

# PAISLEY EAST & WHITEHAUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

<b>MINUTES of a meeting of Paisley East &amp; Whitehaugh Community Council that was held at Sherwood-Greenlaw Church on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.30pm</b>	
<p>Present: William Burns; Gaynor Corry; Kirsty Lowe; Christine McLellan; Robert Moore; Andrew Ramsay; Jean Ramsay; Moira Treanor; Diane Watt</p> <p>Attending: Anna Neubert; Catherine Scally; Catherine Yorkan (Local Residents) Clark and John McNaughtan (Renfrewshire Council)</p> <p>Apologies: Thomas Higgins; Luke Humberstone; Linda Murning; Julia Watt; Councillor Neill Graham (Renfrewshire Council)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Andrew Ramsay</p>	
<p><b>1. Chair's Welcome &amp; Opening Comments</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present and thanked everyone for attending the first meeting of the reconstituted Community Council following the recent election, which had fortunately attracted several new members.</p> <p>By way of welcome, all members were invited to briefly say a few words to introduce themselves.</p> <p>Following that, the Chair thanked everyone for their introductions and, in the absence of any Police or Warden representatives, moved on to the next item on the agenda.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b></p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as an accurate record by Jean Ramsay, and this was seconded by Gaynor Corry, both returning members who were present at the meeting in question, so those were formally approved without dissent.</p>	Approved
<p><b>3. Business arising from Minutes of Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b></p> <p><b><i>Community Council Election</i></b></p> <p>Members will be aware that the recent election attracted sufficient nominations to allow the Community Council to be reconstitute.</p> <p>14 members have been nominated and returned unopposed as there were not more than 30 nominations.</p> <p>Several people who had initially enquired about joining did not manage to get their nomination submitted before the closing date. If they show a keen interest in participating, then they could possibly be potential co-optees in the course of time.</p> <p>While it seems that a previous member, Catherine Scally, had submitted her nomination, unfortunately that did not reach Renfrewshire Council in</p>	Noted

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time. Accordingly, Anne McNaughton has suggested that we might look at co-opting Catherine and has sent her the appropriate form for this purpose.

It is therefore agreed that the question of Catherine's co-option be included on the agenda for the November meeting and hopefully this can be approved.

It was mentioned that one of the new members has highlighted that, due to work commitments, it is not possible to attend meetings on Wednesday evenings.

Accordingly, given that there are a number of new members, it was agreed that it would be appropriate to check at this stage which weeknight would best suit everyone. On a show of hands, no preferences were noted for meetings to take place on either a Monday or Tuesday evening. A clear majority of members present opted for meetings to take place on a Wednesday evening. It was therefore agreed to maintain the current arrangement and for meetings to take place on a Wednesday evening.

The Secretary then went on to refer members to guidance issued in advance of the meeting, aimed at inducting new members into their role and as a useful reminder to existing members.

It was explained that during the month, incoming emails of any importance will be circulated to members for information or as advance notice. Members need only respond when feedback is specifically requested, or they feel that there is a point that they need to make sooner rather than later. Otherwise, if necessary, the matter can be discussed at the next scheduled meeting.

Seven days before each meeting, a calling notice is sent out together with a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting.

A few days before each meeting, the "Bundle", which is essentially a digest of all the relevant emails etc. circulated during the month will be emailed to members. It was explained that there is no need to print off and bring along the full bundle, as much of its content is for information. However, if members require a hard copy of any specific items to discuss, they should inform the Secretary know by 5pm on the day of the meeting so that can be printed in readiness.

The meetings are open to the public and as the recent election has raised awareness of the Community Council, it is hoped to see some more residents attending.

While meetings do tend to have a semi-formal atmosphere, to encourage active participation by members and visitors alike, everyone is still encouraged to speak through the Chair to maintain some order and to make the meeting easier to minute.

The Community Council considers and discusses issues that affect the local

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area and the wider civic realm. When members are approached by any individual residents and asked to take up or highlight any personal issues, e.g outstanding housing repairs, anti-social neighbours, missed bin collections etc., where they have been unable to get any satisfaction from Renfrewshire Council, they should be referred on to one of the local Councillors who are better placed to take on casework. There are three Councilors representing each ward (Ward 3 – Paisley Northeast & Ralston and Ward 5 – Paisley East and Central) that fall partially within the CC area. Several Councillors regularly attend our meetings.

