

**Minute of the Parkhall, North Kilbowie & Central Community Council meeting
held in public on Tuesday 9th October 2007 in the Parkhall Tenants Hall,
Parkhall Road, Clydebank**

Councillors Present:

Neil Etherington	Anne Hickey	Alex MacFarlane
Walter Graham [Sec]	Gilbert Howatson [V Chair]	Drummond McNair
	Jim Lindsay [Chair]	Jim Paisley [Treasurer]

Ex Officio: WDC Provost Denis Agnew

Community Police: Not present

Public Attendance: 8

1.0 Remarks & Introductions:

- 1.01 The Chair Community Cllr Jim Lindsay opened the meeting at 7.40pm and welcomed everyone. He express disappointment that although the regular Community Police Officer was on paternity leave, no alternative PC had appeared, or the monthly Police Crime Report received.
- 1.02 Jim also said that he had just been informed that efforts so far to engage a Minute Secretary had been unsuccessful and asked Community Cllr Neil Etherington if he would continue taking, and producing, the Minute for the meeting on a temporary basis. This was agreed.

2.0 Apologies Received:

- 2.01 Community Cllr Diane Docherty, WDC Cllr Jim Brown WDC, Cllr Willie McLaughlin, PC Danny O'Donnell [Comm Police]

3.0 Minute of Previous Meeting – Adopt for Accuracy:

- 3.01 Moved by: Community Cllr Walter Graham Seconded by: Community Cllr Anne Hickey

4.0 Minute of Previous Meeting – Matters Arising:

- 4.01 Comm Cllr Walter Graham said the requested letter had been sent to J Prentice. Letters had also been raised re. **Spec Item A.4 & items 7.02 / 7.03 / 9.03 / 9.05**. He expressed his frustration that the A.4 letter to L Cochrane had been referred on to Bernard Darroch without an acknowledgment from the intended recipient. Replies had yet to be received to these five items.
- 4.02 **Spec Item B.3** - Comm Cllr Jim Paisley said it appeared no individual copies of the 'Local Plan – Finalised Draft' had been received by any Community Councillor despite the request. Comm Cllr Gilbert Howatson emphasised that this was an important document and should be available to all Comm Cllrs to read in detail. He advised that the 'Landscape Assessment of the Green Belt' report should also be read along with the Local Plan.
- 4.03 The Chair allowed a short open discussion on the deadline for objections to the Local Plan and action that should be taken. It was unanimously decided that in the apparent absence of WDC arranging a Public Open Meeting before the 16th November then the Community Council should do so. To discuss the finer detail it was agreed that the Community Councillors would meet in a closed meeting on Wed 24th October to arrange a Public Meeting in early November. This was considered allowable under the WDC Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils Item 8:3 providing a Minute was taken and circulated accordingly.
- 4.04a **Item 4.02** The Sub Committee [Comm Cllrs Jim Paisley & Walter Graham] to progress the Comm Councils concerns about the regular offensive smell from Dalmuir Treatment Plant had met, and a letter had been formulated to WDC to clarify to what extent their statutory duty of care was being exercised in protecting the citizens of Clydebank from this polluted atmosphere. A copy of the 'Odour Improvement Plan' still had not been received.
- 4.04b It was brought to the attention of the meeting that a similar problem was occurring in Perthshire and an approach should be made to those complainants - to exchange experiences.
- 4.04c Provost Denis Agnew confirmed that Link Housing, already having gained planning permission to build residential houses close to the Treatment Works against the better judgement of some WDC Councillors – including himself, has now been successful in extending their site to accommodate yet more housing.
- 4.04d The meeting agreed that the sub committee should write to the elected MSP Des McNulty, the Regional MSP Gil Paterson and involve a Member of the European Parliament – seeking and confirming their support in this matter.

Action

5.0 Secretary's Report & Correspondence:

- 5.01 Comm Cllr Walter Graham said his job of deciding to whom, within WDC, to send correspondence to is made all the more difficult because the WDC website did not list the Directors, Acting Directors, Section Heads etc., and wondered why this information was not available on the web site. **Noted**
- 5.02 Correspondence: 'Better Health/Better Care' – comments by 12th Nov
- 5.03 Correspondence: ASCC Notice of AGM – 3rd November
- 5.04 Correspondence from Bernard Darroch Planning Enforcement Officer – Pitched / Flat Roofs at Hawthorn Street rebuild.
- 5.05 Two copies of Local Plan received
- 5.06 Minute of recent WDC Council Meeting
- 5.07 NHS Monitoring Group information

6.0 Treasurer's Report:

- 6.01 C/fwd £1013.10 / tax deducted £0.20 / interest added £1.01 / cheque £3.00 [Company House Records re. Auchentoshan Estate] Bal: £1010.91
- 6.02 A brief discussion took place on whether the Community Council should apply for the Annual Grant. Following a majority vote it was decided to do so, although the time limit for 2007/08 may have been exceeded. **Action**

7.0 Planning Report:

- 7.01 Comm Cllr Gilbert Howatson described his experience as Planning Delegate for the Community Council in representing the case against the Bobath Centre and the accompanying residential housing application on Auchentoshan Estate, at the local public inquiry. He also complimented Clydebelt and residents of Mountblow for their support in also appearing in front of the Reporter.

