

Minutes of Meeting

Parkhall Tenants Hall

Tuesday 12th August 2008

Community Councillors Present:

Jim Lindsay	Chair	Gilbert Howatson	Vice Chair
Walter Graham	Secretary	Jim Paisley	Treasurer

Alex MacFarlane, Anne Hickey, Neil Etherington.

Apologies: Drummond McNair, Diane Docherty

West Dunbartonshire Councillors: Provost Denis Agnew

Strathclyde Police: Constable David Brown

Local residents

10 local resident presents.

The meeting was opened at 7:30 PM by the chair.

Police report:

Two community policemen now work within the area the other officer being Constable Andy Rodgers. Constable Brown informed the community council that big changes are taking place at present within the police force in the area by the movement to a more proactive form of policing. The area covered is moving to a ward basis which will include Linnvale and Drumry.

In the last 2 month period there has been 92 crimes of note within the area, 37 have been detected including some crimes of a more serious nature. Vandalism remains the largest proportion of the crimes reported and remains largely undetected.

Members of the public questioned Constable Brown about recent trouble on Shakespeare Avenue which has included fire raising by youths ages 14 to 16 years of age. Constable Brown reported that the youths had been spoken to but no action taken yet due to lack of evidence. The members of the public produce photographs of some of the damage done to the area

Provost Agnew commented that the mobile CCTV unit would be useful here and a discussion followed. Constable Brown requested that the members of the public should call in all incidents for the police to investigate.

Walter suggested that a letter could be written to Chief Inspector McRae highlighting the problems in the area. Walter also noted that police presence in the area had dropped over that last five months backed up by Gilbert who asked if the constant changes being made recently to local police services have had a negative effect.

Further discussion followed including further use of CCTV and problems at lock-ups. Constable Brown informed the community council that more officers will be on the beat in the area, between 8 and 10 but this will take some time to implement, at least till the end of September

Minutes of previous meeting:

Proposed by Anne Hickey
Seconded by Neil Etherington

Matters arising:

Arnold Clark issue:

Letter had been sent but no reply yet. Discussion followed over similar issues with others advertising at the side of the road. Provost Agnew commented that little can be done if the vehicles are taxed and insured.

Action Point: Walter will write a follow up letter

Planning application for Park-And-Ride did not appear at the planning meeting.

Secretary's report:

Letter received regarding a joint community council open day on **Saturday 18th October**. Discussion followed and it was agreed that the secretary will write back saying that some members of the committee will attend if commitments allow.

Action point: Walter

Letter received from an Ian Brodie requesting to attend a meeting for research

Letter received from the Scottish Government, a consultation paper on rural schools.

Letters received from ASCC

WDC Letter on core paths plan received and available for anyone to read.

Letter received on data protection, Gilbert will deal.

Letter received regarding an open meeting on licensing.

Treasurers report:

C/F £1082.22

Balance £1082.59

Planning Issues:

Park-and-ride has been carried over till next planning committee meeting. Discussion on this followed highlighting that this may not be the best use for this land.

There will be a pre-enquiry meeting on the draft local plan on the 26th August at 10:00am. The actual enquiry date may be on the 18th of November but a date has not yet been finalized. Gilbert will attend on behalf of the Community Council.

Walter read out the reply letter from Graham Hawthorn WDC, supporting the stance on the greenbelt status, but this was his own position. Discussion followed within the committee on this and on the progress of the campaign to date.

There followed discussion on the demolition of the cemetery gatehouse due to it being in a very dangerous condition due to subsidence.

WDC report: Provost Agnew

There will be a public meeting on the boundary commission proposals on the 1st and 2nd of September. Provost Agnew gave an update on the Blitz victim memorials and the conversion of the Provosts bar at the town hall to a room of remembrance. Progress on other renovation works at the town hall was discussed by the Provost and the committee.

The QE2 will be returning to Greenock on its final sailing.

Twining issue, the provost will be visiting the French town during a personal visit to France and will investigate a possible contact.

Jim Lindsay asked about the Crown Avenue environment, which was answered by the provost,

who said among other things, that the problem of graffiti was being tackled.

Anne Hickey asked about the removal of hedges and replacement with fencing, Provost Agnew stated that this was a tenant's choice backed up by European money.

A.O.C.B:

The problem of graffiti in the Dalmuir park tunnel was raised by the committee as well as the problem of the smell from the Dalmuir sewerage works. This created some discussion between the committee and it was agreed that the secretary should write to the Environmental departments about the graffiti.

Action point: Walter

Alex Macfarlane brought to attention a letter he had received about a meeting on the delivery plan for housing which will be on the same day as the meeting on the local plan, 26th August.

Neil Etherington raised the issue of the hedge cutting by WDC on Parkhall road being done at the wrong time of the year which may damage the hedges. After a short discussion it was agreed that the secretary should write to the Council regarding this issue.

Action point: Walter

The Chair closed the meeting at 10:00 pm and date set for next meeting to be Tues 9th September.