

Paisley, 9th May 2018

Minutes of the meeting of **PAISLEY EAST & WHITEHAUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL** held at Sherwood-Greenlaw Church, Paisley on Wednesday, 9th May 2018 at 7.00pm.

Present: Gaynor Corry; Robert Moore; Andrew Ramsay; Jean Ramsay; Catherine Scally; Diane Watt; Jhulia Watt

Attending PC Steven Reid & PC Jack Wallace [Police Scotland –until end of Item 2 only]
Brian McLaughlin and Brian Rodger [Renfrewshire Wardens Service- from during item 2 though to the end of Item 3 only]
Lesley Fraser [Local Resident]; Carol Roxburgh; Maria McDougall [TARA Service - Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance] – Item 4 only

Chair: Andrew Ramsay

1. In the absence of the Chair, Helen Dykes, and in his capacity as Vice Chair, Andrew Ramsay welcomed those present and thanked everyone for attending.

Apologies for absence had been intimated by or on behalf of Helen Dykes; Elizabeth Logue; Graham Paterson; Catherine Scally and also Cllr Neill Graham, Cllr Carolann Davidson and Cllr Jennifer Adam-McGregor [Renfrewshire Council]

[The representatives from Renfrewshire Wardens Service arrived during the following item]

2. **POLICE SCOTLAND**

The Chair invited the officers present from the Community Policing Team to address the meeting

PC Reid, who in the past has attended a number of Community Council meetings, briefly introduced himself and his colleague, PC Jack Wallace. PC Reid explained that this would be the last meeting he would attend as he would shortly be redeployed at The Kibble. However, his colleague, PC Wallace will now be assigned to the Paisley Northeast & Ralston area and PC Reid was felt that this would be an ideal opportunity to introduce him to members of the Community Council.

PC Reid went on to provide an overview of the Crime Statistics since the last meeting

In the Seedhill area (Beat 16) there had been 32 crimes with 14 so far detected and in Whitehaugh (Beat 18) there had been 18 crimes with 5 detections to date.

The most significant trend at the moment is a spate of opportunist thefts from unsecured properties and vehicles. These have been more prevalent in the Ralston area. Members were reminded of some basic, common-sense precautions to minimise the risk of such losses

PC Reid mentioned that his colleague, PC Bhatti, who had attended the last meeting, had ask him to pass on revised crime figures for the period between 14th March and 11th April.

In the Seedhill area (Beat 16) there had been 30 crimes with 16 so far detected and in Whitehaugh (Beat 18) there had been 18 crimes and so far, 5 detections

In relation to concerns expressed over Barshaw Park, with the arrival of better weather and lighter nights additional patrols have been put in place to tackle and deter youth disorder.

Concern was expressed over a further instance of a vehicle colliding with a wall at the junction of Glasgow Road/Hawkhead Road as this was not the first occasion that there has been such a collision at this location.

A question was also raised about reports of car thieves using technology to override or jam remote central locking signals so that while motorists think their cars are locked they are not, leaving the vehicles readily accessible. The officers explained that as far as they were aware this had not been a method deployed by those responsible for the recent spate of thefts.

Following discussion of the issues raised and also the Chair thanked the officers for their input and advice.

[PC Reid & PC Wallace left the meeting at this point]

3. RENFREWSHIRE WARDENS SERVICE

The Chair invited the representatives from Renfrewshire Wardens Service to address the meeting.

Brian McLaughlin briefly introduced himself and his colleague, Brian Rodger, before proving an overview of developments since his colleagues attended the last meeting.

Overall, there seems to have been some improvement in terms of reduction of littering and dog-fouling. The recent campaign and local clean-ups appear to have to some extent helped raise awareness about the nuisance these cause

The current focus is on the Shortroods area.

Some 330 patrols on foot have been carried out by Wardens in Whitehaugh and Seedhill.

The initiative under which some Wardens have been deployed in Plain-clothes is still ongoing has seen an increase in the number of Fixed Penalty notices being issued recently.

Following discussion of the issues raised, the Chair thanked the Wardens for their input.

[Brian McLaughlin & Brian Rodger left the meeting at this point]

4. **TARA – TRAFFICKING AWARENESS RAISING ALLIANCE**

The Chair thanked Maria McDougall from TARA for coming along and invited her to address the meeting.

