

PAISLEY EAST & WHITEHAUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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| MINUTES of a meeting of Paisley East & Whitehaugh Community Council that was held via Zoom Technologies on Wednesday, 14th April 2021 at 7.00pm. | 14/04/21 |
| <p>Present: Gaynor Corry; Margaret Cowie; Robert Moore; Graham Paterson (from Item 7); Andrew Ramsay; Jean Ramsay</p> <p>Attending: Councillors John McNaughtan and Jim Sharkey (Renfrewshire Council)</p> <p>Apologies: John Bell; Catherine Scally Diane Watt; Jhulia Watt</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Andrew Ramsay</p> | Outcome/Action |
| <p>1. Chair's Opening Remarks</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present and thanked everyone for attending the April virtual meeting of the Community Council. He went on to express the hope that as the COVID situation improves and restrictions are relaxed, meetings will be able to take place in person in the not-too-distant future.</p> | |
| <p>2. Police Scotland</p> <p>The Secretary reported that Sgt Carter had sent a substantive report earlier in the day but unfortunately that appears to have been diverted to his Junk Mail folder so has only just been discovered. Accordingly, the Secretary conveyed the terms of the officer's report to members.</p> <p>In opening, Sgt Carter explained that they are still are unable to access meetings on the Zoom Platform but had offered to try to answer any queries before the meeting starts.</p> <p>There had been 50 crime reports raised in the area in the last month, these were for a variety of offences including theft, housebreaking, assault, fraud, road traffic offences and minor misuse of drug act offences. People are encouraged to be alert to the increasing incidence of fraud, particularly through online frauds & telephone frauds.</p> <p>Residents should be wary of people contacting them claiming to be from an official agency requesting their bank details.</p> <p>When selling items online, people should be careful to follow the guidance offered by sites such as eBay/Gumtree etc.</p> <p>There were, overall, 312 police incidents over that period, giving rise to those 50 crime reports. The main issues of note from those were an increase in disorder such as youth disorder, quad bikes and neighbour complaints. There has been a marked increase in disorder calls with the easing of lockdown and the good weather, Particular hotspots include Barshaw Park, Barshaw Golf Course, Paisley Rugby Club, the Cricket Club, amongst numerous other areas in the wider Paisley area.</p> <p>A weekend disorder plan is in place with the Community Policing Team, which tries to address this type of behaviour and prevent youths from obtaining alcohol and causing disorder. These groups unfortunately involve 20+ youths at a time in various areas which makes it particularly difficult to deal with. Support is provided on weekends by the Force Reserve Unit to assist with these types of incident and officers will continue to work to quell</p> | <p>Noted</p> |