A member of the public expressed disappointment at the Community Council's objection to the proposed Bobath development. Comm Cllr Gilbert Howatson explained that CC's opposition was to the rule breaking housing site. Bobath Centre and the housing development were all part of one planning application and therefore had to be defeated as one item. If the planning application should fall and Bobath submit another without the housing, then the Community Council may reconsider a change in its approach to the application

Comm Cllr Walter Graham proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of the Community Council, to Gilbert for his commitment and professionalism in the preparation and presentation at the inquiry. This was seconded by Anne Hickey and unanimous.

- 7.02 Comm Cllr Gilbert Howatson confirmed that there was no Post Office in the rebuild plans at Hawthorn Street.
- 7.03 He also pointed out that the plans for the rebuild of the retail unit at Hawthorn St involved pitched roofs and one flat roof. It was agreed that, aesthetically the whole run would be better with pitched roofs, but thought it may be too late to have this considered by the developers. **Noted**
- 7.04 Comm Cllr Drummond McNair drew the attention of the meeting to the ever reducing number of hedges surrounding residential properties and being replaced by railings in the Parkhall area. He thought this should be covered by the Local Plan. Provost Angew spoke of tenants' right to choose to have the hedges removed and the available WDC hedge cutting service for those unable to maintain them. He considered it detrimental to the area and environmentally unfriendly. It was decided to highlight the vanishing hedges on the WDC Online Forum to see what reaction there is to this emotive subject. **Action by Cllr McNair**
- 7.05 Comm Cllr Neil Etherington said Barratt had bought the ex Gala Bingo building in Graham Ave.

8.0 WDC Councillor[s] Report:

- 8.01 No written reports had been received from the absent WDC Cllrs.
- 8.02 Provost Denis Agnew asked the Community Council, and the residents of Clydebank not to panic about the recent press coverage of the suggested cuts in services to keep any Council Tax increase to a minimum. He said the reports were speculation and nothing had been decided at this early stage.
- 8.03 Denis also spoke of the ongoing talks between WDC/NHS and St Margaret's Hospice and said every effort will be made to keep the full funding and facilities at the Hospice.
- 8.04 The Provost said there would be a public space in Clydebank named after Queen Elizabeth 2 in recognition of her connection with the area.

- 8.05 The Provost also described his recent site visits to view street trees and hedges that may need attention. A member of the public referred the Provost to the recent damage caused to Dalmuir Park and the general lack of maintenance. He said he was already aware of this and hopefully ongoing maintenance would improve in the park in the long term.
- 8.06 Denis also reminded the meeting of the annual Dalmuir Park Illuminations and the switch on date

9.0 Community Police Report:

- 9.01 No Community Police representative present and no Crime Report submitted in their absence.
- 9.02 Comm Cllr Gilbert Howatson said that a number of remote houses had been the subject of recent house breakings.
- 9.03 Gilbert also highlighted incidents of bogus 'gardeners'. He asked the public to beware of a plain white van with only a mobile tel number has a contact.
- 9.04 Comm Cllr Walter Graham reported that underage drinking was still prevalent and put forward the theory that a non licensed outlet may be supplying alcohol to these underage drinkers.

10.0 Community Councillor Reports:

- 10.01 Comm Cllr Jim Paisley drew the attention of the meeting to the WD Community Council Forum Open Meeting on the 18th Oct at 7pm in Dumbarton. The invited speaker would be from British Waterways. **Noted**
- 10.02 Jim also said that a number of new street name signs had been erected recently, but noted that Overtoun Rd seems to have been overlooked.
- 10.03 Comm Cllr Gilbert Howatson said he understood that those who have the Dalmuir Park Café facility are giving up the tenancy.
- 10.04 Comm Cllr Drummond McNair commented on the amount of litter now visible since the trees had been cleared at the side of the Rail Bridge in Duntocher Rd. It was thought this would be the responsibility of Network Rail and an approach would be made to request a clear up. **Action**
- 10.05 Drummond produced a leaflet that had been distributed in the area requesting old clothes and purporting to be a charity. He warned that his investigations concluded that very little of what would be donated would find its way to a charity. He said that everyone should be wary of leaflet drops of this nature. **Noted**
- 10.06 Comm Cllr Walter Graham reported that Braemar View had finally been resurfaced **Noted**

11.0 Any Other Competent Business:

- 11.01 Comm Cllr Jim Lindsay asked whether the Community Council should purchase a wreath to lay at the War Memorial on Sunday 11th November - a service the majority of Community Councillors attend. After a brief discussion it was decided, by majority, not to do so. However, it was agreed that a wreath would be provided for the Memorial in Graham Ave commemorating those who died in the Clydebank Blitz. This is commemorated on the 13/14th March each year and the memorial is within the Parkhall, North Kilbowie & Central Community Council area.
- 11.02 Chair Jim Lindsay closed the meeting at 9.40pm by thanking the members of the public, and Provost Denis Agnew, for their attendance and contribution. He reminded the Community Councillors of the meeting, here, on Wed 24th Oct starting 7.30pm to discuss the Local Plan

12.0 Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting:

- 12.01 Tuesday 13th November 2007 7.30pm Parkhall Tenants Hall, Parkhall Road, Clydebank