Maria went on to explain that she had been asked by Carolann Nesbitt, the TARA Service Manager to come along to explain the role of TARA and the services that it provides to help those women who have been trafficked to Scotland for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.

By way of a brief background, Maria explained that Community Safety Glasgow had established TARA back around 2004. Their small team provide a service that extends to the whole of Scotland and is supported by funding from the Scottish Government.

The service is aware that women are trafficked into Scotland each year for commercial sexual exploitation. This includes all facets of the sex industry including, adult “entertainment”, prostitution, escort services, internet sex sites and pornography.

The services they offer include:

- *Crisis accommodation dependent on individual need for up to 45 days*
- *Organise healthcare to help address physical and mental health issues*
- *Onward referral and support to appropriate agencies and lawyers specialising in immigration issues to access legal advice and support*
- *Referral onto the UK National Referral Mechanism*
(<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/about-us/what-we-do/specialist-capabilities/uk-human-trafficking-centre/national-referral-mechanism>)
- *Advocacy in conjunction with partner agencies*
- *Support when dealing with Police Scotland*
- *Refer women to community based classes, such as those organised by the YWCA as those can provide a distraction from their adverse circumstances and help build confidence*

Clearly, this is a very challenging environment as resources are stretched and the women who have been trafficked tend to be very vulnerable.

TARA are currently working with around 40 women who have been trafficked for sexual exploitation. The current trend seems to involve women from Vietnam and Albania

Maria distributed some material for members setting out TARA's work and also explaining indicators that help highlight possible trafficking situations.

Suspicious about possible trafficking and sexual exploitation should be reported to Police on the 101 number, to Crimestoppers or to Social Work.

Following discussion of the issues raised and also the Chair thanked Maria for her input.

[Maria McDougall and Carol Roxburgh left the meeting at this point]

5. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH APRIL 2018

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as accurate by Gaynor Corry and this was seconded by John Bell and the record of the proceedings was approved without dissent.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11TH APRIL 2018

HGV Strategy in Renfrewshire

Cllr Sharkey explained that although he had been incapacitated of late, his enquiries in this regard are ongoing. He explained that for some time responsibility for liaison between the Police and the local authority on Roads/Transportation issues had rested with one particular Traffic Constable based at Greenock. However, Cllr Sharkey is still seeking to ascertain at what rank Police Officers are authorised to formulate policy on behalf of Police Scotland and is currently making enquiries with the local Divisional Commander, Chief Superintendent Gordon Crossan with a view to clarifying the position.

It was noted that among various other hauliers, Yuille and Dodds in particular are still using Arkleston Road on an all-too-regular basis.

Accordingly, it was agreed to continue this item pending further feedback on this issue.

***Renfrewshire Council
Changes to Waste Management Strategy***

Cllr Sharkey explained that he has not yet managed to follow this up again but will do so and report back on any response received from Environment & Communities in relation to the outstanding issues

Accordingly, it was agreed to continue this item pending further feedback on this issue.

***NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
Closure of Children's Ward (15) at the Royal Alexandra Hospital***

The Secretary referred members to the acknowledgment received from the Scottish Government in response to the further representations made to Shona Robison Cabinet

Secretary for Health and Sport and confirmed that should a more substantive response be received in due course he will circulate that to members

This was noted pending further developments

Glasgow Airport's Airspace/Noise Action Plan Consultation 2018

The Secretary referred members to the copy of the copy of the e-mail that he had submitted to the Airspace Consultation regarding the proposed missed approach arrangements. This had basically echoed the concerns expressed by Hawkhead & Lochfield Community Council as they had made a number of interesting and pertinent observations regarding the proposed Missed Approach arrangements.

This e-mail had been copied to Robert Scotson of Hawkhead & Lochfield Community Council who has since duly acknowledged receipt.

This was noted

***McGills Bus Service Limited
Curtailed of the No. 20 Route between Spateston and Gallowhill.***

The Secretary referred members to the copy letter to Ralph Roberts at McGills setting out the further representations agreed at the previous meeting

So far, no reply has been received but the Secretary confirmed that he will issue an appropriate reminder if no response is received in the course of the next few weeks.

