

# Woodlands and Park Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 10 November 2021, via Zoom, 7.30pm

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

**In attendance:** Councillor Hanzala Malik, Councillor Martha Wardrop

**1 Apologies:** University of Glasgow SRC, Pam Duncan-Glancy MSP, Kay Scott, Johnpaul McCabe, Stewart Leighton, Councillor Andrew

### 2 Police Report

Tom Johnstone reported that there was no police report as they had all been 'abstracted' for COP 26.

### 3 Minutes of 13 October Meeting

Tom Johnstone said that sometimes there is too much detail. Otherwise the minutes of the meeting were proposed as a correct record by Tom Johnstone, seconded by Derek Manson-Smith.

### 4 Matters Arising

Ruth Gillett said that she and Tom Johnstone had still to follow up on the noticeboard at Sainsbury's.

### 5 Councillors' Reports

Councillor Wardrop reported that she is following up work around the Active Travel Strategy and transport issues. There is a new consultation involving Raeberry Street in Woodside where improvements are being made for pedestrians. The community council might be interested because of plans for West Princes Street. She would send the link. There have been issues around Planning Enforcement, including AirBnbs. A number of these have been reported and action taken, mainly in the Park area. It has been discovered that there is a section of dangerous wall between the Hello Students building in West Princes Street and the old primary school. A dangerous building notice has been issued by Glasgow City Council and the wall is fenced off. The council says it will have to remove the wall if the owners don't do anything about it. Ownership is shared between the tenements and the student accommodation. It is a communal repair that requires agreement from multiple owners. She has been told that the tenement owners are happy to go ahead with the repair and that it is the student accommodation provider who is not taking action. She has highlighted to planners that it is within a conservation area and if they are doing any works to the wall that any of the materials are reused. She has had an email with updated information about Eusebi's, which she will circulate. They have a licence until March 2022 to use the outdoor seating. There have been some issues with Cleansing because of the strike and there is a Frequently Asked Questions document being produced by the council, which she will circulate. It gives dates and times of when they expect to clear the backlog. Food Waste is on hold for a couple of weeks until the general waste and recycling bins have been emptied.

Councillor Malik said that he was pleased about the direction the Hillhead Area Partnership meeting had taken the previous day and that Councillor Wardrop had made sure that Jean Charsley's questions had been taken on board (see item 9). The officers did say that there had been a consultation brought by his persistence in putting in objections and challenging decisions. There was a consultation but he would question how wide it had been. There was a time when there was a clear strategy in City Plan 2 about no more HMOs in Hillhead and Woodlands, which is now totally ignored. There was also discussion at the meeting about the condition of buildings in the city yet there is no system in which we can redress this by warning owners that they are responsible. We have been systematically weeding out rogue HMO landlords in Hillhead, and let's hope we can continue to do that, but money talks and unfortunately councils frequently turn a blind eye. He was pleased with the little progress that has been made because, one, we have once again aired our area's concerns and, two, we once again have managed to get across to the officers that we are looking for another report. Other issues discussed included cleanliness and road markings. Tom Johnstone said that, with Jean Charsley, he had made a submission to the Licensing Committee about HMOs in the last round of consultation and he had been surprised at how antagonistic towards any changes some of the councillors had been, but the biggest problem in what happened later seems to have come from the officers. The impression he got is that they were scared there would be a judicial review if they sought to change policy. Councillor Malik agreed with Tom and said that another issue for officers is that if they were to link Planning and Licensing together they thought it would slow the process down.

## **6 Millennium Park**

Diane Mitchell reported that the park is being well used by children.

## **7 Kelvingrove Park**

Nothing was reported.

## **8 Cleansing**

There was discussion about the whereabouts of food waste bins, with Derek Manson-Smith reporting them in the Park area and Clare Crawford saying there was one at her tenement in Woodlands. Derek said he had previously complained about the blue recycling bins and bottle banks on Cliff Road being removed, but the upside is that flytipping has almost ceased. Councillor Wardrop said that problem with those bins was that the flytipping and their contamination by non-residents dumping from cars. Some residents want the bins returned, but two different locations and the possibility of labelling them for residents only are being considered. She is awaiting an update, but there is a waiting time for bins and the strike has also caused a delay. There is a CC camera on Park Drive so one of locations could be there where it could be monitored. The other location would be Park Street South where there already are Taylor bins. Derek said there is often a mess around those bins and he has seen people driving up to them, people he assumes are from out of the area. Diane Mitchell reported a mess around the bins in Ashley Street, including two tyres. Councillor Wardrop said she would report the tyres as that is a public health issue. Diane said the clothing bin is always a mess and she would like it removed.

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

Tom Johnstone reported that in addition to the HMO licence renewal or new licence applications on the circulated list, none of which has planning permission, an additional four had since turned up, which also have no planning permission. Three of these four are new applications so it is possible more and more people are spotting it as a money-earner. At Ruth Gillett's suggestion, it was agreed that Tom and Ruth, on behalf of the community council, would send a letter supporting the Glasgow Against Closures campaign to get all the libraries, museums and other places open again. Tom said that an additional drawing had been added to a planning application that the community council had objected to at 343 West Princes Street. The drawing shows trees on the site although the application form still claims there are no trees. The drawing shows that all the trees are to be cut back and one, a very tall larch (whose departure would be greatly missed) is to be felled to enable erection of scaffolding for a common repairs scheme. He understands that there has been scaffolding on the building for roof repairs in the past without interfering with the trees. It was agreed that he would submit a supplementary objection based on that. Tom said that Hillhead Community Council had circulated a paper about questions that were going to be put to whoever turned up from the Licensing section of the council to talk about HMOs to the Hillhead Area Partnership, which had met the previous day. Councillor Wardrop said that she and Councillor Malik had both been at the meeting. A list of questions has been submitted, and they are awaiting a reply in writing from the Licensing committee. There had been quite a discussion about HMOs and issues around them and the questions reflect these. Councillor Malik said that Councillor Wardrop had been able to put all the questions asked by Jean Charsley, secretary of Hillhead Community Council, to the officers for a response so that opportunity was not lost. Tom reported that a new, completely uncontentious, planning alert had arrived the day before for the use of a shop at 115 Great Western Road as a physiotherapy clinic. Information about the Active Travel Strategy from Community Education had arrived the day before and on that day there had been two emails from Nick Wright on the City Centre Avenues project.

## **10 Finance**

Tom Johnstone said he had another invoice to send to Gerry Doyle for a Zoom payment. Gerry said he had been in touch with Steven Dowling about the community council's accounts.

## **11 Electric Charging-points**

Derek Manson-Smith reported that the Park area has been leafleted by a company trying to encourage people to join their network of electric charging points. The flyer has Glasgow City Council's logo on it.

## **12 AOCB**

Diane Mitchell dropped kerbs walkabout  
Derek Manson-Smith Hamiltonhill traffic snarl-ups

## **13 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 8 December 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom.