

Paisley, 11th October 2017

Minutes of the meeting of **PAISLEY EAST & WHITEHAUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL** held at Sherwood-Greenlaw Church, Paisley on Wednesday, 11th October 2017 at 7.pm.

Present: Gaynor Corry; Helen Dykes; Elizabeth Logue; Robert Moore; Andrew Ramsay; Jean Ramsay; Catherine Scally.

Attending Cllr Jim Sharkey;
Cllr Jeniffer Adam-McGregor;
Cllr Neill Graham;
Cllr Carolann Davidson (All Renfrewshire Council)
PC Stephen Reid (Police Scotland – until end of Item 2 only)
Brian McLaughlin & Scott Croft (Renfrewshire Community Warden Service until end of Item 3 only)

1. Following on from the earlier Annual General Meeting, the Chair welcomed members to the October business meeting of the Community Council.

As intimated at the AGM, apologies by Graham Paterson, Diane Watt, Jhulia Watt, and Craig Wilson were duly noted.

2. **POLICE SCOTLAND**

The Chair invited PC Stephen Reid from the Community Policing Team to address the meeting

PC Reid introduced himself as one of the Community Officers now operational in Whitehaugh and Gallowhill. He took a few moments to explain that when the new Community Policing model was introduced earlier in the year, he had been deployed on other duties due to having sustained a broken wrist. However, he has resumed his normal duties during the past two months. PC Reid then went on to provide an overview of the crime statistics since the previous meeting.

Since the last meeting there had been 21 crime reports raised. From those reports there have, so far, been 7 detections.

This included two serious assaults in Howard Street and Lang Street which appear to be more targeted than indiscriminate attacks.

PC Reid went on to report that there had been a spate of theft of bicycles, phones and other personal belongings belonging to young people who had left their effects unattended while playing in Barshaw Park. Officers are currently carrying out enquiries with the co-operation of the owners of the Rowntree Café, as their CCTV system provides coverage of the vicinity around their premises.

In relation to Barshaw Park, as mentioned by his colleague at the last meeting, officers are continuing to work with the Wardens and Youth Workers in a concerted effort to combat the problem of youth disorder in and around the park and the golf course.

The officer then went on to explain that in recent weeks there has been a spate of bogus callers impersonating HMR&C staff, adopting aggressive tactics in order to extort money by claiming that they are endeavouring to recover fictitious tax debts. This scam currently appears to be focused on the Ralston area, where a leaflet drop has been carried out to alert residents but it is important that people in the wider community are aware that this is happening.

After a brief discussion of the issues raised from PC Reid's report, the Chair thanked the officer for his informative input.

[PC Reid left the meeting at this point]

3. RENFREWSHIRE COMMUNITY WARDENS

The Chair invited the Wardens to address the meeting.

Brian McLaughlin introduced himself and his colleague and then went on to provide an overview of their role in relation to tackling issues such as anti-social behaviour, dog fouling, fly-tipping and other issues affecting the local environment.

Currently, the most significant problems locally are dog-fouling and antisocial behaviour in and around Barshaw Park and the golf course, as referred to previously by PC Reid. The Wardens have also been deployed to help combat the problem of youth disorder. CCTV footage has been passed to the Youth Team as they might be able to identify some of the youths involved.

On a separate issue, concern was expressed that often people have to leave bulky household items outside tenements or flats to be collected by the Council as a special uplift. Sometimes items can lie for several days and might end up being reported as flytipping as the person calling has no way of knowing that a special uplift has actually been requested.

Following a brief discussion of the issues raised from the Wardens' comments, the Chair thanked them for their report

[Brain McLaughlin and Scott Croft left the meeting at this point]

4. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH OCTOBER 2017

With reference to the item on Page 14, headed "*Empty Homes Officer*", Councillor Sharkey explained that this had not been recorded accurately insofar as Renfrewshire Council is in the course of appointing an Empty Homes Officer, although the process is not yet complete.

The Secretary conceded that revision and apologised for his error.

