

Paisley, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Minutes of the meeting of **PAISLEY EAST & WHITEHAUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL** held at Sherwood-Greenlaw Church, Paisley on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00pm.

Present: Gaynor Corry; Helen Dykes; Elizabeth Logue; Robert Moore; Graham Paterson; Catherine Scally; Diane Watt

**Attending** Cllr Jeniffer Adam-Mcgregor; Cllr Carolann Davidson [both Renfrewshire Council]  
Gavin Newlands MP [Paisley & Renfrewshire North]  
PC Stephen Reid & PC Hassan Bhatti [Police Scotland – until end of Item 2 only]

*Chair: Helen Dykes*

1. The Chair welcomed those present and thanked everyone for attending. As she had been unable to attend the January meeting, the Chair extended her belated New Year greetings to all present.

Apologies for absence had been intimated by or on behalf of Andrew Ramsay; Jean Ramsay; Jhulia Watt and Cllrs Jim Sharkey and Neill Graham [Renfrewshire Council]

## 2. **POLICE SCOTLAND**

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

PC Reid introduced himself and his colleague, PC Bhatti who is one of the other Community Officers assigned to the area.

Since the last meeting, in Whitehaugh there had been 13 crime reports raised. From those reports there have, so far, been 3 detections.

In the Seedhill area there had been 33 crime reports raised. From those reports there have, so far, been 10 detections.

While no detailed breakdown of the statistics was available, PC Reid provided an overview explaining that there had been thefts of several motorcycle and scooters in the area.

There have also been some complaints of youths congregating in the vicinity of Barshaw Park.

In relation to thefts from vehicles, those tend to arise due to people leaving items of value on display. Those should be removed out of sight of opportunist thieves

Bicycles should be effectively secured when left unattended

There is still some concern being expressed over cold-calling by charity collectors. Groups have been going door to door encouraging residents to sign up for monthly donations by Standing Order or Direct Debit. As such, they have essentially been harvesting peoples' bank details, which can be of particular concern when they are calling on elderly and vulnerable members of the community. These collectors should carry appropriate identification but, even then, there is no harm checking their authenticity with the charity in question, if in doubt.

Following the conclusion of their report, the officers asked if there were any particular issues that members wished to highlight.

It was pointed out that as the nights start to get lighter and particularly during the summer months, the Community Officers might wish to keep a lookout the vicinity of the Kelburne Cricket Club Pavilion, as the area behind the scoreboard there tends to become a drinking den for local youths.

It was also highlighted to the officers that during the better spells of weather, adults tend to gather in East End Park for drinking sessions

A brief discussion took place in relation to the issues raised following which the Chair thanked PC Reid for their input and advice.

*[PC Reid & PC Bhatti left the meeting at this point]*

Before moving on to the next item, the Secretary explained that as PC McFedries, the officer in attendance at the last meeting, has been deployed on other duties he has not yet managed to send him on the crime figures for Seedhill to 10<sup>th</sup> January. Those will be circulated to members once available.

In relation to the discussion that took place at the last meeting regarding homelessness and rough sleeping locally, the Secretary explained that while he has had no feedback from the Police or Wardens on this issue, Jean Ramsay has made her own enquiries with Anne Carruthers at Renfrewshire Council and with the Salvation Army. Jean has been assured that while there are some very poor and needy people in Renfrewshire there are no known rough sleepers in the area. There are two people who are known to have been begging on the street over a prolonged period but as they have tenancies they are not homeless. Any reports of rough sleeping would get picked up by "The Hub" for the Council's Homeless Services to deal with.

A similar situation exists in the Inverclyde Council area.

This was noted.

**3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018**

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as accurate by Catherine Scally and this was seconded by Graham Paterson and the record of the proceedings was approved without dissent.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

***Makeshift Wooden Structure and Boundary Wall at 74 Arkleston Road/ 2 Avondale Drive, Paisley***

Further to previous discussions on this issue, Mr Bell reported that work on the hitherto unauthorised development appears to be ongoing despite the s.33A notice served by Renfrewshire Council previously.

The address which had been displayed on the mailbox outside the premises has recently been removed.

It seems that there has been no sign of any follow-up enforcement action by the Planning Department following the expiry of the 28-day period, during which the developer was supposed to comply by submitting a retrospective planning application.

Mr Bell explained that while he has contacted the Planning Officer for an update on the situation, he has received no response.

The Secretary indicated that he would contact the Development Standards Manager at Renfrewshire Council, with whom he had been in correspondence previously regarding this matter, to ascertain the Department's intentions in view of the failure to comply with the notice

This was noted pending further developments in relation to this matter.

