

Woodlands and Park Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 12 May 2021, via Zoom, 7.30pm

Present: Ruth Gillett (chair), Tom Johnstone (secretary), Derek Manson-Smith, Gerry Doyle (treasurer), Diane Mitchell, Clare Crawford (minutes), Alasdair Gerrie, Johnpaul McCabe, Stewart Leighton

In attendance: Councillor Ken Andrew, Councillor Martha Wardrop

1 Apologies: Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP, Kay Scott

2 Police Report

Tom Johnstone said that the police report from PC McGlynn was not completely up-to-date with information to do with Kelvingrove Park.

3 Minutes of 14 April Meeting

The minutes of the meeting were proposed as correct by Tom Johnstone, seconded by Derek Manson-Smith.

4 Matters Arising

Tom Johnstone said that under item 9, Correspondence, the letter to North Kelvin Community Council has been sent and there has been an acknowledgement.

5 Councillors' Reports

Councillor Wardrop said that there has been progress around the back lanes, with regular clean-ups of West Princes Street taking place. There is a retrospective planning application for building work at 55 Woodside Terrace Lane. There are concerns among local residents that works objected to have gone ahead without planning consent on an A-listed building. A previous planning application had lapsed and not been renewed in time. In discussion, Stewart Leighton said Glasgow City Council should publish leaflets about the Woodlands Conservation Area and the Park Conservation Area, pointing out what people should be expected to do in terms of policy and information. Councillor Wardrop said it is only through the persistence of residents in raising concerns with councillors that this is being addressed. Stewart said that the council is not safeguarding conservation areas. For example, the Woodlands Conservation Area Appraisal highlights the high proportion of plastic windows in the area. Councillor Wardrop said she will ask council officers to review how the new Park Quadrant development influences the Park Conservation Area and planning decisions. Woodside Terrace Lane itself needs attention. The building opposite number 55 is unsafe and the lane has been fenced off. She is waiting for an update on the unsafe building and its future. A lot of these properties are being converted into houses so there is interest in them. It is important to make sure that the developers adhere to the Conservation Area rules. She has been following up with the HMO Unit and others on getting repairs done to a number of HMOs in Woodlands. Another concern are the Woodside Viaduct emergency works, which are bringing more traffic onto St Georges Road and concerns about parking and noise. The work could go on until 2022. The timetable is still to be published. She has asked for parking enforcement and for air-quality monitors in St Georges Road and for police to monitor the area. She has asked for compensation for the community. She suggested that someone be invited to talk at a future meeting about the work. There was discussion about the report of the pre-1919 parliamentary group and the lack of a factor looking after many tenements in Woodlands.

Councillor Andrew said that there is now planning enforcement to stop the development of 55 Woodside Terrace Lane as they are developing the cottage outwith what was consented by Planning in 2015. They have applied for a change to the 2015 consent to allow them to go ahead. He thinks there will be a number of neighbours objecting to the new planning application and suggested that the community council look carefully at it. The chicken bar in Woodlands Road continues to be an issue between lawyers for the residents above the business and Environmental Health, Planning, etc. He is doing what he can do to help. Stewart said that people should be informed of their rights to object to a hot food takeaway on the ground floor of their building.

6 Millennium Park

Nothing was reported.

7 Kelvingrove Park

Ruth Gillett said that the pothole by the cycle gate at the south end of the park had not yet been filled in. Councillor Wardrop said she had reported it and would chase it up. Tom Johnstone said he had circulated the

