MINUTES of a meeting of Paisley East & Whitehaugh Community Council that was held at Sherwood-Greenlaw Church on Wednesday, 8 th February 2023	08/02/2023
Present: Gaynor Corry; Margaret Cowie; Graham Paterson; Robert Moore; Andrew Ramsay; Jean Ramsay	
Attending: Councillors Graeme Clark; Carolann Davidson and John McNaughtan (all Renfrewshire Council); PC Paul Lynch (Police Scotland – Item 2 Only); Lesley Drummond (RIG Arts); Elizabeth Logue (Local Resident)	
Apologies: John Bell; Andrew McGlynn; Christine McLellan; Catherine Scally; Diane Watt; Jhulia Watt; Councillor Neill Graham (Renfrewshire Council)	
Chair: Andrew Ramsay	Outcome/Action
1. Chair's Welcome & Opening Comments	
The Chair welcomed those present and thanked everyone for attending.	
2. Police Scotland	
The Chair invited PC Lynch to address members.	
PC Lynch who had been present at the last meeting briefly introduced himself.	
The officer then went on give an overview of the crime statistics since the last meeting.	
During that period there had 6 common assaults/crimes of violence with a number of those occurring in the vicinity of the town centre. So far there have been 5 detections.	
There had been 5 incidents relating to possession and supply of drugs.	
24 crimes of thefts and housebreaking had been brought to the attention of the Police; some of which had been instances of shoplifting. More generally across the division there has been a noticeable increase in the thefts of cars and particularly higher-specification Ford models. There is currently one report each day. Accordingly, the officer left some leaflets with guidance for members on Vehicle Security	Noted
Over this period there had been 5 road traffic complaints	
In addition, there have a been a number of instances of anti-social behaviour in and around the town centre.	
A brief discussion then took place regarding the report presented, during which it was mentioned about the apparent rise of vandalism around the area, including grafitti on the tannery, various utility boxes and at Hawkhead Road. There had also been damage to the bus shelter on Glasgow Road near its junction with Arkleston Road.	

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Cllr Davidson had earlier emailed the Secretary to say that she had received a complaint from a constituent at a local surgery regarding graffiti, Following that she had gone along taken photos on Seedhill Road at the tannery and at the bridge at Morrisons. She had also spotted the reappearance of graffiti on the bridge on Hawkhead Road.	
Cllr Davidson advised that she had reported all these instances of graffiti and will keep us updated regarding progress.	
At the conclusion of the discussion, the chair thanked the officer for his input,	
[PC Lynch left the meeting at this point.]	
In the absence of a representative from the -Wardens Service, it was agreed to move on to the next item on the agenda.	
3. Presentation by Lesley Drummond, RIG Arts	
Lesley introduced herself for the benefit of those she had not met previously when she had attended last year in her role with Roar	
She explained that she had been asked to come along to speak with members as Rebecca was not available.	
Lesley then went on to provide an overview of the project, explaining that in 2021, RIG Arts had received funding from Creative Scotland's Culture Collective programme for an exciting 18 month creative regeneration project based in the Seedhill area. The initial funding will run up until the end of March but resources are available for the project to continue beyond then.	
Funding has also come from Engage Renfrewshire through the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing fund	Noted
The EVOLVE project was intended to build on existing community momentum gained during the Seedhill Urban Growing and Recycling project (SUGaR) which had been extant between 2016 and 2019.	
EVOLVE are supported by a steering group, consisting of RIG Arts, Williamsburgh Housing Association, Renfrewshire Leisure and Seedhill community representatives to initiate an integrated arts approach to improve the area. Through an Artist in Residency programme, bi-weekly creative workshops, events and the use of green and underused spaces, residents have an opportunity to regularly connect with creative practitioners.	
EVOLVE's aspirations are to inspire and unlock community potential, to create a sense of place, celebrate local identity and renew pride in the area whilst developing a creative vision.	