***HGV Strategy in Renfrewshire***

The Secretary reported that when Cllr Sharkey had called to submit his apologies for this evening, he had mentioned that while he had, as promised, made representations to the relevant officers, the reply that he had received was not satisfactory, so he has responded to that effect. Hopefully, he should be able to update members at the next meeting on any further feedback that he has received

Cllr Adam-McGregor explained that she had also sought further clarification from officers on this issue. Apparently, the reason why the department had not continued with developing a Renfrewshire-wide strategy in relation to HGV movements was because of the reservations expressed by Strathclyde Police in connection to the Arkleston Road proposal. Accordingly, any future proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis

A vigorous conversation ensued, during which it was pointed out that the amended motion *“to consider HGV issues across Renfrewshire with a view to establishing a Council-wide policy on the subject”* was carried on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2012 whereas the letter from the Police was some eight months later on 23<sup>th</sup> January 2013. This obviously begs the question as to what action, if any, officers had taken during the intervening period to comply with the decision taken by the full Council.

For the benefit of Mr Newlands, Graham Paterson outlined briefly the concerns over HGV movements in Arkleston Road. Mr Newlands suggested that if these could be sent to him then he can ask about the concerns such a proposal when he meets with the new Divisional Commander about a host of issues early next week. If those can be sent to him by Friday this week, he can afford Chief Superintendent Crossan advance notice that he intends to raise this issue.

It was generally agreed that in view of his previous involvement in this issue, Graham would be the most appropriate person to e-mail Mr Newlands with a précis of the issues and copy this in to the Secretary. It was also agreed to continue this item pending further developments in relation to this matter.

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

As reported at the previous meeting, the Secretary explained that while he had written to Shona McDougall, Director of Environment & Communities to put on record the Community Council’s concerns over the proposed change, no reply has so far been received regarding those or how the proposed changes will affect those tenement properties, which, under the current arrangements, are not provided with a brown bin.

The Secretary reported that he had issued a reminder recently, which, hopefully, might elicit a response.

It was agreed to continue this item pending a response from the Director or a delegated officer.

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

Further to previous discussions on this issue, the Secretary reported with dismay that, on 19<sup>th</sup> January, Shona Robison, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, had decided to approve the NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde’s decision to close Ward 15.

This provoked a further lively discussion regarding the pros and cons of the closure

Mr Newlands explained that while the hospital is not in his constituency he was aware of doubts surrounding this proposal. However, it seems that staff at the ward were in

favour of relocation to the Royal Hospital for Children as opposed to keeping Ward 15 open.

Concern was expressed again that following this decision, in the fullness of time, the Health Board might decide that other services currently based at the Royal Alexandra Hospital could be relocated to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital campus, thereby depriving the local area of a fully functioning general hospital.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was agreed, without dissent, to record this Community Council's disappointment and displeasure at the decision by the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport to ratify the closure of Ward 15.

### ***Review of Car Parking Provision and Charges***

Further to Cllr Davidson's clarification at the previous meeting that the scheme to recover costs for all areas within the Pay and Display parking zones in Paisley has already been approved, the Chair suggested that it might be worth making representations to the Council for consideration during the review that is being carried out as part of the implementation process.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed that in view of her experience from the previous campaign in relation to parking in the Seedhill area, the Chair should draft an appropriate note setting out the Community Council's concerns about the imposition of such charges and the impact on those residing in the Zone 3 area and submit that to the Secretary for onward transmission to Renfrewshire Council.

Accordingly, it was delegated to the Chair to draft appropriate representations and submit those via the Secretary. The item was continued for further deliberation in due course.

### ***Traffic/Safety Issues at Glasgow Road/Lacy Street/ Kelburne Oval***

The Secretary referred members to the response received on this issue from Mairi Weatherill-Beers, Transportation Officer Environment & Communities regarding concerns expressed by the Community Council over motorists' confusion when approaching the traffic lights outside the Bookmakers at 69 Glasgow Road. This has proved troublesome for motorists turning right from Lacy Street into the eastbound carriageway of Glasgow Road.

The officer explained that the stop line at the crossing was put down in error after the road was resurfaced. Accordingly, she has instructed the contractor to burn off the line that is causing confusion.

The Community Council's concerns for vulnerable pedestrians at the Kelburne Oval junction have also been noted. This had prompted the Secretary to query the position about the Driver Feedback Sign that had been promised for Kelburne Oval some time ago to monitor the speed of vehicles approaching the junction with Glasgow Road.

A response is currently awaited regarding that as the officer concerned was on annual leave.

Cllr Adam-McGregor asked the Secretary to forward a copy of the recent correspondence to her so that she could follow up the query in relation to the Driver Feedback Sign. The Secretary confirmed that he would arrange to send that on following the meeting.