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| <p>this disorder.</p> <p>In relation to the problems caused by Quad Bikers - this is an issue prevalent throughout Paisley. While the Police are trying to address this, it is made difficult with these bikes being unregistered and the riders wearing helmets and failing to stop for the officers. Accordingly, officers are looking at initiatives from elsewhere in the Force for a solution to tackle this problem.</p> <p>In the coming month there will be initiatives to combat speeding motor vehicles, particularly around Glasgow Road & Hawhead Road. They will also be continuing their weekend disorder plans to combat Anti-social behaviour in hotspot areas.</p> | |
| <p>3. Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 10th March 2021.</p> <p>It was highlighted that while Margaret Cowie had intimated her apologies for being unable to attend the last meeting and those had been noted in the minutes, his name had also inadvertently been included in the sederunt as being present.</p> <p>The Secretary apologised for replicating this error once again.</p> <p>He went on to point out that on Page 4, relating to the former Accord Hospice Shop at 77B Glasgow Road, the minute should be amended to read <i>“It seems that planning permission for this had been granted last October.”</i></p> <p>Subject to incorporation of the foregoing amendments, the minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as an accurate record by Jean Ramsay and this was seconded by Gaynor Corry and were duly approved without dissent.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Approved subject to incorporation of amendments</p> |
| <p>4. Business arising from Minutes of Meeting held on 10th March 2021.</p> <p>In relation to matters arising and his subsequent report, the Secretary referred members the papers that had been circulated electronically in advance of the meeting.</p> <p><i>Governance issues surrounding proposal to explore the formulation of a Renfrewshire Wide Strategy on HGV Movements</i></p> <p>The Secretary reported on recent correspondence that had passed between him and the Council leader, Cllr Iain Nicolson in this connection. This was intended to elicit a response from the Director or relevant officer regarding the outstanding governance issue. Cllr Nicolson had observed that as the Secretary’s email had been copied into the Director he should respond directly.</p> <p>Cllr McNaughtan mentioned that he had spoken with the Council Leader regarding this issue as he had undertaken to do at the last meeting, who appeared to be under the impression that the Community Council had already received a response. It was pointed out that while an unattributed response from an officer on behalf of the department had previously been conveyed to us via Cllr Nicolson, that had been wholly inadequate.</p> <p>It was reported that Gordon McNeil, Director, has been trying to organise a telephone discussion with the Secretary. However, in view of the Secretary’s very limited availability during weekdays, it had been agreed that the Chair should take the call instead. It was therefore agreed to try to arrange a mutually convenient time towards the end of next week for this discussion to take place. The Secretary confirmed that we would liaise with the Director’s Secretary and the Chair to make appropriate arrangements for this discussion to take place.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Noted and continued pending further developments.</p> |

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Unadopted Footways around Kingsburgh Drive and around the Arkleston area

It was reported that there has been no further feedback from Gerry Hannah regarding this issue following the discussion that took place when he and the Director had attended the February meeting.

Noted and continued pending feedback

The Secretary confirmed that he had recently followed this up with Mr. Hannah and will report back to members once a response is received.

Liquor - Provisional Premises Licence - Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005- - The Ladyburn Cafe, 53 Kilnside Road.

It was reported that the Licensing Board is due to meet on Friday 23rd April to consider this application. Margaret Cowie has kindly agreed to speak to the Community Council's objection and will report back to the next meeting.

Noted and continued pending feedback regarding the outcome

Vandalism at Barshaw Park

Following the discussion that had taken place at the last meeting, the Chair had sent an email to Sgt Carter of Police Scotland. Sgt Carter has responded in turn to say that he has contacted the Community Wardens regarding the vandalism issues in the Park. They will attend and hopefully clean up the graffiti there.

Barshaw Park will form part of the Police's weekend disorder plans for youth disorder issues in the area.

The Secretary confirmed that he had also contacted the Wardens Service following the last meeting. He referred members to responses received from Eric Gilday of the Wardens Service advising that Wardens are aware of the recent vandalism in the Peace Garden at Barshaw Park and have been instructed to carry out extra patrols at this locus whenever possible. They will continue to do this at random times, as often as resources permit, over the coming weeks.

Noted

Subsequently, an update was received from Carolanne Robertson, Community Safety Manager, Renfrewshire Community Safety Partnership dated 18th March advising that this issue had been raised at our Partnership Daily Tasking meeting with additional patrols by both Wardens and Police requested.

Beggar in Glasgow Road outside Greggs

In response to the latest email from the Chair, Sgt Carter has responded to say that local officers have been made aware of the beggar at Greggs and will give the area as much attention as possible.

Noted

Abandoned Box Trailer in Clarence Street, Paisley

Members were referred to copies of the correspondence received from Eric Gilday of the Wardens Service and Andrew Dobie, Lead Officer (Community Support), Communities and Housing regarding the trailer that has apparently been abandoned on the road towards the foot of Clarence Street for some months.

In his email, Mr. Dobie had explained that an officer has attended and they have begun the process to find the owner or have the trailer removed. If no owner can be found, a 7-day notice will be applied to the trailer and it will be removed for depollution.

Noted and continued pending further developments.

While the trailer is still *in situ*, it was reported that a notice alluded to has been

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seen on that so unless the trailer is claimed then it will likely be removed in the foreseeable future.

