

PAISLEY EAST & WHITEHAUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

<p>MINUTES of a meeting of Paisley East & Whitehaugh Community Council that was held via Zoom Technologies on Wednesday, 9th February 2022 at 7.00pm.</p>	<p>09/02/2022</p>
<p>Present: John Bell; Gaynor Corry; Margaret Cowie; Christine McLellan; Robert Moore; Graham Paterson Jean Ramsay; Andrew Ramsay</p> <p>Attending: Councillor Jim Sharkey & Councillor John McNaughtan (both Renfrewshire Council)</p> <p>Apologies: Catherine Scally; Diane Watt; Jhulia Watt (Renfrewshire Council)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Andrew Ramsay</p>	<p>Outcome/Action</p>
<p>1. Chair's Opening Remarks</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present and thanked everyone for attending the February meeting of the Community Council.</p>	
<p>2. Police Scotland</p> <p>The Secretary reported that while Sgt Carter had sent him an email on 2nd February to say he would pass over the usual statistics and operations of note prior to this meeting, that has not yet transpired. If that arrives during the course of the meeting or afterwards, he will convey or circulate its content to members</p> <p>On a separate but related issue, following the discussion at previous meeting, the Chair had written to Sgt Fitzpatrick raising concerns about the paucity of detail in the reports and seeking a breakdown of the crime statistics</p> <p>At the same time, he had highlighted concerns that officers cannot participate in meetings via the ZOOM Platform</p> <p>Sgt Fitzpatrick has since replied to say that it has now been confirmed by their IT Department that due to Zoom not being a secure platform, they cannot use that to join our meetings, that is whether it be via the link provided or via any downloaded application.</p> <p>With regard to reports, the information it seems that the report we are looking for takes an inordinate amount of time for an officer to prepare. It is not considered a good use of local officers' time to interrogate police systems for such levels of context to crime statistics each month for each local area and Sgt Fitzpatrick is keen to keep local officers out in communities as much as possible. However, they have asked for some support from their Analysis and Performance Unit to standardise their reports across all the Community Councils in Renfrewshire and this work is ongoing.</p> <p>Cllr McNaughton explained that he is aware that other Community Councils are experiencing similar difficulties with the Police and he will mention these concerns to Chief Superintendent David Duncan at the earliest opportunity. Even if officers cannot participate virtually, they should still be able to provide a written report</p> <p>It was also mentioned at the conclusion of this discussion that other public-sector bodies are not keen on using ZOOM.</p>	<p>Noted -if report arrives this will be forwarded to members</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Noted</p>
<p>3. Minutes of Meeting held on 12th January 2022</p> <p>The Secretary highlighted that there was anomaly insofar as while Margaret Cowie had duly submitted apologies for her anticipated absence in advance of the meeting, she</p>	

