

Woodlands and Park Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 13 November 2024, Fred Paton Centre, Carrington Street, 7.30pm

Present:

Members: Derek MansonSmith, Tom Johnstone, Ruth Gillett, Stewart Leighton, Rosanne Davidson

In attendance: Bailie Hoy, Fiona MacNeil and John Stuart

1. Apologies:

Cllr Andrew, Colin Ewen, Gerry Doyle, Angelica Wilson, Marion Robertson

2. Police report: There was no police report

3. Minutes of 12th June, 11th September and 9th October.

June 12th: Proposed by Ruth Gillett, seconded by Stewart Leighton

September 11th: Proposed by Tom Johnstone, seconded by Stewart Leighton

October 9th: Proposed by Stewart Leighton, seconded by Tom Johnstone

4. Matters arising from minutes of October 9th:

Nothing that was not covered later in the agenda

5. Fireworks control zones:

Tom apologised for missing the date for online submissions re Firework Control Zones. He had not received confirmation about it in time due to the lack of a minute taker and the resultant lateness of the draft minute.

The Council had not allowed enough time for the statutory consultation period in its original online consultation.

As this will not come into effect until next year, hopefully there will be further opportunities to submit our views. The meeting agreed that more control is needed throughout the city. Specifically in our area both the Millenium Park and Kelvingrove Park are of concern.

6. Report of meeting with Kaukab Stewart MSP

Planning & HMOs

She had undertaken to consult with Graham Simpson MSP who had been the only MSP to respond positively in the past about an apparent defect in planning legislation with consequences for unauthorised HMOs.

Stewart's submission in 2018 using data provided to him by the Council. Comments on HMOs, private rented lets. In 2015 about 90 flats not allocated any status 47% approx. private, 37% owner occupied and 17% social renting e.g.: housing association. Council should have acted on this in 2013/14 and also failed to do so in 2018. So, many HMOs have escaped any sort of assessment. Stewart agreed that he will set down his ideas in writing.

Code of Conduct introduced by the licensing section after the last consultation exercise. If there had been more publicity about this, more people would be aware of what is or isn't acceptable.

The Chair observed that there is little point going over and over this problem at meetings. We are not in a position to bring about change here, so repeatedly airing the problem gets nowhere. It would be better if a way could be found to move it forward with the Council. We can't change primary legislation at the CC.

Once Stewart has written his views up in a report he will send it to Bailie Wardrop and the Area Partnership sub group. Cllr Andrew will be taking over Chair of the Area Partnership next year.

Glyphosate (2nd issue discussed with Kaukab Stewart):

The secretary could contact her office for an update on this. Is Bob Doris going to submit a members business motion?

7. Kelvinbridge mural:

Meeting agreed that Tom should apply for a grant of £2500 from the area partnership. Stewart to ask Brian Gannon to confirm in writing his offer of match funding from WoSHA to make up the £5000 feasibility study.

This was proposed by Derek and seconded by Stewart.

Bailie Hoy suggested waiting till April to apply so the grant doesn't have to be spent by April. Find out what the Community Gardens people feel about the possibility of being involved in a garden area around the proposed mural. Stewart suggested approaching the University for grant funding as well.

8. Trinity College Tower:

Work seems to be finished

9. Councillors reports:

Bailie Hoy talked about the Park area. The hole in Lynedoch Place pavement - Council has been called out to assess.

Temporary traffic lights. Heras fencing. Discussion re possibility of Scottish Water involvement in damage to pavement. Derek will try to find correspondence from a previous occasion and will share with Bailie Hoy.

Cracked paving stones relating to work on the Mews development in Park Circus Lane.

Ongoing issue with Ambassador who still haven't done all they had agreed. Amenity space still waiting for three or four semi mature trees. Pavement is rough and fencing still blocking pavement. Has the defects liability period ended?

Discussion about parking and the turning circle at Park Road and also bin problems connected with the amenity housing in Park Road.

Bailie Hoy has asked for additional signage. Stewart has asked that a dotted line be painted around the sheltered housing to keep clear for emergency vehicles, no result so far. Bailie Hoy will share Council responses when she gets them. People park there because it's free.

Discussion re temporary 'cycling hub' in West Princes Street. Again it blocks a turning space at the end of the cul de sac and concern was expressed about the narrow gap leading to Park Road potentially causing accidents for cyclists and runners.

More discussion about the West Princes Street cycle route - suggestion that it needs to be redesigned. Much of it is regularly blocked by parked cars.

10. Kelvingrove Park:

No response yet from parks officials to Bailie Hoy's enquiry about fencing around the fountain. More discussion re solar lights on the paths. We will continue to monitor them. Suggestion that coloured filters might reduce the dazzle when it's very dark.

11. Dropped kerbs:

Nothing reported

12. Park Circus Lane:

New mews on the corner with Lynedoch Place has already been mentioned. Noted Ambassador's failure to complete work on the section of the Lane that they have some responsibility for.

13. Cleansing:

Graffiti - discussion about what graffiti the Council will remove.

Also the problem of cleansing operatives not removing the detritus that has been left around the outside of the bins. Baillie Hoy confirmed that they are supposed to remove all the rubbish. Report on the App or report to Councillors. Bailie Hoy will take more photos and report too.

14. Correspondence and Licensing:

Large street bins at George's Cross and West End Park Street.

When large bin hubs are installed there, we will have an opportunity to monitor how well it works.

Tom lodged an objection on our behalf to the latest Otago Lane planning application. Purpose built student accommodation, higher than the original application, even more damaging to the surrounding area and to the wildlife corridor.

15. Finance:

£40 hall hire, paid upfront by Tom. The meeting endorsed that he be reimbursed by Gerry.

16. AOCB:

Nothing raised

17. Planning:

Problems with the Council's planning portal. Documents not downloading.

18. Date of next meeting 11th December