

Minute of Meeting

Parkhall Tenants Hall Tuesday 9th June 2009

Community Councillors Present:

Jim Lindsay Chair Gilbert Howatson Vice Chair
Walter Graham Secretary Jim Paisley Treasurer
Anne Hickey, Neil Etherington, Alex MacFarlane, Diane Docherty, Drummond McNair

West Dunbartonshire Councillors: Provost Denis Agnew, J Brown

Police: Constable Scott Syme

Others: Community Wardens

There were 3 members of the public present

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

Police Report

There were 700 calls to police over last month which resulted in 111 crimes being recorded which resulted in 47 people being charged:

- 20 acts of Vandalism
- 25 Assaults
- 16 common assaults
- 21 thefts

Neil questioned the officer about coverage of the Community Police Officers which was answered by Constable Syme

Drummond asked about the ongoing problem of teenagers hanging about on the Golf course?

- Constable Syme confirmed that calls have been received and attended.

Alex McFarlane asked the constable about attendance to other reported calls in the area such as fire raising.

- Constable Syme confirmed that they had been attended to by officers on foot patrol but there were bikes available.

Open discussion on the police attendance to calls continued within the Community Council including the call centre issues.

- The Constable stated that vehicles are used to attend serious crimes and all calls are prioritised.

Walter Graham continued the discussion on Police coverage, after having such good work done by previous Community Police Officers why has cover deteriorated?

- The Constable stated that the new shift patterns were having some effect on the coverage at times.

Provost Agnew gave further comment on police coverage.

- The Constable replied that different trials are underway to improve Police coverage in the community including such initiatives as an open surgery in the police Station for residents to drop in.

Provost Agnew gave comment on WDC funding of the police and questioned what benefit being received from the additional funding given this year.

Neil Etherington commented that the local police inspector had recently retired and there did not seem to be a seamless implementation of a new Inspector.

Anne Hickey questioned the methods used on call prioritisation and the Constable confirmed that all call prioritisation is done by the Call Centre which provoked further discussion on this by the Community Council.

Community Wardens report:

Councillor Brown (WDC) asked the community wardens about what action they are taking about the former Burgh Band Hall on Second Avenue, Provost Agnew also gave comment on this and discussion followed on this by the Community Councillors present. The police officer gave comment that he had contacted the property owner who gave assurances that the property was being redeveloped and would be made secure.

Provost Agnew asked the community wardens if they would make it part of their regular patrol. Neil asked the community wardens if they were up to strength and information was given on community warden numbers.

Parkhall, North Kilbowie & Central Community Council

Minutes of last meeting:

Proposed by: Anne Hickey

Seconded by: Diane Docherty

Matters arising:

Letter written to Housing Director read out at meeting.

Secretary's report: Walter Graham

Letter received from Vincent Waters ASCC on election of representative, the Secretary advised the meeting that this is a forum issue.

Email received about paths and woodlands; there are grants available for Auchentoshan wood. The email stated that they wished to attend a Community Council meeting to give a presentation. Discussion followed on issues on trees such as tree types in the woods and the Community council decided that it would be good to hear their issues. Provost Agnew gave comment on tree issues.

Action Point: Secretary to write invite letter.

The report on the Local Plan has been received.

Treasurers report: Jim Paisley

Current balance £330.19

Cheque has been written for Tenants Hall donation.

Grant of £901.82 will be available on completion of the relevant paperwork. Jim gave an overview of the grant and read the covering letter to those present. The Chair and the Secretary signed the acceptance of the grant conditions in front of the Community Councillors present.

Planning issues: Gilbert Howatson

Gilbert commented on the Council Pre-Planning consultation and its implications, discussion followed on this.

Provost Agnew gave comment on this and provided information on the documentation and decision process.

Drummond asked the Provost who in the council sets the Councils viewpoint on decisions? This was answered by the Provost.

Gilbert commented on the council's use of consultants in planning issues. He questioned their impartiality when this affects planning decisions.

Provost Agnew informed the meeting on delegated powers, the issues and the processes involved and also the changes to current planning regulations. Open discussion followed on the planning process and current examples of decisions were discussed.

Gilbert gave an update on the Kilbowie Rd bus lane between Hardgate and Kilbowie roundabouts. Jim Paisley asked who made the decision on the bus lane implementation and was informed that this was done by delegated powers.

Drummond asked about the new development at Beardmore next to the canal and was informed that this was to be used for decant housing.

WDC report: Provost Agnew

The Provost gave comment on some recent council decisions and some of the processes involved in reaching the decisions.

Walter asked when the Community Council can submit questions to the WD Council and was answered by the Provost during open forum.

Provost Agnew gave comment on the housing strategic review and gave examples of areas that require urgent attention.

Provost Agnew congratulated the community council on their efforts on this issue. Discussion followed on the draft plan on the merits of "open space" against "green belt" designation for park.

Gilbert asked if a letter can be written to the planning Convener to clarify the report of local plan issues

Action point: Secretary

The meeting asked the provost about the land at the Leven mouth that was being claimed by the boat site owner. The Provost gave comment on his actions on this issue so far.

A.O.C.B:

The chair asked that discussion on the "model scheme" documentation be held over to the August meeting.

The Crown avenue open space is becoming overgrown and needs some attention, Provost Agnew will clarify who are the owners of the ground WDC/Housing Association and report back. The Secretary will write a letter after clarification of the owners has been made.

Jim Paisley gave comment on the new licensing laws, rules and the way objections to overprovision can be made.

A report has been printed in the Clydebank Post on the Dalmuir Sewerage plant design and its inability to cope with the amount of sewerage to be processed. The report stated that it would be too costly to resolve.

The Chair closed the meeting at 10pm, next meeting to be Tuesday 11th August 2009.