

Woodlands and Park Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 12 January 2022, via Zoom, 7.30pm

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

In attendance: Councillor Ken Andrew

1 Apologies: GU SRC representative, Kay Scott, Councillor Wardrop.

Tom Johnstone reported that Alasdair Gerrie has resigned as he is moving out of the area.

2 Police Report

Tom Johnstone said that there is mention of the activities of the traffic officers. Derek Manson-Smith that at last they have taken action. Tom said he is sure Councillor Andrew will make sure that they carry on taking action on speeding. He thinks information is being added to a pro forma report and that we are not getting the best of service from the police.

3 Minutes of 8 December Meeting

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

4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5 Councillors' Reports

Councillor Andrew reported that the Open Spaces fund has given the Hillhead ward £48,000. At the November Hillhead Area Partnership meeting it was agreed that this be spent on two pieces of work of some urgency on the Kelvin Walkway. One is an area by the Eldon Street bridge that floods at times of heavy rain, making the walkway impassable, and needs about £10,000 to rectify. The remaining £38,000 will be spent on the buildings at the Flint Mill and on the wooden fencing that prevents people falling into the mill, which has become rotten and dangerous. There will also be work carried out to undo work done on the mill in the 1970s when brickwork was added to the original stone. He apologised on behalf of Glasgow City Council for the meltdown in the operation of the Cleansing services. Since the industrial action at the end of November into December there have been problems at the Western Depot, which has always been the most difficult of the depots in terms of industrial relations, with a degree of what looks like deliberate misbehaviour. Covid has had an effect but not a huge one. The depot is currently running at close to 50 per cent absenteeism but has such a poor reputation that operatives from other depots are reluctant to do extra shifts there. He has been told that things will be on an even keel by the following Monday, 17 January, although he thinks that is over-optimistic. The changes to the structure of the Planning Local Review Committee have been implemented. It is not perfect but better than what went before. They are continuing to have meetings regarding the conduct of the Planning Applications Committee. He had seen Tom Johnstone's letter to the minister regarding the committee. The National Planning Framework (NPF4) is currently in draft for review and responses must be made by 22 February. He recommended that all the Hillhead ward community councils make a response and within that ask once again for consideration of a limited third party right of appeal. In discussion about the Cleansing dispute, Councillor Andrew said that the Western Depot is in Kelvinhaugh Street in Yorkhill, not Dawsholm, and that one shop steward and one shift are unhappy with both the city council and their own union, and Gerry Doyle pointed out that Dawsholm, following the fire in October, is not providing a full service.

6 Millennium Park

Nothing was reported.

7 Kelvingrove Park

Nothing was reported.

8 Big Bins in Park Road South

In discussion about why residents at one end of Park Terrace Lane have green bins and a normal service while residents at the other end, Park Street South, have to use big blue Taylor bins in the street, which attract litter,

Councillor Andrew explained that, following conversion schemes in the 1970s, a number of the latter properties do not have access to the lane to dispose of their rubbish.

9 Cleansing

This was discussed under items 5 and 8. In addition, Derek Manson-Smith reported that there is a pile of Christmas trees at the end of Park Street South underneath a 'No Tipping' sign while a chipper is standing doing nothing at the other side of Kelvingrove Park and suggested moving the chipper to Park Street South. Councillor Andrew said there was a time when the advice was to put trees on the street on a certain day and they would be picked up and taken away to be chipped. Because of manpower issues, this was changed to three locations in the city, one being the old putting green on Kelvin Way. He is talking to officers about using caged vans to collect trees from known locations where trees tend to be dumped. Derek said there were also trees dumped in his lane, which Councillor Andrew described as flytipping. Derek said there is a CCTV camera by the Roberts Memorial, which could be used to keep an eye on flytipping there.

10 Correspondence, including Planning and Licensing

Tom Johnstone reported that the community council had objected to planning permission for an HMO at flat 1/2 144 Woodlands Road and that permission had been refused the previous day. The applicant had also applied for an HMO licence so he will be wondering how he got his licence but didn't get his planning permission. An objection has been put in to 124 Woodlands Road. None of the HMO licence applications has planning permission. Tom had received an email from Jean Charsley of Hillhead Community Council asking for views that people have from a tenant's point of view about rented sector housing in Woodlands and Park as she has gone on Glasgow City Council's commission on the private rented sector. Comments should be sent to Tom who will collate them and forward them to Jean or sent to Jean with Tom copied in. Councillor Andrew said that it is always worthwhile making a comment about repairing standards for the rented sector in view of the building currently closed up on Melrose Street and the repairs needed at 192 West Princes Street. Landlords should be helped to have higher standards. Stewart Leighton said that in January 2020 he had suggested to the Hillhead Area Partnership Stewart that the city run courses for landlords or their agents on basic knowledge of cleansing protocols and property maintenance. Tom said there is scope within the Scotland (Housing) Act 2006 to argue that the Licensing and Regulatory Committee ought to be taking account of these things in deciding on HMO licences. Councillor Andrew said that Marie Miller will be attending the Hillhead Area Partnership meeting the following Tuesday, 18 January, and it will an opportunity to raise these issues with her. Derek Manson-Smith drew attention to the items of correspondence about dropped kerbs and said that the council has no plans to include dropped kerbs on the dead ends in Woodlands on to Great Western Road. He thinks this is a missed opportunity and he doesn't know how it fits in with the Connecting Woodside proposals. It was agreed that this matter would be on the agenda for the next meeting. Stewart Leighton and Tom had a discussion about how to gauge the age of HMO licences.

11 Finance

Tom Johnstone said he had another Zoom invoice to send to Gerry Doyle, making six in total.

12 Electric Charging-points

Nothing was reported.

13 Air Pollution

Tom Johnstone said the Councillor Wardrop had provided information on air pollution and Councillor Andrew had sent some helpful graphs.

14 AOCB

There was no other competent business.

15 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9 February 2022 at 7.30pm via Zoom.