People expressing concerns over state benefits should be referred to Citizens' Advice or their MP/MSP.

Concerns over, say, Health Service provision or issues that fall within the remit of the Scottish Parliament should be raised with their MSP.

Members were reminded that all communications in the name of the Community Council must be issued by the Secretary or, on occasions, as circumstances dictate, by the Chair or Treasurer.

The Chair took the opportunity to remind members that Community Councils are non-political, so are not concerned with partisan matters,

Any members who are unsure in relation to any points are of course welcome to contact the Secretary or Chair in confidence.

### ***Access to AEDs / Defibrillators in Paisley East & Whitehaugh***

As Linda Murning, who had initially highlighted this issue, has now been elected to the Community Council, it was agreed to continue this to a future meeting in the near future to discuss Linda's own findings and thoughts regarding local provision.

Continued for further discussion.

### ***Boutique Home Style Ltd - Application for Short Term Lets License where Property has not previously been used as a Short Term Let***

For the benefit of the new members present, it was explained that this item had been discussed at the September meeting.

Type of Licence: Short Term Lets  
 Name: Boutique Home Style Ltd  
 Address of Premises / Location:  
 27 Glasgow Road  
 Paisley  
 PA1 3PA

Noted pending further developments.

Number of bedrooms to let: 3  
 Maximum number of occupants: 9

Following that discussion, it was agreed to object to the grant of the licence on the basis that that it would be detrimental to the character and amenity of the conservation area in which the subjects are based.

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<p>That objection was duly lodged within the permitted timescale and the a copy of the relevant correspondence circulated to members in advance of the meeting.</p> <p><b><i>Local Plan Consultation Shape your Area</i></b></p> <p>Following the discussion at the last meeting, during which it was suggested that as planning matters do depend largely on what is dictated by the prevailing Local Development Plan, it would be useful for members of Community Councils, as laypeople, to know what input and influence might have in relation to the formulation of LDP3.</p> <p>Given that the election has since passed and the Community Council has been reconstituted, it was agreed to ask Renfrewshire Council if a Planning Officer could attend the meeting in either November or December to give members some idea how they can help shape the formulation of the Local Development Plan (LDP3). Time permitting, they may also wish to speak about Local Place Plans, which Councillor McNaughtan explained are an important new initiative in Planning.</p> <p><b><i>Email from Lorraine Hannah Partnership Executive Wise Group New Scottish Government Funded Service for Renfrewshire</i></b></p> <p>Further to the discussion at the last meeting, it was explained that it seems that Lorraine has now taken over the Renfrewshire area while Brendan McEleny is now looking after Inverclyde.</p> <p>Lorraine would also be willing to come along to a meeting to explain this programme in more detail.</p> <p>It was agreed to consider extending an invitation to either the November or December meeting once Planning let us know their intentions in this regard.</p>	<p>Invite Planning Officer to attend meeting in November or December.</p> <p>Extend invitation to attend meeting in November or December, subject to Planning confirming their intentions.</p>
<p><b>5. Secretary's Report</b></p> <p>The Secretary recapped on the various items of substantive correspondence that had been received since the previous meeting.</p> <p><b><i>Email from Anne McNaughton Renfrewshire Council Scottish Government - Community Councils</i></b></p> <p>Forwarded email from the Improvement Service with a copy of a letter sent by Ariane Burgess MSP, Convener of Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee to Tom Arthur, Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance. The letter contains a number of important questions about the scope for developing and supporting the role of Community Councils and further information in this regard is awaited with interest.</p>	<p>Noted pending further developments.</p>

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***Email from Graeme Crawford  
Renfrewshire Council  
Not Far? Leave the Car – Update***

*Not Far? Leave the Car* has been running for over a year now and thousands of people across Renfrewshire are picking up discounts and freebies from local Renfrewshire businesses – purely for walking, cycling or wheeling instead of using the car. While recognising that is not always possible to leave the car at home, when people do they can collect points that they can turn in to prizes. That could be a free coffee at a local café or money off vouchers for IKEA, as there's more than 100 local businesses that you can use your points in. Alternatively, points can be donated to charities like ACCORD and St Vincent's Hospices

***Applications For Short-Term Letting Licences  
Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982***

Further to the earlier item regarding the application for the property in Glasgow Road, as statutory consultees, the Community Council has received notification regarding a number of pending applications for licenses, as follows:

***Applicant: Brian Soutar***

*Flat 5 14 Kilnside Road Paisley PA1 1SJ  
&  
Flat 5 10 Kilnside Road Paisley PA1 1SJ*

***Applicant: Carol-Anne Brown***

*Flat 5/1 1 Abbey Place Paisley PA1 1AU*

***Applicant: Gordon Duncan***

*Flat 1/2 54 Kilnside Road Paisley PA1 1RN  
&  
Flat 3/1 47 Cochran Street Paisley PA1 1JZ*

In advance of the meeting, members were referred to further information regarding the background to this licensing scheme that is available from various sources, including the following:

***[Short-term lets: regulation information - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)***

***[Short-term let licence for residential accommodation - Renfrewshire Website](#)***

***[Short term lets: a new dawn | Law Society of Scotland \(lawscot.org.uk\)](http://lawscot.org.uk)***

A discussion took place regarding potential problems that can arise from short-term lets, such as those currently under consideration.

Noted

Agreed to object to grant of all pending applications on basis of concerns discussed.

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Those concerns relate to:-

- Safety of guests/neighbours
- Congestion effects
- Fragmentation of communities – it is felt that if this and other similar Licence applications locally are granted, this will lead to a further proliferation in properties being used for short term lets. In the longer run, this will give rise to disruption through the churn of short-term use. Moreover, a transient population makes it difficult to maintain a cohesive community.
- Inflationary impact on rents and affordability in the longer-term rental market.
- Reduction in number of properties available for longer-term rental
- Increase in antisocial activity caused by transient occupants, with noise or rubbish not being disposed of appropriately.

It is recognised that there is potential for these issues to be more acute in blocks of flats, properties with a shared main door or tenements, such as these instances and indeed in the case of the subjects at 27 Glasgow Road.

Hope was expressed that the applicants might reconsider their plans and make the properties available for longer term rent.

The Secretary confirmed that he would draft an appropriate objection along those lines to be used in relation to all the pending applications and circulate that for agreement prior to submission to the Licensing Section

### *Email from Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) Latest Update*

The August Edition of the Newsletter can be found [here](#).

Noted

## 6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer explained that as per her report at the last meeting, the balance at the bank on 29<sup>th</sup> September stood at £2417.68, following application of the Direct Debit Payment of £35 to the Information Commissioners Office for the annual registration fee.

Noted

## 7. Any other Business

### *Councillor Graeme Clark*

Cllr Clark took an opportunity to provide a brief report covering several matters, including the re-opening of Paisley Town Hall following its extensive refurbishment. The new library facility is hoped to open by the end of the year.

Flooding during recent adverse weather conditions has been a concern at various locations across the ward and beyond. Unfortunately, at some of those

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<p>the drainage system could simply not cope with the deluge. In response, it was suggested that residents should be encouraged to take a more proactive approach to reporting blocked drains so that those can be more readily attended to before the situation becomes acute.</p> <p>Other issues included concerns over rubbish at Seedhill Community Sports Ground; an abandoned car at East Buchanan Street and noise from the Lagoon's PA system disturbing neighbouring residents.</p> <p><b><i>Concerns over Pedestrian Safety</i></b></p> <p>A concern was expressed from the floor regarding the apparent lack of concern for the safety of pedestrians across the area.</p> <p>Cllr McNaughtan suggested that measures to help improve pedestrian safety would be the sort of issue to be examined/addressed in a Local Place Plan.</p> <p><b><i>Junk Mail/ Leaflets</i></b></p> <p>It was observed that the growing volume of junk mail, including leaflets, takeaway menus etc. being delivered to households is becoming a nuisance. It can also be problematic insofar as those also seem to be spilling out to litter pavements etc.</p> <p>It was mentioned that residents can opt-out of delivery of unaddressed mail delivered by Royal Mail although that does not preclude other companies or organisations distributing those.</p> <p>Residents can of course display a 'No Junk Mail' notice in a conspicuous position near their letterbox, although this has no particular legal standing so may not prevent leaflets/adverting material being delivered.</p> <p><b><i>Fly-tipping</i></b></p> <p>Instances of fly-tipping at Arkleston Road and Clarence Street were highlighted, which Cllr Clark undertook to highlight to the relevant team, which he mentioned does tend to be very responsive to such complaints once received.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Noted</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Noted</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Noted</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Noted</p>
<p><b>8. Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.</p>	