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The project has centred around the McKerrell Street Park space, WHA's community flat and the pop-up shop premises at the foot of Kilnside Road, enhanced by RIG Arts capacity to nurture and deliver online engagement. All workshops and events are free and accessible for all abilities.	
Some fundays have taken place with the biggest yet scheduled for Saturday 18 th February and will take place at various locations across Seedhill.	
A Seedhill Community Noticeboard is being provided, situated on the railings at Unstead Place, just along from the shop. This provide a space for some of the local art to be put on display for the wider community.	
A new Artist-in-Residence is in the course of being recruited on a six-month contract and hopefully will be in post shortly.	
The possibility of creating a mural is being explored with local schools.	
A new sign has been commissioned for the shopfront in Kilnside Road and will be in place soon.	
Lesley circulated some booklets with examples of photographs taken by participants during the recent walks.	
The Chair reported that he had recently attended a walk and while he found that interesting it was disappointing to note the lack of participation by local residents.	
After a brief discussion, the Chair thanked Lesley for her informative and interesting input.	
4. Minutes of Meeting held on 11 th January 2023	
The Secretary pointed out that there had been an omission in the previous minute at number 4, relating to the approval of the Minutes of Meeting held on 14th December 2022, so the existing text at minute 4 of the last meeting should be deleted and replaced by the following:	Approved subject to amendment
"The first paragraph on Page 5 of the minute of 14th December should be amended to read as follows:	
'The Secretary also reported that he has written to Gerry Hannah at Renfrewshire Council to ask if the department yet any plans for measures has to tackle speeding on the Arkleston Road-Hawkhead Road corridor. A response is awaited albeit contact with the officer was made recently.'	
The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as an accurate record by Gaynor Corry, and this was seconded by Andrew McGlynn and those were formally approved without dissent."	
Subject to inclusion of that amendment, the minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as an accurate record by Margaret Cowie and this was seconded by Jean Ramsay and those were formally approved without dissent.	

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5. Business arising from Minutes of Meeting held on 11 th January 2023	
Kelburne Hockey Club – Appeal against Refusal of Community Asset Transfer Application	
As per the correspondence subsequently circulated to members, following the meeting of the Council's Community Asset Transfer Review Sub- Committee on 20 th January, the Secretary had been asked for further information about the engagement that Kelburne Hockey and Community Sports Hub has undertaken with the Community Council around their proposed transfer, providing evidence where possible.	
In the Secretary's email to members, he had suggested that he simply lodge a copy of the minutes of the December meeting and advise that those were duly approved at the meeting in January. The minutes make the Community Council's position amply clear and there is no onus on members to justify support for the club's application.	Noted pending further developments
On the basis of the responses received from members, the consensus was that the Secretary proceed along those lines so that was done on 29 th January in advance of the deadline of 3 rd February.	
Also, subsequently, Euan Gray, the clerk to the Community Asset Transfer Review Sub-committee had responded to a point that the Secretary had raised. In his response, he had explained that the Sub-committee had made the same request of Ralston CC; requested information on the facility from OneRen (formerly Renfrewshire Leisure) and had put a number of specific queries which to Kelburn Hockey Club. All parties have the same timescale to respond and nothing will be published until the deadline has passed.	
Potential Funding Application for provision of Dog Bins	
Following the discussion that had taken place at the last meeting, Cllr. Clark had made enquiries with the relevant officers in Environment & Infrastructure regarding the provisions of bins in and around the Seedhill area.	
In response, Ken Gray, StreetScene Operations Manager, has come back to say that litter bins are predominantly provided around town centres; in and around parks; near schools and in litter generating areas.	Noted pending
Mr. Gray had provided a map of the bin locations across the area in an endeavour to demonstrate that there is widespread provision and stressed that the issue of dog fouling is more a behavioural issue. He asks that that all reports of dog fouling are passed to the Wardens with a date, time and description to allow the team to focus on inappropriate dog ownership.	further feedback
In these circumstances they would not provide any additional bins at this time although he has asked the Supervisor to review the locations of the existing provision in Seedhill.	

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It was observed that the map was somewhat less than helpful insofar as while colour coded, there was no legend provided to explain the meaning of the different colours used.	
It was pointed out that the Wardens Service seems to be short of resources to meet all the demands incumbent upon them.	
However, Nicola Drummond, Lead Officer (Building Communities) with the Community Safety Partnership, has since come back to Cllr. Clark to say that as part of Team Up to Clean Up, volunteers from Erskine Community Garden and Pals of the Privies have procured their own bins. These groups further change the liners and leave additional liners close by and are helped by their communities. Where left next to public bins, the StreetScene team will remove and dispose of the bags.	
If requested she would be happy to put the Community Council in with representatives from the groups	
Prior to the response received via Cllr. Clark, the Secretary had explained the position to Stuart Miller at Williamsburgh Housing Association who has confirmed that we should get back to him if the funding is something we wish to take forward. If there is anything else that he can help the group out with we should not hesitate to get in touch.	
A brief discussion took place during which it was pointed out that there are some hot-spots, around Seedhill, such as McKerrell Street and Kilnside Road, where the problem of dog-fouling is particularly acute and requires attention. Cllr Clark confirmed that he would take this up with the Wardens Service to see if any resources are available to monitor the areas in question.	
It was also agreed that the Secretary should approach other Community Councils to see if any have come up with innovative ideas to tackle the problem in their areas.	
30mph Speed Signs on Bins in Arkleston Road	
The Chair reported that the stickers had been duly delivered on behalf of the supplier and since distributed to all those households that had kindly agreed to participate. However, so far, not many residents have actually applied those to their bins but hopefully active participation will improve during the weeks ahead.	Noted pending further feedback
The Secretary confirmed that as agreed, he had asked Gerry Hannah to come back along to discuss possible options to address residents' concerns about speeding and the need for some proactive traffic management measures on the Arkleston Road/Hawkhead corridor.	
Members were encouraged to hear that Mr. Hannah has since confirmed his willingness to attend the meeting on 8 th March.	