Subject to that amendment, the minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as accurate by Gaynor Corry and this was seconded by Catherine Scally and the record of the proceedings was approved without dissent.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH OCTOBER 2017

Toilets at Hawkhead Cemetery

The Secretary referred members to a copy of the latest e-mail correspondence that has passed between Cllr Davidson and Mark Faichney, Land Services Manager at Renfrewshire Council regarding this issue.

Community Resources position, as set out in Mr Faichney's most recent response to Councillor Davidson, is as follows:-

".....Renfrewshire Council will not be erecting directional signage for the chemical toilet in Hawkhead Cemetery. However, I have included a plan / plot of where the toilet is located - please feel free to share this with your constituents. I will also have this plan laminated and displayed near the entrance to the cemetery."

After a brief discussion, it was generally agreed that Mr Faichney response to this entirely reasonable request remains less than satisfactory and that the Community Council wish this issue to be pursued further.

It was also mentioned that the toilet in question is in dire need of cleaning

Cllr Davidson asked the Secretary to confirm the Community Council's position in writing so that she can take this up again with the relevant officers. The Secretary confirmed that he would do so,

This was noted pending further developments.

Makeshift Wooden Structure and Boundary Wall at 74 Arkleston Road, Paisley

Jean Ramsay explained that the Council no longer appear to be keeping her updated in connection with this issue.

However, as far as can be gathered at this stage, no retrospective applications for planning consent or a Building Warrant have yet been submitted by the occupier in relation to these structures

This was noted pending a further update.

HGV Strategy in Renfrewshire

Further to previous discussions regarding this issue, Cllr Adam-McGregor reported that she had since spoken with the relevant officer who had advised that this issue had not been progressed as Police Scotland had indicated that they were not supportive.

It was explained to Cllr Adam-McGregor that the proposed review of policy in relation to HGV Movements was intended to be Renfrewshire-wide, rather than focussed entirely on concerns arising from HGVs using Arkleston Road.

This item was continued pending further feedback.

Dog Fouling/Responsible Dog Ownership Regulation/Licensing of Professional Dog Walkers

Following the previous discussions regarding this issue, the Secretary reminded members that a decision has yet to be taken on whether or not the Community Council intends to pursue a campaign for regulation or licensing of Professional Dog Walkers.

A further discussion took place regarding this issue. Pending any further feedback regarding the Scottish Government's ongoing review of pet welfare, it was agreed that any local scheme that the Council can put in place, along the lines implemented by some other authorities would be preferable to no form of regulation whatsoever.

Councillor Sharkey suggested that he could ask the relevant officers to investigate devising such a scheme for the Renfrewshire Council area.

Accordingly, it was agreed that Cllr Sharkey should make such a request on behalf of the Community Council. He agreed to do so and report back in due course.

The matter was continued pending further feedback

Team Up to Clean Up

Members were referred to two e-mails from Dorothy Kerr of Renfrewshire Council's Community Resources, the first being about two additional evening engagement sessions that had been organised for 27th/28th September to coincide with the launch of the Council's *Team Up to Clean Up* Campaign.

The second e-mail provided contact details for *Team Up to Clean Up* and a link to the appropriate section of the Council's website where people could obtain further information about how to get involved

www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/teamuptocleanup

Telephone: 0300 300 1375

E-mail: es@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Any groups looking to organise a clean-up, or needing any help to arrange one, should contact Community Resources for assistance.

Some concern was expressed that the Council's obvious emphasis on and enthusiasm for locally organised clean-ups appears as if it is trying to farm out its environmental obligations to the local communities that it is supposed to serve.

This was noted.

Whitehaugh Day Centre.

Following on from the report on this issue last month, Cllr Davidson explained that Capability Scotland has agreed to continue current service provision at the Whitehaugh Day Centre until 31st January 2018.

Cllr Adam-McGregor explained that this has since been extended to 30th April in order to afford the Integrated Joint Board an opportunity to find another organisation that is willing to take over service provision from Capability Scotland.

Meanwhile, a meeting is due to place on 23rd October with potential service providers.

