

# PAISLEY EAST & WHITEHAUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

<p><b>MINUTES of a meeting of that was held at Sherwood-Greenlaw Church, Paisley on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.00pm.</b></p>	<p><b>12/02/20</b></p>
<p>Present: John Bell; Gaynor Corry; Robert Moore; Graham Paterson; Andrew Ramsay; Jean Ramsay; Diane Watt</p> <p>Attending: Cllr. Jeniffer Adam-McGregor; Cllr John McNaughtan; Cllr Iain Nicolson &amp; Cllr Jim Sharkey, (all Renfrewshire Council); Gerard Hannah (Infrastructure, Transportation &amp; Change Manager, Environment &amp; Infrastructure Renfrewshire Council - – until conclusion of item 3 only); Kevin Price and Peter Hogan (Renfrewshire Council Wardens Service – until conclusion of item 2 only); Grace Paterson (Local Resident)</p> <p>Apologies: Margaret Cowie; Diane Watt; Jhulia Watt; Rev, John Murning; (Sherwood-Greenlaw Church)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Andrew Ramsay</p>	<p><b>Outcome/Action</b></p>
<p><b>1. Opening Remarks</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed all those present and thanked everyone for attending.</p>	
<p><b>2. Renfrewshire Wardens Service</b></p> <p>Before inviting the representatives from the Wardens Service to address the meeting, the Chair expressed disappointment that once again there were no representatives from Police Scotland present, While it is recognised that on, occasions due to operational priorities, it is not possible for officers to attend there has been no presence for a number of months now</p> <p>Kevin Price briefly introduced himself and his colleague, explaining that while they normally cover the Erskine area they had been asked to come along this evening as the local wardens are on annual leave.</p> <p>They then went on to give an overview of the statistics over the period from 9<sup>th</sup> December until 11<sup>th</sup> February, during which there had been 72 foot patrols in the local area. In terms of concern raised these had included:-</p> <p>8 instances of Dog Fouling; 2 Control of Dogs complains; 2 instances of Fly-tipping; 2 Youth Disorder incidents; 6 instances of illegal parking and 2 abandoned vehicles</p> <p>It was pointed out the various issues such as excessive litter etc. at Arkleston Drive/Greenlaw Gardens still do not appear to have been addressed. The Secretary explained that this is despite our complaint having previously been acknowledged by Andrew Dobie. While the Secretary confirmed that he will be following this up with the officer</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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concerned it would be helpful if the Wardens could also report back those concerns

In a similar vein, a complaint regarding a dog fouling hot spot in Millstream Court also remains outstanding. While notices have apparently been attached to a few lampposts, a previous request by residents for a bin has apparently been ignored. While the Secretary had also highlighted the dog fouling issue to the Department last month, among other concerns, this too appears to have been disregarded. The Wardens also agreed to feed this back to the Department.

Following conclusion of the discussion, the chair thanked the Wardens for their informative input

*[Kevin Price and Peter Hogan left the meeting at this point]*

### **3.Governance issues surrounding proposal to explore the formulation of a Renfrewshire Wide Strategy on HGV Movements**

For the benefit of all those present, the Chair provided a comprehensive overview of the history to this issue back to before 2012 when the Community Council had first sought measures to address longstanding problems stemming from HGV traffic using Arkleston Road as a through route.

To highlight the scale of the problem, it was explained that while Arkleston Road is unclassified, of the 10,000 -12,000 vehicles using the route on a daily basis , around 2000 or some 15-20% tend to be heavy goods traffic.

While recapping the history of the issue, the Chair went on to explain that, subsequently, the matter was raised with the Council's Chief Executive, It then came to light that Roads Officers had informed the Chief Executive that they had considered the question of HGVs across Renfrewshire and that their assessment was that across the Council area as a whole HGVs did not create issues which required a standalone strategy.

However, no evidence was presented to support their assessment, which appeared to be highly subjective. That misgiving was reinforced when an attempt made via FoI to obtain sight of the evidence on which their assessment was based was initially met with obfuscation. Following a request for a review of that response, still no evidence was forthcoming, thereby supporting the Community Council's allegation about a failure of governance.

A lively discussion ensued regarding various aspects surrounding the HGV problems and the Community Council's longstanding campaign to persuade the Roads Authority to take appropriate, effective action.