Members were reminded that the initial letter to McGills had been copied to the Minister for Transport and the Islands and were referred to the copy of a response that has since been received from the Scottish Government's national transport agency, *Transport Scotland*. In the response, their Bus Policy Officer points out the Scottish Government delivers the policy regime for the bus industry as originally set out in the Transport Act 1985. The provision of local bus services is largely a matter for individual bus operators, who use their own commercial judgement on fare structure, service routes and frequencies. Local authorities have a duty to identify whether there is a social need and can choose to subsidise services where they deem it necessary. This falls to local authorities to make these local judgement calls in relation to services in their area.

While explaining that writing to McGill's was indeed the correct course to take it was suggested that the Community Council might also wish to also write to the local authority (mistakenly referring to Fife rather than Renfrewshire Council) regarding this issue.

It was agreed to note the response received from *Transport Scotland* and the matter was continued pending a further response from Ralph Roberts at McGills.

Meanwhile, on a separate but related issue, the Secretary referred members to an e-mail from Cllr Davidson that had been circulated prior to the meeting. This was an e-mail sent to Renfrewshire Councillors from Drew McNab, the Council's Transportation Manager in which he advises that Strathclyde Partnership for Transport [SPT] have intimated they have received bus service registration documents from McGill's Buses formally notifying changes to various commercial bus services operating within Glasgow, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde and advising that revised timetables can be found at <http://www.mcgillsbuses.co.uk/mcgills-bus-timetables.aspx>

This was noted

Proposed development of Surplus Land at Dykebar Hospital

The Secretary recapped briefly on the discussion that took place at the previous meeting and reported that there had been some progress following on from that

Following the Community Council's earlier representation to Renfrewshire Council's Planning Section, marking an interest in relation to the proposed development, Sharon Marklow, Strategy & Place Manager, has responded to advise that any planning application for development at this site will appear on the Planning Application Weekly List that is published every week by Council.

In her reply, Ms Marklow has also explained that the Council has been recently informed that the developers are proposing to do another couple of pre-application consultation meetings to inform people of potential plans. Accordingly, she has passed on the Secretary's details to the developers who will contact the Community Council regarding future consultation events in relation to the potential development of the site.

The Secretary explained that following further correspondence with Ms Marklow, she has agreed to come along to the meeting in June. She will also try to bring along a representative from the developers to discuss the Community Council's concerns in relation to the proposed development.

Contact has also been made with Joe Theodore, Secretary of Hawkhead & Lochfield Community Council. He had responded to say that the matter would be discussed at their meeting on 8th May. He goes on to say that he had personally visited the proposed site and has been led to understand that the construction will mainly occur on land which was formerly occupied by burned down or abandoned villas that accommodated now disused wards. However, it is likely that they will await sight of a planning application and the developer's model before taking a view on the matter.

The Secretary went on to explain that at this stage he has not yet contacted Planning Aid Scotland [PAS] as it may be more appropriate to defer this until after the meeting in June at which time some of the issues might be satisfactorily addressed. Thereafter, if necessary, advice can be sought on any outstanding issues of concern arising from the proposed development.

This was noted and it was agreed to continue the matter pending the meeting with Planning and possibly the developers on 9th June.

Social Media Policy

Following the discussion that took place at the last meeting, the Secretary reported that no further feedback had been posted on Knowledge Hub [KHub] by any other Community Councils that might have already formulated a policy

The Secretary suggested that based on the material so far available he would try to draft a policy for discussion at the start of the new session.

It was agreed to continue the matter until September.

Keegan and Pennykid (Insurance Brokers) Ltd. Renewal of Public Liability Insurance 2018/2019

The Secretary referred members to an acknowledgment received from Keegan and Pennykid (Insurance Brokers) Ltd. confirming receipt of the premium amounting to £69.44, thereby renewing the Public Liability policy providing cover for 2018/2019.

This was noted.

Team Up to Clean Up – Proposed Clean-up Exercise in Whitehaugh/Environmental Improvements in Glasgow Road

Due to the unavoidable absence of the Chair, no proposed plan for a clean-up in the Whitehaugh area has been tabled for consideration. It was therefore agreed to continue this item until the June meeting,

Members were pleased to note that based on reportage on social media, the recent clean-ups organised around Seedhill and East End Park had been reasonably well attended and had been very successful.

Following the discussion that had taken place at the last meeting, Cllr Sharkey confirmed that the planters in question are still situated at the park. It was also mentioned that Tesco might be able to contribute by providing plants. Accordingly, it was agreed that the Community Council's should aim to revive the plan aimed at putting in place environmental improvements around the Glasgow Road area for the new season so that the planters etc can be put in place in readiness for next Spring.

7. SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

***E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Consultation with Community Councils on review of the "Scheme for the
Establishment of Community Councils (2015)"***

As mentioned at the meeting in April, during consideration of the minutes of Renfrewshire Community Council Forum [RCCF], Anne's e-mail goes in to more detail regarding this consultation. She goes on to confirm that the Council is preparing to review the content and provisions of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils (the CC rule book) and as part of this review is likely to consider introducing a process to help Community Councils deal with complaints.

The first stage in the review process is for the council to prepare a Draft Scheme setting out its proposals for change. The Draft Scheme will be the subject of full public consultation later in the year and at that time Community Councils can make representations to the council about its proposals.

However, Community Councils have an early opportunity to influence the content of the Draft Scheme by helping the Council prepare its proposals. For this purpose, the undernoted meetings have been scheduled to focus on:

- *Complaints process – Tuesday, 19 June 2018 – 2.00 – 5.00 pm at Renfrewshire House*
- *Annual allowance/boundaries – Wednesday, 20 June 2018 – 2.00 – 5.00 pm at Renfrewshire House*
- *Other general provisions of the Scheme – Thursday, 21 June 2018 – 2.00 – 5.00 pm at Renfrewshire House*

All Community Councils in Renfrewshire are invited to send a maximum of two members to one, two or all three meetings.

Community Councils that want to take part in this early phase should prepare by first examining what provisions of the Scheme their Community Council would like to see changed and why. The current Scheme can be viewed online at:

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/2404/Community-councils>

Those Community Councils interested in helping develop a complaints process may find it useful to refer to information provided about the Community Council complaints processes in Glasgow and Moray.

Any Community Councils that are unable to send along representatives can still participate by submitting your proposals on the Review Form provided so that those can be included in discussions.

Some dismay was expressed that the meetings have all been scheduled to take place during the day. Nonetheless, it was suggested that any members who might be interested in attending any of the meetings should contact the Secretary in the first

instance. Likewise, any suggestions for inclusion in the draft scheme should be submitted for discussion at the next meeting.

Accordingly, the matter was continued to the next meeting for feedback from members.

***E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute - 11th November 2018***

Forwarded e-mail from the Improvement Service who have been asked to share information about *A Nation's Tribute* with Community Councils.

The event will commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War 1, as well as paying tribute to the millions who either died or returned home wounded during or after the War ended on 11th November 1918.

A Guide to Taking Part is available by following the undernoted link.. This guide will be updated on 25th July and 25th October to ensure that all those involved are listed.

<http://brunopeek.co.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2018/03/Battles-Over-Guide.pdf>

A brief discussion took during which it was mentioned by Cllr Sharkey that in the main assembly hall at Paisley Grammar there are three large memorial plaques behind the lectern listing the names of those former pupils who had lost their lives during the Word War I. It might well be that the school will organise some event to commemorate them during the forthcoming centennial tribute

It was therefore agreed to continue this matter until the new session to ascertain what other events are being organised locally, which the Community Council might possibly complement or collaborate with.

Renfrewshire Foodbank

Members were referred to a letter received from Elizabeth Alexander, Project Manager at Renfrewshire Foodbank thanking supporters for the assistance rendered over the past year. Ms Alexander goes on to acknowledge that without the help of their donors, volunteers and partner organisations who provide us with accommodation they would be unable to provide the vital services that they offer

Moreover, the Foodbank were very honoured this year to win the Provost of Renfrewshire' s Community Group Award.

The support provided by organisations and individuals has enabled the Foodbank to provide people with a nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food parcel. In addition, people visiting the Foodbank are welcomed with a cup of tea, listened to and signposted to agencies who are able to help resolve the underlying cause of the challenges they face.

After a brief discussion, during which it was noted that the Community Council's previous donation to the foodbank was in May 2017. It was therefore moved by Robert Moore and seconded by Jean Ramsay that the Community Council donate the sum of £250 from the funds inherited from the former Paisley East End and Whitehaugh Community Councils.

