

# Woodlands and Park Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 14 September 2022, via Zoom, 7.30pm

**Present:** Ruth Gillett (chair), Tom Johnstone (secretary), Diane Mitchell, Clare Crawford (minutes), Stewart Leighton, Johnpaul McCabe

**In attendance:** No one

Tom Johnstone announced that the Zoom recording of the meeting is only to assist the minute-taker and will not be made publicly available.

**1 Apologies:** Mark Irvine, Kaukab Stewart MSP, Councillor Malik, Councillor Wardrop, Gerry Doyle, Rinna Väre (Glasgow University Student Representative Council), Derek Manson-Smith, Councillor Andrew

### **2 Police Report**

Tom Johnstone said that the report was not correctly formatted and that the information on Operation Mother very general. He had been interested to see that there had been an event for Ukrainian families in the Polish Club and that there had been a licensing initiative in that several licensed premises had been identified as having breached conditions of their licence and been given 'corrected advice'.

### **3 Minutes of 8 June Meeting**

Clare Crawford apologised for not including a minute of item 13A. There had been a glitch with the Pages program. The minutes of the meeting were proposed as a correct partial minute by Tom Johnstone, seconded by Diane Mitchell.

### **4 Matters Arising**

Clare Crawford said that when the road markings on Great Western Road were relined the bus stop at Napiershall Street was ignored. Stewart Leighton said that the road markings in Park Road are substantially eroded to the point that he thinks that soon unauthorised parking will not be enforceable.

### **5 Trinity College Tower**

Nothing was reported.

### **6 Councillors' Reports**

As there were no councillors present there were no councillors' reports.

### **7 Kelvingrove Park**

Ruth Gillett reported that there is to be a meeting about events at the bandstand and other matters, which she and Tom Johnstone are planning to attend. The railing near the bandstand has been repaired, she thinks probably because of Councillor Wardrop's efforts. She wondered if anything further has happened about the fountain.

### **8 Dropped Kerbs**

Diane Mitchell said she had been hoping to get an update from Councillor Wardrop. Ruth Gillett suggested that Diane email Councillor Wardrop on the matter.

### **9 Park Circus Lane**

Tom Johnstone reported that there had been a series of attempts to have meetings with Ambassador. He thinks Ambassador is deliberately avoiding people after promising them up to £100,000 towards the upkeep of the lane. George Hazle keeps sending reminders, but these do not lead anywhere. Tom feels there is a real danger that the lane ends up having only half of its surface redone and only as far as the end of Ambassador's Park Quadrant development. Stewart Leighton suggested raising with councillors at the next meeting the policy that places an obligation on enhancements to open space as part of planning gain. Tom said that Councillor Andrew has already indicated that he is keen to get involved in lobbying for the money to be spent locally and that Councillor Wardrop had identified that there is grant funding available for lane improvements, even if they are in private ownership, although there are conditions, one of which is met by the community council being a properly constituted body that can receive money and disburse it, but this approach would require 100 per cent

agreement by the lane residents, which is not likely to happen. Tom then speculated on Ambassador's reaction to any attempt to pressure it to fulfil its promise.

## 10 Citizens' Panels

Tom Johnstone reported that there is an item in the correspondence, a PowerPoint slideshow, that goes into this matter in great detail. He found it boring and its jargon confusing and gave up watching. There are three pilot areas. Stewart Leighton said he had attended a general meeting for community councils when there was a substantial discussion about citizens' panels. He and Ann Laird had made contributions to their assigned group on potential conflation with community councils. A further meeting of the group is being arranged and he will report back after it.

## 11 Cleansing

Tom Johnstone said that, from his personal experience, the operatives seem to have got back on track quite quickly after the strike. Clare Crawford reported that the recycling bins for her close were full and one bin has disappeared. Ruth Gillett said no bins had been emptied around her close.

## 12 Correspondence, including Planning and Licensing

**Planning:** Tom Johnstone said that all the planning applications already circulated are uncontentious. There are three late ones. One, at 8 Lynedoch Place, for external alterations including reroofing, appears to be in order. Another, for flat 2/1, 49 Great Western Road, is for installation of replacement windows. The front windows, although they are timber framed at the moment, are not sash and case and the drawings do not indicate that the replacements will be sash and case. After discussion it was agreed that he would make a representation for sash and case, citing the Woodlands Conservation Area Appraisal. Stewart Leighton said he had come across an article in *Glasgow Live* about sash and case windows, which he would circulate.