During the discussion, it was pointed out the previous solution imposed to limit speed on the road had been the installation of speed humps/cushions. However, since the recent resurfacing of the road, the surface has been raised to the extent that those are now even less

Gerard Hannah  
to look at  
alternative traffic  
calming  
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<p>effective than they had been before this work was carried out. Mr Hannah explained that one of the problems encountered was the depth to which they could excavate during the resurfacing works. However, he undertook to go back and look at alternative measures and provide feedback via the Secretary.</p> <p>The Council Leader explained that the Council is currently updating the Local Transport Strategy and all this process entails. However, from what has been explained, he recognises that there is the substantive issue relating to the problems caused by HGVs using Arkleston Road as well as the difficulties encountered in obtaining adequate information from officers following the passing of the amendment in April 2012, at which time elected members had agreed to consider HGV issues across Renfrewshire with a view to establishing a Council-wide policy on the subject.</p> <p>Cllr Nicolson also acknowledged that had this related to an issue in his own ward he would not have been satisfied by the inadequate response that has been offered by officers.</p> <p>Following the discussion, Cllr Nicolson agreed to go back to the officers concerned with a view to obtaining a more substantive report in relation to these issues and that he would come back to a future meeting, possibly in April, to update members in relation to thereto</p> <p><i>[Gerard Hannah left the meeting at this point]</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Continued pending a further meeting with Cllr Nicolson once a further report has been obtained from officers.</p>
<p><b>4. Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th January 2020</b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as an accurate record by John Bell and this was seconded by Graham Paterson.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Approved</p>
<p><b>5. Business arising from Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2020</b></p> <p><b><i>Proposed development on surplus land at Dykebar Hospital (“Thornly Park Village”) &amp; concerns over the impact on Services, Infrastructure.</i></b></p> <p>The Secretary briefly updated members, referring to the papers circulated in advance of the meeting, specifically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of the guidance received from Sarah Shaw at PAS <i>[Planning Aid Scotland]</i> in response to advice sought on concerns surrounding the proposed development</li> <li>• E-mail from Nicola Gooch of Hawkhead &amp; Lochfield Community Council regarding the proposed training/ information session with PAS Volunteer now confirmed on 18<sup>th</sup> February</li> </ul> <p>So far, the Secretary and Chair have registered for the training/ information session and hopefully this will help inform the Community Council’s strategy in relation to the application. It was suggested that any other members who might be available and wish to attend the event</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Continued until March meeting</p>

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should let the Secretary know as soon as possible so that their names can be passed to Hawkhead & Lochfield Community Council

A report will follow at the March meeting, it was agreed that the matter be continued for further consideration until then

## ***HGV Movements/Traffic Management in Arkleston Road***

Further to the discussion that took place earlier, the Secretary reported that there still has been no further feedback from Environment & Infrastructure following the recent speed survey. The Secretary confirmed that he will follow this up with the Department again and report back to the next meeting.

Continued pending response from officers

## ***Refurbishment Works to Homes in Whitehaugh***

The Secretary referred members to the further feedback that has been received from the daughter of the local resident whose has been waiting for completion of the works to her home. Unfortunately, due to the adverse weather conditions the work has not yet resumed. It has been mentioned that the workers are apparently monitoring the weather from their home country with a view to returning to complete the job.

However, communication, or the lack of it still appears to be an ongoing issue.

Noted pending further developments

On the separate, wider concerns regarding cleanliness around Whitehaugh, the Secretary reported that he has written to Carol Cameron and had asked her to urge their employees/sub-contractors to clean as they go with a view to minimising the nuisance to residents. However, no response has so far been received.

## ***Dog Fouling/ Litter/Graffiti in Whitehaugh.***

Further to the earlier discussion with the Wardens, the Secretary confirmed that as no response has so far been received, he would also contact Mr Dobie, Community Regulation Manager in Communities, Housing & Planning to highlight these issues again and report back to the next meeting.

Continued pending response from officers

## ***Paisley Town Centre 2030***

As outlined at the last meeting Renfrewshire Council, the Scottish Government and Scotland's Towns Partnership have now revealed 'A Vision for Paisley Town Centre 2030' – a report that uses the town as a case study to examine issues affecting town centres across the country and potential solutions.