Following a brief discussion, the position was noted pending further developments.

### ***Road Markings at Kelburn Oval/Whitehaugh Avenue.***

The Secretary reported that when Cllr Sharkey had been in contact to intimate his apologies he had confirmed that he has also followed up this outstanding issue with the officer concerned.

This was noted pending further feedback.

## **5. 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:-

### ***E-mails from Anne McNaughton Renfrewshire Council Glasgow Airport's Airspace/Noise Action Plan Consultation 2018***

As intimated previously, the consultations on Glasgow Airport's Airspace and Noise Action Plans have now been launched and will run to Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> April.

Glasgow Airport Limited announced the formal launch of the consultations with the following statement:

*"In December, we wrote to you to let you know about our Airspace Change Proposal and Noise Action Plan consultations. I am pleased to confirm that these are now both live and your views are critical to ensuring that we take decisions that reflect the views of communities and stakeholders.*

*The Airspace Change Proposal forms part of an industry-wide drive, the Future Airspace Strategy, mandated by our regulator – the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) – to create airspace infrastructure fit for the 21st century. A key element of the strategy involves the removal of selected ground-based navigation aids across the UK and a move to procedures predicated on state-of-the-art satellite navigation systems by the end of the decade. Our air traffic control provider, NATS, has informed us that the ground-based navigation aid used at Glasgow Airport will be withdrawn in 2019 meaning we are required to modernise our approach and departure procedures.*

*We are keen to stress that we will only make changes to the approach or departure flight paths once we have considered the views of all those who respond. We will then present those views to the CAA before the necessary approval can be granted to implement these new procedures which will minimise the amount of time planes queue, both in the air and on the ground, and reduce fuel and CO2 emissions by 21%.*

*We are fully committed to growing the airport responsibly and modernising our airspace will help us achieve that. It is important that our communities and stakeholders are fully involved in this modernisation process and we would encourage people to participate.*

*We are also required to publish an updated noise action plan every five years and will be undertaking a parallel 13-week consultation on a draft plan. The noise action plan sets out proposed measures to manage and mitigate the impact of aviation-related noise.*

*We would therefore be grateful if you could take some time to share your views as part of these consultations which launched on Monday 15th January 2018 and run to Friday 13th April 2018.*

*Full details can be accessed at our dedicated websites. For the Airspace Consultation please visit [www.glasgowairport.com/airspace](http://www.glasgowairport.com/airspace) and for our Noise Action Plan Consultation visit [www.glasgowairport.com/community/noise](http://www.glasgowairport.com/community/noise)*

*In addition, you can contact us at [airspace@glasgowairport.com](mailto:airspace@glasgowairport.com) or [napconsultation@glasgowairport.com](mailto:napconsultation@glasgowairport.com) for further information."*

As part of the 13-week consultation on proposals to modernise the flight paths Glasgow Airport Limited have arranged a series of drop-in sessions. These will provide attendees with an opportunity to learn more about the proposals and share any feedback. Local sessions were scheduled for:

*Holiday Inn Glasgow Airport Tuesday 20 February 10am-7pm*

*Johnstone Town Hall 25 Church Street, Johnstone PA5 8EG Tuesday 27 February 10am-7pm*

With sessions at other locations listed at:

<https://www.glasgowairport.com/media/2270/airspace-drop-in-sessions.pdf>

It was agreed to continue this item until to allow anyone who might be available a chance to attend a drop-in session and for those members who were not present at the meeting the opportunity to participate in a discussion regarding the proposals at the next meeting

***E-mail from Annabelle Armstrong-Walter  
Strategic Partnerships and Inequalities Manager  
Community Planning Partnership: Renfrewshire Council  
Community Level Governance Consultation Events***

Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership will be hosting a series of events in March 2018 in order to consult with local residents on proposals for a new approach.

When referring to Community Level Governance, these are the formal structures by which local communities engage with the Council and other public services. Currently in Renfrewshire, this is done through a structure of committees called 'Local Area Committees' (or 'LACs') which were established as formal committees of the Council in 2007.

Community Planning have already done some engagement with people as part of our review of current arrangements and developed these proposals from that input. The proposals cover five themes function; membership; boundaries; meetings; grants.

A copy of the consultation paper was included together with a link to the online consultation below:

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

*Consultation Events:* A morning and an evening public consultation event will be organised in Johnstone and Paisley. Consultation events will have a programme of speakers and an interactive workshop session which will provide an opportunity to explore the proposals in more detail, discuss and give us their feedback.