On a separate but related matter in relation to the speed issue, concern

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was raised about the number of incidents at the sharp bend at the rural section of Arkleston Road, beyond the Children's Home. Part of the problem could well be due to the fact that the 30mph limit ends and the national speed limit then applies. It was felt that this encourages drivers to accelerate on their approach to the bend. Some drivers may not be familiar with the presence of the sharp bend and end up in the field; as many have done in the past.	
EVOLVE and Park Life!/Community Consultation - McKerrell Street Play Park	
Further to Lesley's earlier contribution, the Secretary advised that Rebecca has indicated that she will be available for the March meeting. The Secretary had advised that while we already have someone else provisionally scheduled for 8th March, if that is not confirmed then we can then look at extending an invitation to that meeting.	
Rebecca had also advised that further "Winter Warmer" walks in Seedhill had been arranged for	
23 rd January 24 th January 26 th January 31 st January 6 th February 13 th February 14 th February 16 th February Those had been publicised on the Community Council's Facebook page <i>Email from Community Council Mailbox</i>	Noted
Renfrewshire Council The Scottish Civic Trust – My Place Awards 2023	
Update as per the email that was tabled at the January meeting	Noted
Brown Bin Deliveries to The Poplars, Cyril Street	
Cllr McNaughtan has received a response from Kenny Macleod, Waste Solutions and Sustainability Manager, indicating that 1, 2, 18 Cyril Crescent will receive one shared brown bin. Operational colleagues were arranging delivery of those.	
With regard to the flats opposite at Cyril Street ("The Poplars") there are small bin stores at the back and they will not hold another bin, so Mr. Macleod's position is that it is highly unlikely that they can do anything there.	Noted pending further feedback
Having gone back to Gaynor, who had raised this issue on behalf of residents, with the officer's comments, the Secretary confirmed that he had since responded to the Cllr McNaughtan and the Ward 3 Councillors, who	

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had been copied in on his earlier email, to convey her comments on this issue.	
With that response, the Secretary had included the leaflet that was previously issued to residents at the Poplars and asked if one of the Ward 3 Councillors could seek to clarify matters with Kenny MacLeod following Cllr McNaughton's initial enquiries in relation to this issue and let the Community Council know the outcome.	
A brief discussion took place during which it was highlighted that the misinformation previously issued by the department to residents at the Poplars had been somewhat less than helpful and should have been avoided until the situation was clear,	
Cllr Clark suggested that Gaynor write to him as a constituent so that he can take this up further with the Department. Accordingly, she agreed to do so.	
Flooding at various locations in Glasgow Road	
Cllr Clark confirmed that he had taken this up with officers and would pass on any feedback once available.	Noted pending further feedback
6. Secretary's Report	
Email from Joe Woods	
Secretary Hawkhead and Lochfield Community Council	
The Secretary referred to an email previously circulated to members from Hawkhead and Lochfield Community Council in which a suggestion had been made to ask Renfrewshire Council to consider varying the boundary between the respective Community Councils.	
As their Secretary has pointed out, currently their boundary stops on the Hawkhead Road at the bridge just before the Mary Russell School, However, apparently they receive lots of enquiries from the new housing estate at Hawkhead Gardens. Currently that area comes within our boundary and they looking to ask if we would have any objections to them seeking permission from Renfrewshire Council to move the boundary to take in this new estate and have that subsumed into their Community Council area.	Agreed to proposal to vary boundary subject to agreement of Renfrewshire
The Secretary reported that he had responded to say that their proposal is a matter that will need to be discussed by our members and he would table it for this purpose at this meeting and get back to them thereafter.	Council
During the ensuing discussion it was acknowledged that it is entirely understandable that residents in Hawkhead Gardens would identify with and relate to their area rather than ours.	
Following consideration, it was agreed, without dissent, that members would have no objection to the boundary being varied to incorporate that new	

