

# Woodlands and Park Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 8 January 2020, Albany Centre, 7.30pm

**Present:** Ruth Gillett (chair), Tom Johnstone (secretary), Stewart Leighton, Gerry Doyle (treasurer), Diane Mitchell, Clare Crawford (minutes), Kay Scott, Alasdair Gerrie, Johnpaul McCabe

**In attendance:** Councillor Ken Andrew

**1 Apologies:** Derek Manson-Smith, PC McGlynn, Councillor Wardrop

### 2 Police Report

PC McGlynn was not present, but Clare Crawford reported that he had sent 'a synopsis of crime trends within Beats AC 18 and 19, which cover the Woodlands and Park Community area. Crime statistics taken from 1 December 2019 until 7 January 2020. *Housebreaking crimes:* no recorded crimes of this nature. People are advised to always remain vigilant with the security of their close or house regardless, as this is a crime that can happen at any time and many of them are opportunistic. *Misuse of Drugs Act crimes:* there has been a slight increase of persons being caught in possession of controlled drugs. *Theft of pedal cycle:* this is an ongoing issue and it is advised that people always remain vigilant with the security. There has been one recorded instance. *Road traffic crimes:* there have been several road traffic offences within the last month. I have been patrolling the community area, on foot and mobile, and was involved with detection of a male for Section 2 RTA 1988 (Dangerous Driving). *Crimes of violence:* a common assault recorded this month. *Vandalisms:* decrease in vandalisms in the area, with only a few instances being recorded. Again, I reiterate the security of your property and the awareness of personal safety due to the darker nights.' Gerry Doyle noted the lack of instances of housebreaking, which was quite encouraging

### 3 Minutes of 11 December Meeting

The minutes of the meeting were proposed as a correct record by Tom Johnstone, seconded by Stewart Leighton.

### 4 Matters Arising

Councillor Andrew said that North Kelvin Community Council are very unhappy about the way that planning is being conducted, particularly in terms of appeal. This has been prompted by an application for a new housing development on a site at the junction of Fergus Drive and Queen Margaret Drive. They are writing to the convenor of the planning committee and to Sandra White, the local MSP, who they hope will raise the matter with Scottish ministers. Tom Johnstone reported that he had written to Councillor MacLean about the lack of procedure about getting hearings and he has had a reply saying that he is taking the matter up with senior planning officials. Councillor Andrew said that he had reported the graffiti on the mural wall next to the Eldon Street bridge and is still awaiting a response. Tom Johnstone remarked that a mural under the bridge is undamaged. In discussion about graffiti, Councillor Andrew said that in North Kelvin there has been an outbreak of gang-tagging, graffiti relating to gangs and indicating which gang controls an area.

### 5 Councillors' Reports

Councillor Andrew reported that he had met Scott Downie of Neighbourhoods and Sustainability to discuss the one-way stretch of road at Park Quadrant. Scott Downie said that making the stretch two-way would be considered once the Park Quadrant development is complete. Instigated by Ruth Gillett, there was a discussion about two grey bins lying in the street and the allocation of green general waste bins and blue recycling bins.

### 6 Lanes Project

Tom Johnstone reported that the last four planning applications have not yet been granted. As soon as they are granted, Tom will give the go-ahead for the erection of the 18 signs.

### 7 Park Quadrant Site

Nothing further was reported than under item 5, Councillors' Reports.

### 8 HMO Consultation

Stewart Leighton reported that there had been an item on BBC Scotland news that evening about regulation of Air BnBs, including planning permission, which he thinks could be used to prod the Scottish Government into action over HMOs. Tom Johnstone said he was not optimistic but he would follow the matter up.

## **9 Millennium Park**

Nothing was reported.

## **10 Kelvingrove Park**

Ruth Gillett said it was reassuring that the rhododendrons were not being ripped out. It was noted that an apology had been issued for lack of communication about the cutting back of the rhododendrons. Councillor Andrew said that they had been cut back because of a public safety issue. He said he was having a meeting with officials the following morning when he would argue the case for seeking money from the Community Planning Partnership to provide safety personnel in the park at peak times. He has been informed that only council officials, not the police, are allowed to remove alcoholic drinks from individuals entering the park. He said he would inform Ruth of what is discussed at the meeting.

## **11 Cleansing**

Diane Mitchell complained about the lack of action over flytipping in Arlington Street and the accumulation of bins there. There was discussion about whether factors had been informed about the need for covers to be removed from bin shelters to allow for the new domestic refuse bins. Tom Johnstone remarked that he was impressed by the fact that, despite the tight fit, the green refuse bins are put back where they should be whereas the blue recycling bins are not. There was discussion about where the seven-day uplift of green bins operates and about the state of the big blue recycling bins in West Princes Street and Great Western Road. Councillor Andrew reported that one commercial business had been fined for using one of these Taylor bins at the top of Montague Street and another is being investigated. There was discussion about general sludge around the overflowing Taylor bins and about bulk items being put in the street instead of being kept in back courts to await uplift by the council.

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

In addition to the list of correspondence he had emailed before the meeting, Tom Johnstone confirmed that everyone had received late correspondence about traffic management in Hillhead, including a 20 mph speed limit and parking controls in Byres Road, and emails about out-of-hours GP services and the Health and Social Care Partnership. Gerry Doyle said that he had contacted Steven Dowling about an email about outstanding accounts to tell him that Lee Handlin had attended the community council's 2019 AGM, had taken notes and had taken all the paperwork away. Steven also wanted draft minutes of the AGM. Tom said there was only one planning application and that, as usual, none of the HMO licence applications had planning permission. Stewart Leighton said that he had registered an interest in training and development opportunities with the Community Council Resource Centre in February or March.

## **13 Finance**

Gerry Doyle reported that he had received an invoice from GCVS for £20 for room hire for December. Tom Johnstone said that he had drafted an MS1 report on how the community council spent the grant money from the Hillhead Area Partnership. It has to account for an underspend because of the one less planning application and a £14 shortfall in the architect's fees, which came about because Tom had used his own money to cover the cost of the planning applications from the first lot of grant money, expecting that when the next lot of money came in the architect would receive the £14 and reimburse. What Tom had not realised was that the architect's accounts had been completed and signed off in the interim. The architect cannot give him £14 cash back but he can give Tom a receipt for the £14. Tom is proposing that Gerry writes Tom a cheque for £14 and that it is noted as such in the report.

## **14 AOCB**

In reply to a question from Diane Mitchell about progress on the dropping of kerbs in the area, there was discussion about the Connecting Woodside initiative and West Princes Street becoming a quietway. Councillor Andrew said he would follow the matter up and that he would bear in mind that parked cars must not block dropped kerbs.

In reply to a question from Alasdair Gerrie, Councillor Andrew said it is more than likely that traffic controls will have to be introduced at the foot of Grant Street following the development of the Arnold Clark site because of the number of flats with parking spaces planned for that development. In reply to Stewart Leighton's comment that non-residents can buy parking spaces within housing developments, Councillor Andrew said that that shouldn't occur as within controlled parking zones the car will have to be registered at that address. Stewart reckoned it could still happen and that the only way to avoid it would be to have a stipulation in the title deeds.

## **15 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 12 February 2020 at 7.30pm in the Albany Centre.