5. Secretary's Report

Renewal Premium for Community Council Insurance 2021/2022

Members were referred to a copy of letter from brokers, Keegan & Pennykid regarding the renewal of the policy due on 1st May. Renewal premium is £79.47 and requires approval prior to payment.

It was moved by Gaynor Corry and seconded by Margaret Cowie that the expenditure be approved and this was agreed without dissent.

The Treasurer confirmed that she would organise payment using the Community Council Debit Card in advance of the renewal date,

E-mail from Gerry Hannah

Infrastructure, Transportation & Change Manager, Renfrewshire Council McGills Buses – Rerouting on Service 20

E-mail explaining that as part of a review of service provision, McGills have contacted the Council, through SPT, to advise of changes to the route of their service 20.

In Whitehaugh this will mean that the 20 will no longer turn into Greenlaw Drive from Glasgow Road, and it will instead continue along Glasgow Road to turn left into Arkleston Road, turning from there into Barshaw Drive before using the current route to return to Glasgow Road. As the new route has no infrastructure provision for bus services, the Council will have to look to provide stops on the new part of the route to allow bus users access to the new service.

Officers from the Council and SPT have assessed the new part of the route and determined that two additional stops are required to provide an adequate level of coverage in the area. The locations they have identified in Arkleston Road are outside no 11/13 and opposite Avondale Drive.

As McGills intend for these service changes to commence from 31st May, the Department are asking for feedback on the proposed locations from local members and the Community Council.

A lively discussion took place on this issue with members questioning the rationale behind the proposal by the bus operator, which has not been made clear in the email.

On the related question about siting of the new bus stops in Arkleston Road, members expressed concern that the proposed locations are inappropriate.

In relation to the proposed site at 11/13 Arkleston Road, this is in close proximity to a bend and during periods when the park is busy, with a number of cars parked on this stretch of road, it would be difficult for buses to pull in and this would exacerbate the problem of congestion at this location.

The other proposed site opposite Avondale Drive is also inappropriate as the area is busy due to traffic around the shops there and southbound vehicles are also approaching that from a bend.

After discussion, it was agreed in the first instance to approach Renfrewshire

Approved –
Treasurer to
contact broker
to pay the
renewal
premium.

Secretary to
contact
Renfrewshire
Council to find
out if McGills
have offered
any explanation
of the rationale
behind the
proposed
rerouting.

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Council to find out what rationale, if any, had been put forward by McGills for rerouting the service and decide how best to proceed from there.

Email from Gordon McNeil Director of Environment and Infrastructure Grass Cutting Programme

Email setting out details of the changes Renfrewshire Council are making to their grass cutting programme from 5 April 2021.

They will be changing the way they cut our grassed areas, open spaces, school playing fields, public parks, and cemeteries - as well as how they provide our grass cutting assistance scheme for council house tenants. Previously, teams worked separately to deliver these services, but our new approach brings them together to coordinate the delivery of the service and tackle local areas at the same time. This will increase the frequency of grass cutting our communities receive.

Noted

Teams will now work to a 14-day cycle and will tackle a different area each day, although they will return to finish any sections, they were not able to complete the previous day. www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/grasscutting.

Hedge cutting will continue to be provided twice a year and will operate in line with the new grass cutting model, with communities seeing their first cut between mid-May and mid-July and their second cut between mid-August and the end of September.

During the ensuing brief discussion, it was observed that no reference had been made regarding the proposed biodiversity meadows

Email from Partnerships & Inequalities Team Renfrewshire Council Local Partnership Applications 2021/22

Applications are now being invited for Local Partnership funding for 2021-22. You can find all the important information here, including the application form, guidance documents, and each set of Local Priorities. The closing date for applications is midnight on 18th April 2021.