***Morning event:***

- Johnstone Town Hall /7th March 2018/ 10am – 1.30pm, 25 Church St, Johnstone PA5 8F

***Evening event:***

- Paisley Town Hall/ 20th March 2018/ 5.30pm - 8.30pm, Abbey Close, Paisley PA1 1JF

**Consultation drop-in sessions**

There will also be outreach events at five different locations as detailed below to give as many people as possible an opportunity to have their say on the development of community level governance proposals.

- **Renfrew:** 12th March 2018, 4.30-6.30pm, Renfrew Town Hall, Hairst St, Renfrew PA4 8PF
- **Linwood:** 13th March 2018, 4.30-6.30pm, Tweedie Hall, Bridge St, Linwood PA3 3DB



- **Bishopton:** 14th March 2018, 4.30-6.30pm, Bishopton Community Centre, Gledstane Rd, Bishopton PA7 5AU
- **Lochwinnoch:** 15th March 2018, 4.30-6.30pm, McKillop Institute, Main St, Lochwinnoch PA12 4AJ
- **Erskine:** 22nd March 2018, 4.30-6pm, Erskine Sports Centre, Kilpatrick Drive, Erskine PA8 7AF

Anyone interested in attending these events can book a place by

- Registering Online:
  - for Local Governance Events  
<https://communitylevelgovernance.eventbrite.co.uk>
  - for Drop-in sessions  
<https://ourrenfrewshire2017outreach.eventbrite.co.uk>
- Phone: call **0141 618 4168** between 9.30am – 4.00pm, Monday to Friday.
- E-mail: [communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@renfrewshire.gov.uk) please state which event(s) or drop-in session you will be attending.

Renfrewshire Community Planning have a [Facebook Page](#) and a presence on Twitter: [renfcpp](#) where updates on the consultation can be found.

The consultation will run for twelve weeks from 22nd January to 15th April 2018, to allow sufficient opportunity to carry out a range of consultation events and for people to respond to consultation questions.

While anyone with an interest in these issues is welcome to register for these events, in relation to the Consultation Paper, it was agreed that the Chair, as the Community Council's representative on the Paisley North LAC, should review the Consultation Paper with a view to submitting an appropriate response and update members on her findings in due course.

***E-mail from Anne McNaughton  
Renfrewshire Council  
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Community Asset Register***

Forwarded e-mail from Scottish Fire & Rescue advising that back in October 2017 they had launched the Community Asset Register (CAR).

Essentially this is a register of volunteers who have a particular asset or skill which they feel could be used to support emergency services and responders at an incident.

Examples include someone with a boat who could be called in times of flooding to assist evacuate people from houses to a place of safety. Similarly, someone with a 4X4 may be used in times of severe snow to transport vulnerable people to a community hall.

Further information about the CAR can be found on the link below:

[http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-\(1\).aspx](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-(1).aspx)

Unfortunately, it is impossible to gauge how often a volunteer will be requested.

Mobilisations can be determined by severe weather, a specific type of asset/skill required for the incident, the emergency services availability and resources in the area and the location of the volunteer.

It must be stressed that even when someone has registered, they are under no obligation to mobilise when they are called by the Operations Control centre.

For anyone to register an interest they should email:

[SFRS.CommunityAssetRegister@firescotland.gov.uk](mailto:SFRS.CommunityAssetRegister@firescotland.gov.uk)

to request a registration form and guidelines on how to complete the registration process.

This was noted

***E-mail from John McEvoy  
Chair – Houston Community Council  
Telecommunication Masts in Residential Areas***

E-mail from John McEvoy expressing concern about a situation that is impacting many residents in Houston and that due to current legislation could easily have a similar effect in other communities in the future.

Towards the end of last year Telefónica erected a 20 metre high mast on Magnus Road in Houston on behalf of Vodafone. It is absolutely enormous, dominates the landscape in the surrounding area and is highly incongruous with the residential environment in which it has been placed. The value of houses close to the mast will be adversely affected and our residents are understandably very upset. The mast was erected with minimal consultation, and the only residents notified were those whose properties were within 20 meters of the mast. It is widely believed in Houston that other less obtrusive sites were rejected, in some cases for no good reason. One local landowner offered to host the mast but this was rejected because he, very understandably, wanted ground rent.

Scottish legislation has now changed so companies erecting communications masts of up to 25 metres in height no longer need planning permission to do so. They can just place them wherever they want.