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estate, effectively moving the boundary northwards to coincide with the Paisley Canal railway line.	
Obviously, this would be subject to the agreement of Renfrewshire Council as it would likely necessitate revision of the Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils, which is due for review later this year in any event.	
The Secretary confirmed that he would respond to the Secretary of Hawkhead and Lochfield Community Council to advise them of our decision in this regard. No doubt, Anne McNaughton will keep us guided on the process for this change if it is considered reasonable and appropriate.	
Email from Kellie Miller Senior Planning & Policy Development Officer (Community Empowerment) Renfrewshire Council #YouDecide Announcement Event – 9th February	
Renfrewshire Council's #YouDecide programme has now ended and over the past few weeks they have been counting votes and determining what projects people and communities across Renfrewshire have voted to see happen in their own areas.	Noted
They would like to thank participants for putting forward a suggestion to the programme and extend an invitation to attend their #YouDecide Announcement Event, which is being held on Thursday 9th February at the University of West of Scotland (UWS) Student Union on Storie Street, Paisley, PA1 2HB, at 6pm. The event will run for approximately 2 hours.	
At their request, this event has been publicised on the Facebook page.	
Email from Cllr Neill Graham Renfrewshire Council Update re Relocation Paisley Grammar School	
Cllr Graham has forwarded a letter from Julie Calder, Head of Education at Renfrewshire Council with an update regarding the relocation of Paisley Grammar.	
A report is going to the Education and Children's Services Policy Board on Thursday 19 January which updates members of the board on the work done to date on the project.	Noted
That report confirms a revised planned opening date for the school, which will be in August 2026, for the start of that year's new school term.	
The initial target opening date agreed with Scottish Futures Trust — who are providing funding through their nationwide Learning Estate Investment Programme — had been December 2025.	
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However, given current challenges affecting the global construction industry, it was felt aiming for this date could compromise the quality of the building programme.	
Also, moving the school in the summer rather than at Christmas or Easter minimises disruption to pupils and staff, and removes any clashes with exams.	
SFT are aware of the Council's position and have confirmed schools in some other local authority areas are working to similar timelines with their funded projects.	
The school itself will be a 21st century learning environment with modern and outdoor facilities not possible on the current site. Our vision is that it be more than a school — it will be a community campus with facilities the whole community can use.	
It is being built within the site of the AMIDS South development, which will transform transport links in the north of Paisley — one benefit of which will be in making it easier and safer for pupils to walk or cycle to the new school."	
Email from Stuart Miller Community Co-ordinator Williamsburgh Housing Association Update from Friends of Barshaw Park	
Forwarded update from Friends of Barshaw Park and to remind everyone that one of the raised beds in the community garden has been set aside for Seedhill residents to use. Anyone who might be interested in taking up the offer should get in touch with Irene at barshaw.friends@gmail.com It is free to use and the volunteers at Barshaw have mentioned that they will help out if anyone needs it.	Noted
This has been publicised on the Community Council Facebook Page.	
Email from Jamie Mackie Principal Regeneration & Space Renfrewshire Council Neighbourhood Place Plan - Seedhill and Auchentorlie	
Email extending an invitation to meet via Teams to discuss the early stages for a Neighbourhood Place Plan for Seedhill and Auchentorlie.	
That "meeting" took place on 6th February at which time the Planning officer outlined their early thoughts. Unfortunately, due to difficulties connecting via my MS Teams, we had proceeded with the discussion on the basis of a telephone call.	Noted pending further feedback
Proposals are intended to complement measures by Housing to reduce the housing density in Seedhill and Auchentorlie by demolishing some of the	

