Woodlands and Park Community Council - Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 10 June 2026 Theosophical Society, 17 Queen's Crescent, 7.30pm

Present: Ruth Gillett (Chair), Stewart Leighton, Gerry Doyle, Rosanne Davidson, Derek Manson Smith, Tom Johnstone

In attendance: Councillor Ken Andrew, Bailie Martha Wardrop, Gavin Brownlie (Bob Doris MSP's office), Chirsty Hamilton (Garnethill CC), Dominic McIver, Claire Findlay, Fiona Macneil, Tina Murray, Robin Gillett, Pat Bracken, Stuart Watts, Lorraine Mair, Catherine McLean, Andy Robin (Commonwealth Games)

1. Apologies

Bronwen Nixon (Rail Yard), Gordon McDougall, Martin Rhodes MP, Colin Ewen and Sheila Gilchrist. Bailie Seonad Hoy (on maternity leave)

2. Police Report

A written police report had been circulated with the papers by Tom Johnstone. Officers did not attend in person; no apologies had been submitted. The report noted an increase in drug offences involving herbal cannabis. A number of warnings and fixed penalty notices have been issued for speeding in the Park area.

3. Update on Commonwealth Games

Andy Robin, a representative of Glasgow 2026, explained the background to the Games.

The scaled-back Games run 23 July to 2 August 2026 using existing 2014 infrastructure, funded mainly by Victoria, Australia, which withdrew as host. Venues include Scotstoun, SEC Campus, Tollcross and the Chris Hoy Velodrome, with live sites at Kelvingrove Park, Merchant City and SWG3, across ten sports. Complementary tickets can be requested by emailing ticketing@glasgow2026.com; distribution begins late June. Tom to circulate the slides.

4. Minutes of 13 May 2026

One amendment. The date of the extension of the city centre Strategic Development Framework (SDF) into part of Woodlands should read 2021, not 2019. Minutes proposed by Tom and seconded by Derek with that amendment.

5. Matters Arising

Tom confirmed he has not yet submitted the FOI request regarding the city centre SDF boundary change, as he is drafting it carefully in light of previous experience.

Stewart had obtained the 2019 city plan showing the boundary as expected at that date; he agreed to email information to Tom. Councillor Andrew noted that as convener of the Planning Committee he had never been made aware of any change to the city centre boundary, and that the local development plan published in 2017 shows the boundary as St Georges Road. Tom observed this may explain why correspondence from the head of planning to Bailie Hoy had not provided satisfactory answers.

WOMAD Glasgow 2026 at Kelvingrove Park has been cancelled. Noted with relief given the scale of the planned closure.

Sauchiehall Street Heritage Project mailing list: WPCC has subscribed, link to be sent to Tom.

6. Condition of 4 Queen's Crescent

Discussion, but only conjecture as no concrete information

7. Lynedoch Street/Woodlands Road

No further information from police or officers. Bailie Wardrop confirmed she has submitted a road safety report and will follow up.

8. Kelvinbridge Mural/Rail Yard

Bronwen sent apologies and hopes to attend the next meeting in September.

9. Cameron Memorial Fountain

Bailie Wardrop circulated a printed update noting that restoration of the Victorian Cameron Memorial Fountain and improvements to other heritage buildings are planned as part of a wider programme. No further detail available at this stage.

10. Councillors' Reports

Councillor Andrew met with Community Police Inspector Alexander Marshall who acknowledged difficulty of their attendance at CC meetings due to shift patterns or operational demands. Developing a standard reporting template to ensure all CCs receive consistent information if officers cannot attend in person.

Cllr Andrew had raised issue of speeding in the Woodlands and Park area, including Ashley Street, Carnarvon Street, Barrington Drive and West End Park Street where 'boy racers' have been observed. Inspector Marshall was not aware of the problem in these streets and has undertaken to address it. It is a serious danger on narrow suburban streets.

Shoplifting is a significant ongoing problem for police locally. Police are working with shop management on redesign and security measures.

Commercial waste in street bins: Investigations are being carried out and action taken against offenders.

Cllr Andrew is promoting a motion at full council to require the removal or repair of disused, vandalised phone boxes and standalone ATM kiosks. As BT's practice of replacing boxes with high-lumen advertising hoardings is not an acceptable solution, the motion will also write to the UK Communications Minister, as the power to act is reserved to Westminster.

A sightline problem has been raised at the Carnarvon Street junction with George's Road, worsened by cycle lanes. A yellow box junction was suggested. Cllr Andrew will raise with traffic officers.