Residents have therefore launched a petition asking that the mast be removed to a more suitable location. Mr McEvoy goes on to emphasise that residents don't wish to

be regarded as being anti-connectivity and, while grasping the importance of improved communications, they believe it can and should be done without creating significant negative impacts on local communities. They would also like to make a representation to the Scottish Government asking that the legislation allowing companies to erect communications masts up to 25 metres in height without planning permission be reversed. However, in order to achieve this they need as many signatures as possible on their online petition, at the undernoted location

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/relocate-mobile-mast-away-from-magnus-road-houston>

Mr McEvoy's understandable concerns were noted and it was suggested that individual members who share those might wish to consider signing the petition.

***E-mail from Anne McNaughton  
Renfrewshire Council  
Unpaid Work Teams***

E-mail advising that the Unpaid Work Co-ordinators, Archie White and Karen Keane, would be happy to come along to local Community Council meetings to promote the service and the practical support they can provide to community councils and eligible residents in the area. The Unpaid Work Teams offer gardening, joinery and painting & decorating services to residents - mainly elderly people and people with disabilities. They can also help deliver certain community projects like path cleaning, litter picking and snow clearing if required.

Members were reminded that Archie had kindly come along previously to speak to the Community Council. It was therefore suggested that if any members are aware of eligible individuals who might be in need of such help then, with the agreement of the person concerned, they should contact Archie or Karen, whose contact details are set out below to ascertain if they can perhaps offer assistance.

**Archie White** - [archie.white@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:archie.white@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

(T: 0141 840 1001 M: 07983 921 021 )

**Karen Keane** - [karen.keane@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:karen.keane@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

***E-mail from Anne McNaughton  
Renfrewshire Council  
Project Funding - Renfrewshire4Community Database***

E-mail reminding Community Councils that they can access the database on their website to search for suitable funding streams. It is also possible to "subscribe" to the site and receive email alerts each week about funding that is available. *Renfrewshire4Community* can be accessed at:

<http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/renfrewshire?bcr=MTIzNA>

This was noted.

***E-mails from Dayle Gillespie  
Scotland TranServ  
M8 EB J29-J28 Resurfacing Works***

The Secretary referred members to further bulletins circulated previously from Scotland TranServ about recent resurfacing works on the M8.

Those were duly noted.

***Dog Fouling in Greenlaw Avenue/Mansionhouse Road***

The Secretary reported that he had been copied in to an e-mail sent by a resident in Greenlaw Avenue to Renfrewshire Wardens Service regarding dog fouling. On further inquiry with the complainant it seems this the problem is fairly prevalent from around 18 Greenlaw Avenue round to bottom of Mansionhouse Road. Apparently while some owner(s) have been cleaning up after their animals they have then thrown the full bags into gardens and dropped others behind a Virgin Media cabinet in the street.

While the Secretary had intended to mention this issue to the Wardens at the meeting this evening, unfortunately, it seems that they are unavailable. However, he has advised the complainant that if the pavements there have become particularly badly soiled then they might wish to call Environment & Communities at the Council to request a special clean-up.

On the general issue of dog fouling, Cllr Adam-McGregor advised that Environment & Communities is planning to adopt a new strategy to raise awareness of the nuisance that this causes. To this end, they intend to spray excrement that is found on footways with luminous paint to highlight to the public the scale of the fouling before cleaning that up the following day.

Following a short discussion, this was noted.

***Speakers at Future Meetings***

The Secretary explained that Carolann Nesbitt, the Service Manager for the *TARA Service* is available to come along to the meeting in May. *TARA* (Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance, established in 2004 by Community Safety Glasgow, provides support to victims of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. This has been arranged on a provisional basis, subject to confirmation this evening.

Accordingly, it was agreed to extend an invitation to Carolann to the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May.

On a separate but related issue, members were reminded that a suggestion had been made previously to invite someone from the Arkleston Residential Unit to explain the support that they provide for young people in their care. The Secretary advised that

he understood that Councillor Sharkey had been looking in to getting a speaker along so he will check the position with him. This was noted pending further developments.

## **6. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that as there had been no transactions during the preceding month the balance at the bank remains at £4,429.45, as per the statement issued on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017.

This was noted.

Before moving on to the next item, the Chair invited suggestions as to how some of the surplus funds, over and above the sums required for the Community Council to function, could be applied for the benefit of the local Community. It was suggested that members e-mail any ideas to the Chair in advance of the next meeting for discussion at a future meeting.

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Gavin Newlands MP**

Mr Newlands took the opportunity to thank members for the opportunity to come along to the meeting this evening and hear about the issues affecting the local area. He went on to remind members that he holds a number of surgeries throughout the Paisley & Renfrewshire North Constituency; the nearest local venue being Ralston Community Centre , which takes place at 2.30pm.on the last Friday of each month.

The Chair thanked Mr Newlands for coming along this evening and his input to the discussions.

## **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Community Council is due to take place on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018.