This was noted pending further developments.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary then went on to report in relation to the following items; a copy of the relevant documents having been circulated to members in advance of the meeting: -

Speakers for Forthcoming Meetings

The Secretary reminded members that suggestions are still being sought for potential speakers to come along to meetings to explain the work of their organisations or to address members about specific matters of interest.

A brief discussion took place, during which it was suggested that possibly speakers from Renfrewshire Foodbank, Womens Aid and Friends of Barshaw Park could be invited along.

The Secretary confirmed that in the first instance he would approach Elizabeth Alexander to find out if she or someone from Renfrewshire Foodbank would be available to come along to either the November or December Meetings. Once that has been organised, invitations can be extended to representatives from the other organisations.

*E-mail from PC Thomas McFedries
Incident in Glasgow Road, Paisley - 15th September 2017*

Following his report at the previous meeting, PC McFedries had sent an e-mail to the Secretary regarding an incident which occurred between 2100hrs and 2:45hrs on 15th September 2017.

Enquiries are ongoing at this time and additional patrols have been set up in the area to maintain public reassurance.

Any persons with information regarding this incident should contact CID at Paisley Police Office.

This was noted.

*E-mail from Sharon Marklow
Development & Housing Services, Renfrewshire Council
Consultation on Potential Development Sites submitted during Main Issues Report
Consultation for Renfrewshire LDP 2*

E-mail explaining that the Council is currently preparing the new Renfrewshire Local Development Plan, which will set out the planning policies and proposals to guide the development and use of land for the next 10 years.

Following consultation that was recently undertaken for the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Main Issues Report, 13 new or amended potential development sites were submitted to Renfrewshire Council for consideration in preparation of the next Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

Each of the sites has been subject of a planning assessment and a Strategic Environmental Assessment site assessment to allow consideration of the site and the proposed land use.

The site assessments are available to view online at:

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3070/Preparation-of-the-Next-Local-Development-Plan>.

Paper copies of the documents are available to view at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley and at Council libraries. Where a public library is closed, the site assessments are available to view at the Customer Service Centre, Renfrewshire Council.

Consultation on the site assessments will take place over a 6 week period from Monday 9 October 2017 until 5pm on Monday 20 November 2017

Responses can be submitted by email to localplanconsultation@renfrewshire.gov.uk

or by post to:

*Development & Housing Services
Renfrewshire House
Cotton Street
Paisley
PA1 1JD*

If you have any queries, please phone 0141 618 7838 or by email to the undernoted address localplanconsultation@renfrewshire.gov.uk 7767.

Following a brief discussion, this item was noted

*E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Information Literacy for Democratic Engagement*

E-mail accompanied by the interim results of the study undertaken by Dr Bruce Ryan (Napier University) to find out about the information practices used by Community Councils in Scotland.

This was noted

*E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Launch of Consultation on Building Scotland's Low Emission Zones*

Forwarded e-mail from Lynn Sharp of the Improvement Service explaining that they have been asked by Transport Scotland to share information about Scottish Government's Building Scotland's Low Emission Zones consultation. The Scottish Government is seeking views on how best to put in place LEZs following a commitment made yesterday to introduce LEZs into Scotland's four biggest cities by 2020. Additionally, the Scottish Government will shortly announce the location of the first LEZ which will be put in place in 2018.

The consultation is available here <https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/transport-scotland/building-scotlands-low-emission-zones/> and closes on 28th November 2017.

This was noted.

*E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Patrick Geddes Learning Festival - 28th - 29th September*

Forwarded e-mail from Laura McDonald at Planning Aid Scotland (<http://pas.org.uk/>) extending an invitation to their second interactive learning festival about creating better places for people, inspired by the legacy of Sir Patrick Geddes, Scotland's founding father of town planning.

This was noted.

*E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Scottish Government announces new Making Places funding opportunity*

E-mail explaining that this initiative has grown from the previous Scottish Government Charrette Grant Scheme.

The initiative encourages communities to participate in the development of their local places.

