

# Woodlands and Park Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 9 October 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, Morag Lau, Lynn Walsh

**In attendance:** Lee Handlin (Community Council Resource Centre, Glasgow City Council), Councillor Martha Wardrop

**1 Apologies:** Graham Kennedy, Councillor Andrew, PC Barry McGlynn

### **2 Police Report**

As there were no police present there was no police report.

### **3 Minutes of 11 September Meeting**

Clare Crawford reported that Ruth Gillett had emailed her to say that under item 10, Kelvingrove Park, line 6, the figure of £220 for a commemorative bench should read £1,220. Otherwise, the minutes of the meeting were proposed as a correct record by Tom Johnstone, seconded by Derek Manson-Smith.

### **4 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **5 Councillors' Reports**

Councillor Wardrop reported that there had been a number of complaints about the Bin Replacement Programme. There are a number of back courts where there is inadequate storage for wheelie bins and where support is being given to work with factors to get work done. There have been a lot of improvements made in the back lanes but several are still full of bulk. There is still enthusiasm for setting up lane associations and the next stage after the signage is put in place is to get gates for them all, and she wondered if the community council had a view on this. She feels that if gates are kept closed with a latch this will allow access for individuals and deter vehicles. Kay Scott reported that although there are gates in the lane between Barrington Drive and Montague Street, people had been dumping rubbish in the past couple of weeks. Councillor Wardrop said this should be reported to the council as flytipping. She reported that a resident in the Park area has asked for something similar to the Boston Freedom Trail, a path that connects heritage features and is a tourist attraction, for the Park area. Clare Crawford said that a few years ago the Woodlands Community Development Trust produced a leaflet with a Woodlands and Park trail and that she would send the text of it to Councillor Wardrop. Councillor Wardrop said she hoped the physical infrastructure for such a trail could be funded by the Sustrans plan as it would help traffic calming. There was discussion about speeding cars. Councillor Wardrop said that Sustrans had published a review of the projects they are supporting, including walking and cycling routes separate from the City Deal, for example a community-led project in Yorkhill. Councillor Wardrop said there had been an issue with a new restaurant in Great Western Road erecting a barrier on the pavement without permission. It has been reported and the restaurant will have to obtain a special permit. She said that if anyone who has concerns about not being able to get around pavements safely because of such impediments should get in touch with her. She reported that there has been an issue with the Eldon Street entrance to Kelvingrove Park, above the tunnel, which is being used as a toilet, and she is following the matter up, including having a meeting with Public Health.

### **6 Lanes Project**

Tom Johnstone reported that the last five planning applications and one listed building consent are being worked on before submission.

### **7 Park Quadrant Site**

Derek Manson-Smith reported that there have been no further developments since the last meeting although George Hazle wants a meeting to discuss various things.

### **8 HMO Consultation**

Tom Johnstone reported that councillor enforcement is the only form of enforcement that is happening at the moment and that Councillor Andrew has a long list of applications to call on. The ultimate outcome of planning

enforcement is that the landlord is served a notice to pay a fine, which, if paid within 15 days, is only two-thirds of the fine, and then the landlord carries on as before. At the moment the fine is £2,000. Tom said he tried approaching SNP, Labour and Green MSPs but received no response. He did get a reply from a Tory MSP who was cooperative and launched an amendment to the Planning Scotland Bill that Tom had drafted, but on the day it was to be discussed in committee it was withdrawn because, he was later told by the minister's office, the minister, Kevin Stewart, had assured the MSP, Graham Simpson, that the matter was being looked into, but this turned out not to be the case. Stewart Leighton circulated photocopies of newspaper articles about planning breaches. There was discussion about the effect of the growth of higher education since the 1990s.

## **9 Millennium Park**

Councillor Wardrop said that concerns have been raised about maintenance. She feels that the owners have to work together and with Glasgow City Council to plan for its future and to find investment. It is very well used but has been affected by the cutbacks in spending. There had been a problem with the lighting, which has been fixed. Stewart Leighton reported that the uplighters on the timber path are not working.

## **10 Kelvingrove Park**

Ruth Gillett reported that the pond is being rewilded. Councillor Wardrop said there is a film about it online and work is starting the following week. Ruth said she has also asked for attention to be paid to the western end of the herbaceous border.

## **11 Cleansing**

Derek Manson-Smith reported that the chaos in the Park area reported at the last meeting caused by the implementation of the eight-day cycle without warning has got worse and there still has been no information. No one knows when to put bins out, leading to empty streets when the bin lorry arrives or to bins being left out on the street permanently. In addition, he has received two letters, in the same post, about the Bin Replacement Programme, which say he will be getting a green bin when, in fact, he has had one for years. Tom Johnstone reported that he had not yet had a reply to his letter to Stephen Egan. Councillor Wardrop said she has corresponded with senior management but has yet to meet them. Meantime, she pointed out that the council has to cut £50m a year for the next three years. In the course of discussion about the eight-day cycle, its implementation and other possible cost savings, Councillor Wardrop said that a new IT system is being set up, which, by December, will have a calendar to let residents know when their bins will be emptied. There was discussion about using large underground bins to replace continental bins.

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

Tom Johnstone's report, which he had emailed before the meeting, was taken as read.

## **13 Finance**

Gerry Doyle reported that he had received an invoice for £20 for room hire for September. Tom Johnstone reported that he had received an invoice for just over £121 from Robin Gillett for domain hosting fees for the past two years and for updating the community council's website so that someone else can use it and so that it remains secure. It was agreed that this should be paid. Gerry reported that £250 from the council has appeared in the bank account but he has not yet been told what it is for.

## **14 AOCB**

There was no other business.

## **15 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 13 November 2019 at 7.30pm in the Albany Centre.