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<p>apparent with the passage of time.</p> <p>An observation was made that has been a marked increase in traffic volumes evident in Arkleston Road since the commencement of these works and this is likely due to displacement of traffic avoiding the Inle Street route.</p> <p><i>ROAR-Connections for Life</i> <i>Follow -up to presentation on Connectedness</i></p> <p>As agreed, an invitation was extended to ROAR to come along to this meeting. However, Gregor Smart has written back to say that unfortunately, due to developments around the Omicron COVID variant at the end of last year and in the early weeks of this year, they have had to postpone restarting some of services. They have also had to scale back what their two new Well-Connected Project Workers were doing to get things moving forward on face-to-face and other initiatives to tackle loneliness and isolation in the local area. As a result, they do not have very much new to report at the moment.</p> <p>Accordingly, it has been suggested that they might wish to come along to the meeting in March or April to provide an update.</p> <p><i>Donations to Barshaw Toddlers and Toddler Plus Group and Renfrewshire Women's Aid</i></p> <p>Members were referred to copies of acknowledgments received from Yvonne Reilly and Sharon McNeillie of the respective organisations following receipt of the donations. Jean Ramsay added that the Yvonne Reilly has said that they are "over the moon" at the support received from the Community Council and also Sherwood-Greenlaw Church, which has agreed to put a temporary moratorium on the charges for their premises where the group meets.</p> <p>So far, no acknowledgement has been received from Renfrewshire Foodbank.</p> <p><i>Security Lighting in Whitehaugh</i></p> <p>Graham Paterson asked Cllr. Sharkey if he had any update on this issue. Cllr Sharkey confirmed that he had taken this up and while he recalls receiving a response from an officer, he did not appear to have that to hand. He confirmed that he would look it out and call Graham at the earliest opportunity to let him know the current position on this issue.</p>	<p>Noted – ROAR's representative(s) to attend a subsequent meeting</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted pending further feedback</p>
<p><i>6. Secretary's Report</i></p> <p><i>E-mail from Stuart McMillan</i> <i>Renfrewshire Council</i> <i>Future Paisley Grand Conversaciones 2022</i></p> <p>Further to the advance notification circulated previously, members' attention was drawn to the Grand Conversaciones series, which forms part of the Future Paisley Exhibition that opened on 5th January in Paisley's Piazza Centre and runs until 19 March, to showcase the exciting collection of transformational projects currently happening in Paisley and what they mean for our communities and our future. Also included was a programme for the events on 11th February, 25 February and 11th March for which registration is now open</p>	<p>Noted</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 smoke alarm in every circulation space on each storey, such as hallways and landings• 1 heat alarm in the kitchen <p>All of the above appliances should be interlinked i.e. so that when one goes off, they all do. These devices require to have a sealed battery or be mains wired. All devices must comply with appropriate British Standards and can either be put in by resident or they can get someone to install those for them.</p> <p>In addition, where there is a carbon fuelled appliance, a carbon monoxide monitor should be put in place – however, it does not require to be interlinked with other devices.</p> <p>The Scottish Government have stated that they believe the cost will be approximately £220 for a 3-bedroom house. It is the property owner's responsibility for meeting the new standard. To protect the most vulnerable, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will only fit interlinked alarms into owner-occupied homes where the individual/household is assessed as "high risk" through their Home Fire Safety assessment process. If the individual / household does not meet these criteria, staff will provide safety advice, information and details of the revised legislation during the visit.</p> <p>Following the Police and Fire & Rescue Scrutiny Sub Committee held on Tuesday 18 January 2022, the officer was instructed by the Convener to raise this with all Community Councils to make them aware of changes as some people may not have been aware of or read the communications from the Scottish Government.</p> <p>Further information and details on the requirement can be found at www.mygov.scot/home-fire-safety</p> <p>Within Renfrewshire, the Council is looking to include a leaflet in all Council tax letters this year to make residents aware, especially to be wary of any scams.</p> <p>It should be noted that the Scottish Government Housing Secretary, Shona Robinson MSP has confirmed that there will be no criminal offence for non-compliance. However, it will be flagged up if someone is looking to sell their property and if anyone is unsure about their insurance policy, they should check with their insurer directly to ensure they remain covered. The main aim is to minimise risk, therefore the sooner someone can put them in place, the better.</p> <p>https://www.gov.scot/publications/fire-alarm-legislation-joint-statement-with-cosla/</p> <p>https://www.thenational.scot/news/19861801.scottish-fire-alarm-rules-explained-full-ahead-february-1-deadline/</p> <p>The Secretary confirmed that the leaflets provided have been posted to the Facebook Page for wider circulation.</p> <p>Graham Paterson took the opportunity to again express his concerns regarding this legislation and in particular, the financial burden that this imposes on already hard-pressed families and single occupants in a climate where the cost</p>	<p>Noted but George Adam MSP to be invited to the March meeting to discuss the concerns raised.</p>

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<p>of living is already spiraling.</p> <p>Graham explained again that he had previously written to his MP and MSP but had not received any satisfactory response.</p> <p>A discussion ensued, on the basis of which it was agreed that the Secretary should extend an invitation to George Adam MSP to come along to the next meeting so that these concerns could be discussed in more detail. The Secretary confirmed that he would write to Mr. Adam in appropriate terms.</p> <p><i>E-mail from Michelle Mackintosh on behalf of Dr Victoria Hollows Chief Executive Officer OneRen (formerly Renfrewshire Leisure Limited)</i></p> <p>Email advising that with effect from 18th January, Renfrewshire Leisure Limited (RLL) would be rebranded as <i>OneRen</i></p> <p>It is a change which has been shaped by input and feedback through research among their staff, stakeholders and members of the public since early 2019. They are grateful to the senior leadership team and cabinet members of Renfrewshire Council, as well as their own board members, for their involvement and support as they navigated the process of rebranding.</p> <p><i>Email from Graeme Crawford o/b Oliver Reid Head of Communities and Public Protection Renfrewshire Council Launch of free bus travel for 5-21-year-olds</i></p> <p>From Monday 31 January, nearly a million 5-21-year-olds are now eligible for free bus travel across Scotland. The aim of the scheme is to make sustainable travel more normal and ingrained in young people's travelling habits and it will also contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions with Scotland aiming to become net-zero by 2045.</p> <p>To access the scheme, young people need to apply for a new entitlement card, with 5 to 10-year-olds using a junior card which does not require a photograph and those aged 11 and over, using an updated Young Scot card – which is also a photo identity and proof of age card.</p> <p><i>Email from Graeme Crawford o/b Roz Smith Climate Emergency Lead Officer Renfrewshire Council £50,000 Community Climate Fund launched 31st January</i></p> <p>Following the declaration of a climate emergency in Renfrewshire in 2019, they have set the ambitious target of Renfrewshire reaching net-zero by 2030 and we are putting climate change at the forefront of our decision making now and in the future.</p> <p>To support local communities to engage with our climate change ambitions, we are making £50,000 available for community projects in Renfrewshire via the Community Climate Fund.</p> <p>Applications are now open and local organisations can bid for up to £3,000 for projects which respond to the climate emergency and help build resilience</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