There being no dissent to the proposal, that was duly agreed and the Treasurer confirmed that she would arrange to have a cheque countersigned by the Chair and sent to Renfrewshire Foodbank at the earliest opportunity.

Hawkhead Cemetery

The Secretary explained that while she could not attend the meeting this evening, Cllr Davidson is pleased to advise that Environment & Communities has recently conceded and have agreed to erect a directional sign to the cemetery toilets. As this has still sign has not transpired, Cllr Davidson has since made further enquiries to Environment & Communities. Their Service Co-ordinator Manager has advised that the problem lies with the local manufacturer as they had experienced a major machinery breakdown. The manufacturers have been informed of the importance of this sign

On separate but related issues, concerning Hawkhead Cemetery, Cllr Davidson had also mentioned that she has highlighted the potholes on the main drive in the cemetery and requested urgent repair.

Having also pressed for the railings there to be painted, Cllr Davidson has since received confirmation that this will be carried out by the Community Payback Team during the summer.

This was noted.

E-mail from Anne McNaughton Renfrewshire Council #CelebrateCCs on Twitter and Facebook

Forwarded e-mail from Lynn Sharp of the Improvement Service explaining that throughout April they had been encouraging people to share what makes them proud of a Community Council and celebrate Community Councils' positive impact. They have so far had some fantastic examples: from very well attended and appreciated community events, to securing very necessary defibrillators in rural areas. Some of the tweets so far can be found here: <https://twitter.com/search?q=celebrateccs&src=typd>

There is still time to join in and they want to encourage Community Councils, other organisations, and individuals to get involved on Facebook as well as on Twitter.

This was noted.

***E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Consultation Survey - Webcasting of Council Meetings***

Renfrewshire Council would welcome the views of all Community Council members and residents in your area on Webcasting of Council meetings.

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/7261/Webcasting-of-Council-Meetings>

Cllr Sharkey explained that the broadcasting of Council meetings has largely been a positive measure and apart from helping to improved transparency, has gone some way to moderate members' conduct in the chamber.

This was noted.

***E-mail from Anne McNaughton
Renfrewshire Council
Community Council Research - Survey 2018***

Forwarded e-mail from Paul Nelis, Development Manager, Scottish Community Development Centre explaining that as part of [Scottish Community Development Centre](#) (SCDC) and [What Works Scotland](#) research to explore 'How can community councils make a difference in the areas they represent' they have created a survey to follow on from the regional workshops which discussed this issue. This survey is intended for all current or retired community councillors in Scotland and is designed to confirm and explore the comments/opportunities expressed by participants at the Edinburgh, Glasgow, Elgin, Kilmarnock and Aberdeen regional workshops held between Nov 2017 and January 2018.

You can read more about SCDC and What Works Scotland's collaboration [here](#).

Community Councillors should respond based on their own experience rather than having to consult with their Community Council before completing the survey. The survey contains 30 questions and should take around 15 mins to complete. It is divided into a number of key themes that came from the workshops, these are:

- Community councils and their activities
- Powers
- Relationships
- Skills, training and support
- Democracy and diversity

To access the survey, eligible participants can go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CommunityCouncil2018>

Latest date for submission is Wednesday, 30th May 2018. This was noted.

EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Secretary reported that in order to comply with the new legislation, he has been in touch with all the individuals who have been receiving copies of the notices of meetings and minutes but who are not actually members of the Community Council, to ascertain if they want to opt-in to receive those in future. The majority of those who have been contacted have indicated that they do wish to opt-in to continue receiving future mailings. Those who have not responded are deemed to have opted-out and have been removed from the circulation list unless they advise to the contrary

Future mailings will include a privacy notice reminding those individuals of their right to opt-out of the circulation list at any time and e-mails will be blind-copied to those individuals.

Elected, co-opted or *ex-officio* members of the Community Council will continue to receive these e-mails while they are members. If for any reason their membership of the Community Council ceases they will have the option to opt-in to the circulation list, failing which their e-mail address will be removed from the list.

This was noted.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported that as forecast, following the clearance of the cheque for the insurance premium, the balance as per the statement issued on 23rd April, now stands at £4360.01

Under deduction of the cheque being drawn for the donation to Renfrewshire Foodbank amounting to £250, the balance by the next meeting is forecasted to be £4110.01

This was noted.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council is due to take place on 6th June 2018.