letter he had sent in response to the email from the council, pointing out that there was no evidence that they had regard to a subsection of section 15 of the Act that they were quoting as authority for doing what they had done. The reply came back, which he had also circulated, and the matters he had raised had not been dealt with. It was agreed that a Freedom of Information request should be the next step, but Tom said there was no one to whom the community council could complain about a lack of a proper response, but a person could complain to the ombudsman. He reported that Ruth had received information that Councillor Philip Braat had held a meeting with residents south of Kelvingrove Park, with council officers present, without Woodlands and Park Community Council knowing about it. At that meeting landscaping the green slope was discussed, but it has Historic Garden status. Councillor Wardrop said she is not impressed by the way that council officers and the police have worked on this problem, but there has now been a briefing meeting of all the councillors from the Hillhead and Anderston City wards and there will be meetings every four weeks. In correspondence about CCTV at Park Gate she had highlighted the fact that the slope is a listed landscape. She said that all the community councils around the park should get the same level of briefing as the councillors. There was discussion about whether gates should be closed at all and how alcohol can be passed through the fences. Councillor Wardrop has reported damage to the fountain. She has been told that the contract to look after it is with City Building but because of lockdown they have been unable to do any work. She is waiting to hear when they will be able to do any repairs. Ruth said the fountain should be working as much as possible as that is when it is least likely to be vandalised. There was discussion about the damaged birds and financing their repair. Councillor Andrew said he is not happy with City Building being the contractor as their work is not of a high standard. Derek Manson-Smith reported that for the past week a large cage on the path from the Eldon Street entrance has been used as an obstructive, unsightly rubbish bin. Councillor Wardrop said that because of the large number of people using the park and the amount of food being discarded, the bins cannot cope, especially with pizza boxes. The only alternative is to use these large containers to prevent littering of the green space. She will see if it can be moved to a better site. Stewart Leighton said that Historic Garden status means that Planning should assume responsibility in conjunction with Parks to do a complete assessment of the park. There was discussion about why some parks, including Kelvingrove, have become 'party parks'.

8 Cleansing

Tom Johnstone thanked Councillor Andrew for dealing with his complaint about missed blue bin collections. The blue bins crew did what they were supposed to do and were polite. Stewart Leighton said he had emailed a letter of thanks to Councillor Andrew regarding a blue bin for 80 Barrington Drive, which was delivered promptly. In reply to a question from Clare Crawford, Tom said that to find out information on blue bin collection she should look for the refuse collection calendar on the council's website.

9 Correspondence, including Planning and Licensing

Tom Johnstone reported that one planning application had come in since he circulated his report, for GCVS at 44 Ashley Street for an air-conditioning unit on the roof. The drawings do not show what impact the unit will have on the view from either north or south of the building. It will be hidden from the front. There are also two more HMO applications, bringing the total to 12, none of which has planning permission. One has been served with a fixed penalty notice some time ago so it won't ever get a certificate of lawful use. Another has had enforcement action taken at some time so it ought not to get lawful use. In discussion about Eusebi's outdoor seating area, Councillor Andrew read a statement from Glasgow City Council saying that permission had been given to the area to support business recovery. The situation is currently being investigated. Eusebi has a history of disregard for neighbours. Councillor Wardrop said that 26 residents submitted a letter of objection to the council on 7 April, saying that the seating plan was taking over the street at that junction. It is a busy junction, serving Hillhead Primary School, people going to and from Kelvingrove Park and a cycle route. She has asked Road Safety to look at it. Johnpaul McCabe suggested this could be an opportunity to look at the space afresh, moving the cycle path and using frequently empty parking spaces to create a recreational space. Councillor Wardrop said she has also asked about the Spaces for People programme and how it links with that. She has heard from colleagues that owners of businesses seek planning consent for temporary arrangements. Councillor Wardrop said there had been a Placemaking exercise with Greenspace Scotland for Gibson Street a few years ago, which suggested improvements to the public realm.

10 Finance

Gerry Doyle asked Tom Johnstone to let him have his outstanding invoice over the weekend.

11 Electric Charging-points

Derek Manson-Smith said that he had responded to Councillor Wardrop that Lyndoch Place is the most obvious place to put a point in the Park area but he has seen other comments since. Councillor Wardrop said it is an

ongoing issue. The officers do consult with people who drive electric vehicles. She will try to find out if there is any option to install a charging-point as part of the Connecting Woodside project.

12 AOCB

Clare Crawford asked if anyone knew why there are yellow stickers on the pedestrian mechanisms at the traffic lights at Great Western Road and Napiershall Street and red metal signs on the posts above reading 'Put your hand under'. Councillor Andrew said he had seen technicians working on that crossing the previous week.

13 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9 June 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom. Tom said that Pam Duncan-Glancy is keen to attend a meeting so he will let her know that the community council does not meet in July or August.