West Princes Street has been designated part of the Millennium Plan cycle route (College Route) for over 26 years, permitting cyclists to travel both ways. Cllr Andrew confirmed this has not changed. Concern was raised about delivery cyclists on illegal electric bikes using the route and the park at speed.

Ward 10 JAG has been working with police on a potential bylaw requiring insurance and registration; contact Sgt Stephen Wright at the City Centre policing team (Stewart St). Police have been conducting periodic raids and confiscating bikes, but the volume of bikes returns quickly. Councillor Andrew is pursuing the insurance status of the VOI hire bike contract.

The collapsed sewer at Park Drive is being investigated. Bailie Wardrop has been sent an update. The wooden enclosure is likely related to Scottish Power infrastructure. A drainage cover missing outside student accommodation on West Princes Street has been reported and will be replaced.

Scottish Water is carrying out sewer works at Hillhead Primary from end of June through to end of year. Significant disruption to parking is expected.

Drainage partnership exists between Scottish Water, GCC and SEPA with focus on reducing waste entering River Kelvin. Work ongoing on collapsed Victorian sewers, including Woodside and Park Drive. Bailie Wardrop offered to invite Scottish Water to autumn meeting to report on work done in the area.

11. Kelvingrove Park

WOMAD has been cancelled. This was welcomed, particularly in view of the extended park closure and accessibility concerns raised at the May meeting. It is unfortunate in terms of the music, but the location was inappropriate for such a large event.

12. Dropped Kerbs/Connecting Woodside

Stewart Leighton confirmed that Sustrans is no longer the responsible body. Some Transport Scotland funding has been obtained, but no further detail has been provided on how it will be used or whether the original Sustrans proposals will be carried forward. No update on Connecting Woodside.

13. Trees for Park Road

No further update. Tom will email the original resident to check whether they wish to take things forward.

14. Cleansing

Claire Findlay reported on the public meeting she chaired on 3 June at Garnethill Multicultural Centre, attended by approx 120 people, including Cllr Andrew, Gavin Brownlie (Bob Doris MSP's office) and Kevin Howell (GCC Recycling Project Manager). A vote showed about 98% opposed to bin hubs; questions will be sent to Kevin Howell, including requests for risk assessments for residents (as distinct from those for cleansing workers).

She also reported from a meeting with Chris from GMB, who felt the pilot lacked proper consultation. It was originally specified only for tenements with spiral staircases but appears to have been extended without adequate review. A further meeting of affected parties is planned, possibly at the City Chambers.

A wider issue of HMO saturation, packaging waste from online retail, and the need for a strategic response beyond the local level, including potential taxation of online retailers who impose waste costs on local authorities.

Other concerns raised were:

- Rats reported inside properties in various streets in East Woodlands - leptospirosis (spread through rat urine) was raised as a serious public health concern.
- Willowbank Street bins replaced by cleansing operatives with lids facing the wrong way, making one of the paired bins inaccessible and causing overflow. Bailie Wardrop undertook to pursue this with NRS.
- Poor waste management in Kelvingrove Park during recent good weather.
- Bin hub rollout: Stewart Leighton confirmed that no layout plan for the Woodlands area has yet been produced by NRS, and nothing has been rolled out locally. The picture presented to committee as a successful pilot is understood to be mixed. Councillor Andrew indicated the council received a report on a pilot in Pollokshields which was described as generally successful, but the full picture is not yet available and the principle for wider rollout should not be treated as settled.

15. PBSAs

93-113 St Georges Road: the Proposal of Application Notice has been withdrawn from the weekly list, but no application has yet appeared, likely due to administrative delay; it is expected imminently.

Burnbank Bowling Club (ref. 26/01170/PAN): a Proposal of Application Notice is now registered. The agent (Cavendish Consulting, acting for Kelvin Properties) has contacted WPCC and has a consultation event at the bowling club on 17 June. The Chair proposed, seconded by Gerry Doyle, that Tom Johnstone be authorised to draft and submit planning objections on WPCC's behalf during the summer recess.

16. Correspondence and Licensing

Tom noted a further HMO application in the area (no planning permission) and a communication from Police Scotland regarding the Belfast incident, circulated to all members. No other items requiring discussion.

17. Finance

Gerry Doyle reported receipt of invoice for hybrid meeting facilitation for February to May 2026 (4 meetings at £50 each, total £200). Tom Johnstone to pay facilitator and be reimbursed by Gerry Doyle.

18. AOCB

Nothing urgent raised.

19. Planning

Tom listed planning applications for information. No comments required on any. He noted an error on the planning portal regarding an application at Woodside Crescent, listed under two wards; it is in the Hillhead ward. The proposal is not controversial.

20. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9 September 2026