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tenements. The plan is still currently in the formative phase and there is likely to be further engagement by Planning and their colleagues in Housing while the process is ongoing.	
As this is intended to be medium to long term plan, the Secretary explained that he had made a point of asking if they have taken into account the potential impact of the relocation of Paisley Grammar, particularly on the high concentration of food outlets in and around Seedhill. However, while it is reckoned that some outlets might experience a reduction in footfall, given the residents in the surrounding area should help ensure that most if not all will be sustainable.	
The plan will look at improvements to the physical environment but also look at raising the profiles of local organisations, such as the Community Council, Roar etc. that residents can engage with, or in which they can actively participate; effectively improving community connectivity and cohesion.	
While further information will be provided over time, interestingly, among the potential developments mooted is the possibility of extending the car park at Hawkhead Railway Station and planting trees/landscaping the remaining part of the site. As members will recall, the Community Council had suggested s similar idea previously to Renfrewshire Council and had also included it as a possible project for consideration as part of #YouDecide	
E-mail from Anne McNaughton Renfrewshire Council Free webinar for Community Councillors to learn more about Community Map Scotland on Microsoft Teams on 10th /15th February	
Forwarded email from Brian Davey at the Improvement Service advising that The Improvement Service, Scottish Rural Action and Geoxphere are hosting a free webinar for Community Councillors to learn more about Community Map Scotland. The webinar will take place online on Microsoft Teams on Friday 10th February at 2pm.	
Community Map Scotland is an adapted version of the Parish Online tool, which is already used widely across the parish communities in England and Wales. The software will be useful in enabling communities to easily create Local Place Plans, a legislative mechanism to have their views considered for councils' Local Development Plans.	Noted
It incorporates many useful and interesting datasets about the environment, pollution, planning, transport and community features, and will also enable anyone to look at how far they can travel from any point in their neighbourhood in 5, 10 or 15 minutes by different modes of transport. This will be of great interest as the Scottish Government looks to promote the 20-minute neighbourhood concept. It could also be a useful way for community groups to engage with their citizens and highlight specific areas of interest or concern in their local areas.	

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Community Map Scotland is available free to community councils for your first 12 months.	
A further session has since been orgnsaised for those who are unable to participate in daytime sessions. That will take place on Wednesday 15th February at 6pm.	
Email from Sarah Findlay Communication Worker ACUMEN/RAMH Pets and Mental Health Event	
Acumen promotes the voice of lived experience in mental health, throughout Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, Argyll and Bute and Inverclyde	
They had organised an online event looking at Pets and Mental Health via Zoom on 26th January.	Noted
This is an opportunity to share experience of the positive impact of pet ownership on mental health. They are sharing resources on support and services which can help us cope when pet ownership is tougher - for example, when we lose a pet, when we have challenging living experiences such as financial stress, or when we have to deal with a pet becoming ill.	
This had been publicised on the Community Council Facebook Page	
Email from Dorothy Kerr Renfrewshire Council Household Waste Recycling Centres - Civil / Electrical Works Programme	
Email sent on behalf of Kenny Macleod, Waste Solutions and Sustainability Manager re works that had been taking place at the Underwood Road facility in Paisley on 4th February and at Middleton Road in Linwood the following week.	Noted
Email from Community Council Mailbox Renfrewshire Council Debate Night 'Healthcare Special'	
Forwarded email from BBC Scotland's political discussion show extending an invitation to a special episode about healthcare on the evening of Wednesday 1st February, to afford local people an opportunity to have their say.	Noted
Email from Gillian Roberts Chair Paisley Grammar Parents Council	
Email from Gillian explaining that she has just taken over from Christine as the Chair of the Paisley Grammar Parent Council and that she will be unable to attend the Community Council meeting on Wednesday due to work commitments.	Noted pending further feedback.

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Circle Recovery Hub	
CIRCLE has been developed to provide enhanced support to local people who are on a recovery journey. It will act as a central recovery hub for individuals referred to the service, with recovery activity delivered across local communities throughout Renfrewshire.	Once Cllr Clark provides details,
Particularly as the hub is based within the Community Council area, Cllr Clark suggested that it might worth inviting someone along from the organisation to explain its work to members. It was agreed to extend an invitation to a future meeting. Cllr Clark confirmed that he will pass on contact details	Secretary to contact
Taylor Wimpey	
Attention was drawn to recent press coverage of payments made to ACCORD Hospice by Taylor Wimpey, accruing from sales of properties on the development at Hawkhead Gardens. This was based on $\pounds 25$ per completed sale.	
While there was no implied criticism of the housebuilder's decision to make these financial contributions to the hospice, the article had also made reference to "many contributions being made by the housebuilder towards community facilities and infrastructure in the wider area."	Noted
Some surprise was expressed at this disclosure as there was no knowledge of any other local projects receiving a financial contribution as a Community Benefit stemming from the Hawkhead development.	
Donations to other Organisations	
It was suggested that going forward it would be interesting to get some feedback on how the proceeds from donations had been put to use by the recipients	Noted
9. Date of Next Meeting	
The next meeting of the session is due to take place on Wednesday, 8 th March at 7pm.	Noted