

# Woodlands and Park Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 13 November 2019, Albany Centre, 7.30pm

**Present:** Ruth Gillett (chair), Tom Johnstone, Derek Manson-Smith, Diane Mitchell, Stewart Leighton, Gerry Doyle, Kay Scott, Clare Crawford (minutes), Alasdair Gerrie, Blair Thomson

**In attendance:** PC Barry McGlynn, Councillor Martha Wardrop, Councillor Ken Andrew

**1 Apologies:** None

### 2 Police Report

PC McGlynn reported that the police can no longer give out crime statistics but he could say that for the Woodlands and Park area, Alpha Charlie, beats 18 and 19, the main issue is thefts of bicycles. In the last month there had been no reports of housebreakings or drug offences. There were a few minor road traffic issues, mostly to do with people hitting other people's cars and not reporting the incidents. There was a theft in Lyndoch Place when a laptop was stolen. There were no incidents of vandalism. There are two groups based in Partick Police Office, consisting of a sergeant and six officers per group covering twelve community council areas. From next month there will be a new inspector, Paul Daley. PC McGlynn's attention was drawn to the fact that young men drive high-powered cars at high speeds on residential streets in the area.

### 3 Minutes of 9 October Meeting

Tom Johnstone said that under item 8, HMO Consultation, line 3, 'two-thirds' should be 'three quarters'. Otherwise, the minutes of the meeting were proposed as a correct record by Tom Johnstone, seconded by Diane Mitchell.

### 4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

### 5 Councillors' Reports

Councillor Wardrop reported that it had been announced that the Otago Lane planning application number 1901763 was going to the Planning Committee the following Tuesday. In discussion about the history of this site, Tom Johnstone said that the current application could be seen as an indirect way of reviving a defunct planning permission. Councillor Wardrop said that there is a problem with waste water going into back courts on Arlington Street at the corner with Woodlands Road so that residents cannot use the back courts and have to use on-street bins that have been placed in Arlington Street. They should not be there for very long.

### 6 Lanes Project

Tom Johnstone reported that the last five planning applications and one listed building consent have still not gone in as the architect has moved office.

### 7 Park Quadrant Site

Derek Manson-Smith reported that George Hazle had organised a meeting between the developer and local residents and would get back to the community council. Councillor Andrew said he had been told by DRS that ENV2 money from the development, which he would like to see used for the refurbishment of the lane, can only be used for council-owned properties but he has queried that statement and is still awaiting a response. Stewart Leighton said that ENV2 money was always seen as helping to compensate for inadequacies in open space provision where new housing was going to create greater pressure on existing spaces. Councillor Wardrop said she had circulated details of what was proposed for the ENV2 money here and it was allotments, open space, sports facilities and play areas. She would also ask George Hazle about providing a cost for bringing the lane up to an adoptable standard.

### 8 Hillhead Area Partnership

Stewart Leighton reported that at the most recent meeting of the Hillhead Area Partnership there had been a report on cleansing and community safety. In a number of areas there had been a relative improvement: flyposting, litter, street cleansing and flytipping were all down; but graffiti, needles and dog fouling had increased. In discussion about cleansing Stewart had suggested that there be a training scheme for landlords on property maintenance and protocols when they apply for an HMO or when registering as a landlord rather than

a charging system. There had also been discussion about young people in the parks when Stewart had suggested that the issue be raised at the Northwest Partnership Area meeting in order to get some financial resources. There was a presentation on the City Centre Strategic Development Strategy, a document that looks towards 2050, outlining a range of issues, including repopulation of the centre, reconnecting the centre with the river, reducing the dominance of traffic and car dependency, greening the centre, and repairing, restoring and enhancing the urban fabric and giving greater attention to heritage. Garnethill was an area to be targeted for family housing, and Stewart had suggested that Woodlands be considered for this too. The document is on the council's website until the end of January. Councillor Andrew said that, prompted by Councillor Wardrop, he is trying to ensure that the lanes strategy is extended beyond the city centre to cover the whole city.

## **9 HMO Consultation**

Councillor Andrew said that at the Hillhead Area Partnership meeting he had raised with Frankie O'Rourke the lack of a robust connection between Neighbourhoods and Sustainability and Licensing as, when he makes an objection to an HMO licence, the officer from Neighbourhoods and Sustainability says 'Nothing to report'. He has asked Frankie O'Rourke to investigate the matter and to find out who makes the decision about raising objections. Tom Johnstone said that a deafening silence had been the response to the material he had sent out about the amendment to section 163A of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. He also said that one good thing that can be achieved by beginning enforcement action is that it stops the landlord from getting a certificate of lawful use. He has found a part of the Code of Conduct for HMOs that actually works as, when he was trying to collect money from HMO landlords for repairs, he contacted Mhairi Miller, the Clerk to the Licensing Committee, who immediately contacted the HMO Unit, who immediately contacted the landlords concerned, who immediately gave grovelling apologies but paid money into the joint account. There was discussion about possible Scottish Government legislation on tenements.

## **10 Millennium Park**

Councillor Wardrop reported that the lights are back on.

## **11 Kelvingrove Park**

Ruth Gillett said that she had been told that there are only two trained gardeners working in the park. Councillor Wardrop reported that there are plans to cut back the rhododendrons without consultation. She will follow the matter up. There was discussion about this. Councillor Wardrop reported that Scottish Water have finished their work and, in conjunction with Ruth Gillett, she will check with them on how many replacement trees they will plant, what species they are and where they will be planted. She said that the next phase of the Glasgow University Campus Development has just gone to Planning and there was discussion about how this will affect the park. There was also discussion about the community councils around the park being consulted on the Bandstand separately from Friends groups and about the importance of councillors being kept informed of plans for the park generally. Councillor Wardrop said she is trying to involve the Health and Social Care Partnership on the issue of drinking in the park using its health and wellbeing programmes in schools.

## **12 Cleansing**

Derek Manson-Smith reported that Councillors Andrew and Wardrop had followed up his complaint and he had had a phone call from Eddie Scanlon to tell him that the Park area was a special area and not affected by the eight-day cycle. Diane Mitchell said that Charing Cross Housing Association has told her that the seven-day cycle will apply to her because the people who put their bins out do not work a Saturday or a Sunday. Councillor Andrew said that large-capacity street bins are being used for domestic rubbish, usually by students, and where this happens regularly the bins will be removed. There was discussion about how to stop this.

## **13 Correspondence, including Planning and Licensing**

Tom Johnstone said two items of correspondence had arrived since he circulated his report: apologies from the University SRC president, who said he will try to get someone to attend the next meeting; and an election hustings on 3 December in St Mary's Cathedral at 7.30pm, with Sir John Curtice in the chair.

## **14 Finance**

Gerry Doyle reported that he had received an invoice for £20 for room hire for October.

## **15 AOCB**

Derek Manson-Smith raised the matter of a roads survey.

## **16 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 11 December 2019 at 7.30pm in the Albany Centre.