "cul-de-sac serving four houses". We're being told that other roads are being prioritised ahead of Duke Street and its junctions. But which ones, and on what criteria? It stretches credibility to breaking point to claim that there are multiple locations with a combination of condition, amenity, classification, and public reporting which aggregate to a Condition Index score that pushes Duke Street and its junctions so far down the "ranked list of schemes" to the point where it drops off the bottom of the list of programmed schemes and into a non-specific to-be-considered in-the-future category. Please provide a copy of the Condition Index scores or ranked list of schemes for roads in the Dennistoun and Calton Wards. Or, at the very least, provide a more specific indication of the priority level of Duke Street and its junctions, and an estimate of when we might see these roads be brought up to an acceptable standard.
7. In addition, the footway outside Alexandra Park Station requires attention - it is severely deteriorated and uneven, with multiple trip hazards.

### **3. UPDATE FROM ANNE MCLAUGHLIN MP**

*In the past month I have been supporting Ivan McKee and Allan Casey in setting up a traders association in Dennistoun which will hopefully bring many more customers into the area and also lead to a joined up approach from the traders.*

*My work with the Green Deal Action Group, Ivan McKee MSP and Cllrs Allan Casey and Graham Campbell has resulted in Glasgow Council issuing building warrants to those that fell victim to the Green Deal mis-selling. This has enabled people to get house insurance for the first time in years and people now have the ability to sell their homes should they choose and whilst this is not a Dennistoun issue I hope it's reassuring to know that I don't give up – this has been going on since 2015.*

*I have continued to raise concerns of residents in Parliament around the safety of workplaces and forced a number of businesses to make arrangements for people to work from home.*

*I have started a campaign to increase the uptake of pension credits among our older residents, annually over £11 million goes unclaimed in Glasgow NE.*

*I have questioned ministers on the support available for businesses, the self employed and those excluded from previous support schemes.*

*When TSB announced the closure of their Dennistoun branch I met with them to press the case for local branches remaining open. As I reported at the last DCC meeting, they have agreed to consider the building being used for community benefit but they need us to suggest something to them and this is only if they are unable to sell it easily.*

*As the spokesperson for women and equalities I have called on the Chancellor to ensure that any extension to the uplift of Universal Credit is in full and permanent to ensure that those most in need are not pushed further into financial difficulty over the winter. I've also called for the legacy benefits to be given the same uplift so that people (mainly people with disabilities) are not left behind.*

*I have held a number of public meetings with Ivan McKee and local councillors around the provision of bus services in the constituency and we are looking at community led solutions to the number of service withdrawals.*

*Worked with a number of local companies to get them access to grant funding and rates reductions that they were entitled to.*

*Anyone who needs the help and support of myself or my team should email me on [anne.mclaughlin.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:anne.mclaughlin.mp@parliament.uk) and we will be very happy to help.*