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<p>Parents and carers are asked to walk, wheel or cycle to school with their children and those who need to drive should park safely away from the school gates and walk the final part of their journey.</p> <p>Exemptions are in place for residents in the restricted streets and school staff through a permit scheme, as well as automatic exemptions for the emergency services, including doctors on call, district nurses, carers and support workers, postal service vehicles serving properties within the restricted roads, school buses and school transport serving the school within the restricted roads, school contract taxis and blue badge holders dropping their child at school, or residing at or visiting a property in the restricted street.</p> <p>An experimental traffic regulation order (ETRO) is in place and Police Scotland are able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for anyone found driving in these streets during the restricted times without a valid exemption.</p> <p>Further information about the project can be found on their website – www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/SaferSchoolsPilot.</p> <p>A short discussion took place and while recognizing that no schools within the Community Council area were included in the pilot scheme, members expressed interest in knowing how many Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued to errant drivers to date. The Secretary confirmed that he would go back to the Council to find out if they have this information or here it can be obtained</p> <p><i>Email forwarded by Cllr Sharkey from Kerry Mosson @ Quantum Communications Help with Household Bills</i></p> <p>Advice Direct Scotland has launched a £3million support fund to help Scots struggling with their energy bills amid a growing cost-of-living crisis. The Scottish Government funded scheme is designed to help prevent households falling into fuel poverty.</p> <p>The Home Heating Support Fund is open until 31 March and applications can be made on behalf of individuals by ‘referral partners’ (e.g. local authorities, housing associations, charities providing debt/energy advice) through www.homeheatingadvice.scot.</p> <p>Alternatively, individuals can contact Advice Direct Scotland for free on 0808 800 9060 or visit www.advice.scot, and trained advisers can assess their eligibility and refer them if appropriate.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>8. Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>The Treasurer reported that the balance at the bank stands at £3878.83 after applying the debits amounting to £450 in respect of the sum agreed as contributions towards the work of Renfrewshire Foodbank, Barshaw Toddlers and Toddler Plus Group and Renfrewshire Women’s Aid</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>9. Any other Business</p> <p><i>Friends of Barshaw Park</i></p> <p>Jean Ramsay took an opportunity to highlight the sterling work being carried out in the park by the dedicated volunteers of Friends of Barshaw Park</p>	

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<p><u>Welcome to Friends of Barshaw Park - Friends of Barshaw Park</u></p> <p>A brief discussion followed following which it was moved by Graham Paterson and seconded by Jean Ramsay that the Community Council make a donation to of £150 to the group, which is a registered charity, to support their ongoing work and activities around the park.</p> <p>There being no dissent, this was carried and it was agreed to make a donation of £150. Jean confirmed that she would pass on contact details for the group to the Secretary so that payment can be arranged in conjunction with the Treasurer.</p> <p>On a separate issue in relation to the park, some concern was raised about the amount of weed in the pond. While it was pointed out that the weed does not pose any danger as such, some members of the Paisley Model Boat Club do seem concerned</p> <p>Leaves on Footways.</p> <p>Concern was raised about the amount of decaying leaves on the footway at Greenlaw Drive, between the manse and Sherwood-Greenlaw Church, as those pose a slip hazard to pedestrians and can also block the gullies,</p> <p>It was mentioned that there are similar issues at the top of Arkleston Road and also outside the barracks in Whitehaugh Avenue, where there is already an existing problem with the drain at the corner becoming blocked, giving rise to pooling of surface water on the road surface.</p> <p>Cllr Sharkey confirmed that he would take this up with the relevant officer and report back in due course.,</p> <p>Works by City Fibre</p> <p>Given forthcoming works in and around Arkleston Road to lay cables, concern was expressed as to whether the unadopted stretches of footways would be restored to a reasonable standard following completion of the works.</p> <p>Moreover, it was pointed out that there is clearly need for effective measures to mitigate the potential dangers to pedestrians being diverted on to busy roads while the footways were being excavated.</p> <p>It is hoped that the contractors carrying out these works do have in place contingency plans to address these issues.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding these issues. It was noted that in relation to the unadopted stretches they would need the consent of frontagers to open the surfaces outside their properties. This might give rise to some issues in places where the owners do not give their consent.</p>	<p>Agreed to donate £150 to support the work of the group.</p> <p>Cllr Sharkey to take this issue up with the relevant officers</p> <p>Noted</p>
<p>10.Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Community Council is due to take place on Wednesday, 9th March at 7pm</p>	