Since 2011-12 the Scottish Government has run a grant scheme that helped to fund the delivery of design charrettes in communities across Scotland. Charrettes bring together the community, other key stakeholders and design professionals to develop viable proposals to improve their place. However, the Scottish Government recognise that the charrette approach is only one method of enabling participation in placemaking.

Communities have different needs at different times and may require support not just in developing a vision for their place, but also at the stages before and after this.

The closing date for funding applications is 13th October 2017. More information can be found at: -

<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/making-places-initiative-2017-2018-prospectus-form/>

Any queries should be directed to architecture@gov.scot.

This was noted

*E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Review of Petitions to the Council - Consultation*

The Council's petitions process was introduced to enable members of the public to raise issues of local concern with the Council, either on their own behalf or on behalf of an organisation.

Petitions about the services provided by partner organisations such as the Police and Health Service can also be considered.

We review the petitions process regularly in order to identify and implement improvements to the way petitions are considered - and your views are important to us.

Community Councils, members of the public or any other interested parties can participate in this review by undertaking a short online survey to let us know what you think of the Petitions process.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3HCRCWH>

Responses should be submitted by no later than 22 November 2017, after which the aforementioned survey will close.

This was noted.

***Letter from Councillor Lorraine Cameron, Provost of Renfrewshire
Provost's Community Awards 2017/2018***

Letter from Councillor Cameron, Provost of Renfrewshire, setting out the categories for the Provost's Community Awards for 2017/2018 and enclosing details together with a link to the Council's website where a nomination form can be downloaded

Nominations are sought for the following categories:

- *Community Group (sponsored by Piazza Shopping Centre, Paisley)*
- *Community Volunteer (sponsored by Glasgow Airport Ltd)*
- *Sporting Achievement (sponsored by Acre Industrial)*
- *Employer of the Year (sponsored by UNISON)*
- *Arts and Culture Award*
- *Carers' Award (donated by former Provost Nancy Allison).*

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/provostawards>

Closing date for nominations is 1st December 2017

This was noted

***Dayle Gillespie
Graduate Engineer, Scotland TranServ
M8 Eastbound at Junction 29, Arkleston to Hillington Footbridge.***

Scotland TranServ, on behalf of Transport Scotland will carry out weekend resurfacing of a 570m stretch the M8 Eastbound at Junction 29, Arkleston to Hillington Footbridge.

Works were scheduled to take place between 8pm on Friday 13th and run until 6am on Monday 16th October.

In order to address issues with surface defects and structural cracking, the £150k scheme will operate at the weekend only, with the eastbound carriageway restricted to two lanes plus hard shoulder running during the day and one running lane at night.

To keep traffic moving, Scotland *TranServ* intended to implement hard shoulder running and a reduced speed limit during the day on Saturday and Sunday. The motorway will operate with only the hard shoulder running at night. Westbound motorway lanes will be unaffected. Motorists using the motorway in the Junction 29 Eastbound area over the weekend were advised to expect minor delays.

Across the region, as part of Transport Scotland's trunk road maintenance programme, Scotland *TranServ* is delivering an important programme of work to improve South West Scotland's trunk road infrastructure and support the economic growth and development of our communities.

This was noted.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that the balance at the bank, as shown on the statement issued on 22nd September 2017, amounted to £3,584.45.

The reported balance is after deduction of the cheque issued to Sherwood-Greenlaw Church in the sum of £250, as agreed at the last meeting and the £35 Direct Debit to the Information Commissioners Office to renew the Community's Council's registration for the year ahead.

This was noted.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Proposed Closure of Children's Ward at the Royal Alexandra Hospital

Cllr Davidson reported that while no decision has yet been taken by Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport regarding the future of Ward 15, apparently this is expected before the turn of the year.

It was explained that since July the ward is now operational on weekdays is effectively closed in the evening.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed to write once again to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport imploring her to reject the Health Board's recommendation, thereby

keeping the ward open. It was agreed also to copy the Community Council's representations to the First Minister

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council will take place on 8th November 2017 at Sherwood-Greenlaw Church.