As no-one from the Community Council was available to attend the launch event on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> January with the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government, the Secretary had circulated a summary of The Paisley Vision report from Renfrewshire Council's website with a link to the full report

Noted

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[http://renfrewshire.gov.uk/media/11215/Paisley-Visionreport/pdf/Paisley\\_Vision\\_Final\\_Document\\_COMPLETE\\_190910\\_SPREADS\\_email.pdf?m=1579876706820](http://renfrewshire.gov.uk/media/11215/Paisley-Visionreport/pdf/Paisley_Vision_Final_Document_COMPLETE_190910_SPREADS_email.pdf?m=1579876706820)

## **Environmental Issues**

The Secretary confirmed that following the discussion at the previous meeting he had brought the undernoted issues to the attention of the Council via the dedicated Community Council Enquiries Mailbox

- *Vandalised remnants of a car in the field at sharp right hand bend on farm section of Arkleston Road*
- *Graffiti on the street furniture/utility cabinets between that bend on Arkleston Road down to Gallowhill Road (then across to Arkleston Drive as previously highlighted)*
- *Graffiti on the wall at Lang's Tannery in Seedhill Road*
- *Litter in Seedhill Road*
- *Dog Fouling hot-spot at Millstream Court*

Despite a reminder issued on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, no response or acknowledgment has been received from the Department, despite the follow up email being copied to the Service Coordination Manager.

The Secretary expressed concern and frustration at the Department's failure to respond to these enquiries/reports despite those being directed via the appropriate channel. That is not to say that the issues highlighted were not dealt with or receiving attention, but feedback would be helpful.

Cllr Nicolson explained that he was disappointed to hear this as the dedicated mailbox had been established as a single point of contact to which Community Councils could direct enquiries. This would allow staff to allocate a reference number before referring the matter to an appropriate officer or section for attention and would facilitate tracking of the enquiry.

However, in response, the Secretary pointed out that this was not the first occasion on which the Community Council has had to raise concerns about the monitoring and operation of the mailbox. Those had previously been taken up by Cllr Sharkey last year

In fairness, another issue recently highlighted to the department via this route had been dealt with satisfactorily and responded to within a reasonable timescale

It was mentioned that apparently no similar problems have been highlighted by other Community Councils, but Cllr Nicolson confirmed that he would draw these concerns to the attention of the Department.

Continued  
pending  
response from  
officers

Cllr Nicolson to  
convey concerns  
to officers  
regarding failure  
to respond to  
issues raised

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<p><b><i>Crossing outside 86 Arkleston Road</i></b></p> <p>The Secretary reported that he had drawn to the attention of Environment and Infrastructure that since completion of the resurfacing works, the crossing outside 86 Arkleston Road no longer has metal studs marking its width to assist the visually impaired.</p> <p>Elaine Lorimer, Supervisory Transportation Officer, has responded to apologise and explain that this had been due to an oversight by their contractor. The contractor has been instructed to remedy this deficiency and the Department is currently awaiting a date when that will be completed.</p> <p>The Secretary advised that when acknowledging the response, he had to admit some surprise that this omission had previously gone unnoticed by Council officers following completion of the works . However, at least that is now to be remedied.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p><b>6. Secretary's Report</b></p> <p>The Secretary referred to the following correspondence: a copy of which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.</p> <p><b><i>Grant McFarlane / Fèis Co-ordinator</i></b>  <b><i>Fèis Phàislig</i></b>  <b><i>Press Release - Cèilidh Trail 2020</i></b></p> <p>E-mail with information on their Cèilidh Trail auditions for 2020.</p> <p>Further information from  <a href="mailto:info@feisphaislig.com">info@feisphaislig.com</a>  <a href="http://www.feisphaislig.com">www.feisphaislig.com</a></p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p><b>7. Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>The Treasurer reported that the balance at the bank stands at £5169.51, as per the statement issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> December.</p> <p>It was also reported that, so far, there has still been no further progress in relation to the Mandate Variation Request. This delay is now posing problems insofar as the account cannot be operated until this request is fulfilled</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed to continue this matter until the next meeting. If there has been no progress by then a decision will have to be reached as to whether to escalate the issue with the Bank of Scotland or explore the possibility of transferring arrangements to another bank.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Continued pending further developments</p>
<p><b>8. Any other Business</b></p> <p><b><i>Works at East End Park</i></b></p> <p>A question was raised regarding the nature of the extensive works currently underway at East End Park. Cllr Sharkey explained that this is</p>	