Noted

E-mail from Anne McNaughton Training Opportunities for Community Councillors

Community Council Liaison Officers throughout Scotland have been working with the Scottish Government's Improvement Service to design and deliver online training for Community Council members on Digital Skills, Business Skills, Finance & Fundraising and Community & Society. The training is hosted by the Open University and the details can be found here: <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/skills-supportOU-CC 12>.

Noted

E-mail from Anne McNaughton Local Governance Review Update

Forwarded email from the Improvement Service with an update regarding the latest developments from the Local Governance Review. A recent [joint statement](#) by the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government and the COSLA President highlighted the importance of new arrangements for local decision-making as a means of building back better after the coronavirus pandemic.

Noted

They have published the [discussion paper](#) which would have provided the basis

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| <p>for the second phase of discussion on future scenarios for community decision-making had the pandemic not prevented this. This is also available in easyread, and they intend adding a Gaelic copy to their website shortly.</p> <p>The Improvement Service have also published our International Review of Systems of Governance and How Citizen's Participate. This Review represents a valuable resource for future learning and reflection on how to create a coherent and mutually supportive system here in Scotland. A summary of the report is also available.</p> <p>For information about the next steps in the Review process, interested parties are encouraged to sign up to their newsletter and follow them on Twitter @CommEmpower – their policy page is also kept up to date: www.gov.scot/democracymatters and heir bulletin provides a helpful overview</p> <p><i>E-mail from Anne McNaughton Paisley Town Hall Temporary Silencing of the Chimes</i></p> <p>Forwarded email from Helen Emberson, Programme Manager, City Deal and Infrastructure Team at Renfrewshire Council advising that as part of the ongoing transformation work happening in Paisley Town Hall, the building's clock and chimes will have to fall silent for a few days this next week. This is because their colleagues at Scottish Power will have to switch off the power in the building between Wednesday 24th and Saturday 27 March to allow some of the work currently taking place. Normal service will resume thereafter. A Facebook post will be issued to advise the public and an email has been issued to the Visually Impaired Forum.</p> <p><i>E-mail from Anne McNaughton Scottish Community Council Newsletter</i></p> <p>Forwarded email from the Improvement Service with a copy of the Scottish Community Council Newsletter.</p> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> |
| <p>6. Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The Treasurer reported that while there was no statement generated for this month, it can only be assumed that this was because there had been no transactions over the period. Accordingly, the balance still stands at £3953.55, pending the forthcoming payment of the insurance premium.</p> | <p>Noted</p> |
| <p>7. Any other Business</p> <p><i>[Graham Paterson accessed the meeting at this point, apologising for his late arrival and explaining that due to technical problems he had encountered considerable difficulty in accessing the meeting, having been trying since before the scheduled start. Accordingly, the Chair took a few moments to outline the discussions that had taken place earlier]</i></p> <p><i>Rayleen Kelly</i></p> <p>Cllr Sharkey took the opportunity to pay tribute to the Late Rayleen Kelly who had sadly passed away at the end of February, although her funeral had only taken place this week. Rayleen had served as Councillor for the Seedhill Ward between 2003 and 2007 and this amounts to a tragic loss for her family, friends, and the wider community.</p> | <p>Noted</p> |

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| <p>Vandalism</p> <p>Members were disappointed to see that there has been an increased incidence of vandalism. Specific instances mentioned were graffiti on a BT Box at Cyril Street and the nurse's station at Clarence Street, both of which have been daubed with red paint.</p> <p>Rekz Afzal of RSA Newsagents</p> <p>Members were pleased to note that earlier in the week there had been a press article (here) highlighting a further excellent initiative by Rekz Afzal of the RSA Community Fridge and Cabinet who has been helping pupils at West Primary School by providing breakfast packs. He is now looking at extending the scheme to help pupils at other schools.</p> <p>Jean Ramsay advised that she speak with Mr. Afzal to find out if there were any other ways in which the Community Council might be able to support his community ventures again in the future.</p> | <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> |
| <p>8. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Community Council is due to take place on Wednesday, 12th May 2021 at 7pm.</p> | |