**Licensing:** Tom said there have been no new HMO licence applications since the list was sent out. He had left a blank beside the one for 184 Woodlands Road as he cannot remember whether that particular flat has a certificate of lawful use or proper planning permission. He thinks it may be the latter, but it was obtained long enough ago that he can find no record of it on the planning database. The street trader's licence discussed at the previous meeting was objected to, but he has not heard the outcome. There are a couple of temporary street trader licences within Kelvingrove Park for one day only, 13 August. The date for objection has passed, but he doesn't think they would cause any trouble. In reply to a comment by Stewart Leighton, Tom said that there was no way of knowing if, where there is a new HMO licence application, it is new to the building or a new landlord. Stewart said that there are lots of private rented flats that can change use in both directions as a form of permitted development. He gave an example of a flat in his building that had become an HMO and a few years later was sold and went back to owner occupation. There has been no change in use involved and therefore no record as far as the Planning authority is concerned. This means that the private rented sector has a free hand and there is no accountability, stemming from the 2006 Housing Act.

**Correspondence:** Tom commented on items marked in red in the list he had circulated before the meeting. Because of other stuff going on, he had forgotten to do the survey on planning issues by Planning Democracy requested on 23 June. On 27 June there were communications by the Scottish Government that there is to be no onshore oil and gas extraction in Scotland. Tom and Ruth Gillett discussed a communication from Roddy McDowall about a callisthenics park in Kelvingrove Park. Ruth said she would get more information and Tom said he would write to Roddy McDowall. Tom said he had received a Napiershall Street update from Teri Porter, a planning consultant, because he is on an email list because Woodside Community Council is inactive and Woodlands and Park is the nearest community council to consult on the former school at 39 Napiershall Street where there is a proposal to convert the main building to residential use, add an extra bit on top and put some new builds in the former playground. He, Ann Laird and Iain Wotherspoon of the Architectural Heritage Society are generally supportive of what is proposed but with some serious objections. They are proposing to reduce the height of the parapet around the rather attractive top floor and put behind a much reduced height parapet what looks like a shipping container with windows. Iain has come up with a modified drawing that angles in the faces of this upward extension, increases the height of the parapet and varies its height so it goes up in the middle as the existing parapet does and faces the building with reused slates from the roof. It was agreed that he would object in the name of Woodlands and Park Community Council, using these points and supporting the Architectural Heritage Society. Denise Hamilton had written on 5 August about various events in Kelvingrove Park and the Botanic Gardens. Ruth said she had been in touch with Denise to check it was just the area in front of the art gallery and Denise had said she would keep the community council informed. Tom said Mark Irvine had provided a spirited post about the council's dumping hotline not working on 10 August. On 29 August a parliamentary assistant had submitted Kaukab Stewart's apologies for not attending this meeting. Tom said he feels she is genuinely keen to attend. On 5 September the saved search results of tracked applications had started working again. On 7 September Jean Charsley had copied to him a draft objection to a new HMO

licence with several arguments that she might make some headway with. On 8 September Emma Halliday from Greenspaces Scotland had written asking for views on safety and lighting in Kelvingrove Park by 27 September, which Ruth will follow up. A late item was an email from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde that day to say that all sorts of things are not going to be working on Monday 19 September. Stewart Leighton and Tom then had a discussion about the possibility of controls being built into the Development Plan to prevent one type of development, e.g. student accommodation, dominating a particular area.

### **13 Finance**

Tom Johnstone reported that Gerry Doyle had said not to hesitate in getting in touch with him although he is ill. Tom has managed to get a 40 per cent reduction on an annual subscription to Zoom, bringing the cost down from £143.88 to £75.88 and expiring on 8 June 2023. It was agreed that Tom would ask Gerry for a cheque to cover this cost. Tom said that the full AGM in 2023 would need to be held in public.

### **14 Electric Charging Points**

Johnpaul McCabe said there has been no progress in Woodlands. The points in the Park area seem to be part of a charging and financial experiment and are not part of the wider network in the city. Woodlands and Park seems to have been isolated from other areas in the West End, e.g. Hillhead, Woodside and Sandyford.

### **15 Air Pollution**

Tom Johnstone said that Councillor Wardrop had circulated some information, as set out in the list of correspondence he had circulated before the meeting.

### **16 AOCB**

In reply to a question from Tom Johnstone, Johnpaul McCabe said he had updated the community council's website. He had only the agendas to March and the minutes up to February to upload. Tom said that if Johnpaul lets me know exactly what files are missing he would supply them although it would take some time.

### **17 Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 12 October 2022 at 7.30pm via Zoom.