

# Neilston Community Council

Meeting of Tuesday 25 February 2025

## MINUTES

In attendance:

Malcolm Briggs, Julie Cloherty, Janice Connery (Vice Chair), Margaret Currie (Treasurer), Ian Davidson, Rowena Johnstone, Margaret Pettigrew (minutes), Donna Strathearn, Cllr Buchanan, Cllr Morrison, Andrew Reid, PC Gemmell and PC Murdoch. Visitors: Douglas Currie, Alison Findlay.

### 1. **Welcome**

Vice Chair, Janice Connery welcomed everyone to the meeting.  
Apologies were tabled from Gail Squires and Cllr O'Donnell

### 2. **Previous meeting's minutes:** Proposed – Julie Cloherty; Seconded – Margaret Currie

### 3. **Police Report**

PCs Gemmell and Murdoch attended and updated on the period from 1 February to present as follows:

- Antisocial behaviour and disorder – 1 incident – youths refusing to leave primary campus
- 1 incident - a group of youths allegedly consuming alcohol
- 1 incident - Group of kids collecting money allegedly for charity raffle. No money given and no anti-social behaviour or aggression. Unsure if genuine.
- Some minor incidents not of a criminal nature highlighting some groups of youths out in the local area. Will look to increase attention and patrols in Neilston to prevent escalation.
- Violent crime - 1 incident – Assault between two adult males. Enquiry complete. No risk to wider public.
- 1 incident – Involving family dispute, enquiry ongoing. No risk to wider public.
- 1 incident – Road traffic report of no insurance. Community team aware of some complaints poor driver behaviour over the past few months. Additional training has been undertaken and POLICE will now start random speed checks to educate drivers and enforce where necessary. Focus will be Main Street and Kirkton Road (covering Kingston Road for school campus.
- Given the recent statistics regarding increased levels of drink and drug driving in the Highlands and in line with our local priorities in road safety and road safety initiatives Police will be looking to detect and enforce any offences in this area. They are acutely aware of the dangers of these offences to all in the community.
- Fraud - Community Team will be looking in the coming months to have a pop up event within Neilston regarding bogus calls (in person and via telephone) and other known scams. This will have a primary focus on the elderly members of the community who are at a greater risk and more vulnerable to these schemes.
- The complaint regarding parking at Neilston Bowling Club linked to Kirkton Road issues and the new temporary signage in place will be monitored.
- The issues regarding Neilston trains, which had been reported to Police Scotland, have now been raised with British Transport Police who will increase patrols and will work in partnership with the School campus officer at Eastwood High School to mitigate this and attempt to reduce these issues. Any reports of anti-social behaviour should be reported to 101 or 999 in an emergency.
- Police are fully aware of the ongoing issue surrounding road traffic complaints at and near to Neilston School Campus. They will continue to provide a Police presence in the area.

The Police were thanked for their prompt attention to the signs on Kirkton Road.

### 4. **Visitors' Issues**

#### **New school campus**

The visitors updated the meeting on the issues brought up at the previous meeting:

## Neilston Community Council

- Councillor Buchanan updated the meeting on his discussions with the Education Department regarding the fencing issue. As this had still not been addressed and, given this fencing was part of the planning agreement, it was felt this should remain on the NCC agenda until it comes to a satisfactory conclusion.
- HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air conditioning Unit) – Councillor Buchanan gave an update on this issue and confirmed that the Education Department had not signed off on this. The meeting highlighted this matter would only be resolved once those affected by the noise are happy with the outcome and it was agreed that this matter would also remain on the NCC agenda until it reaches a satisfactory conclusion.
- The Community Council was pleased to hear that correspondence had been received from the Project Manager responsible for the Campus who was liaising with East Renfrewshire Council and the affected residents.

### **Dareduff Quarry – Lorry Traffic**

NCC were provided with a copy of the NCC's objection to the quarry submitted to East Ayrshire Council's Planning Department and endorses the disappointment that ERC made no contact with NCC prior to the traffic management plan being approved in May 2024. It was disappointing to note that no response has been received with regard to the NCC email to ERC asking for sight of the traffic management document. With the number of lorries planned it gives additional credence to the need for CCTV to cover the area in question. Councillors advised that a new Traffic Risk Assessment would be carried out. Discussion ensued about the additional volume of traffic entering and leaving the village now that the school campus has been completed. Should contact be made with Transport Scotland for additional information?

### **5. Matters Arising**

- We were advised that the PTA for the School Campus did not think a defibrillator inside the Campus was a good idea. Discussion then considered if it would be more appropriate to have this installed outside the school building. Councillor Morrison suggested contact be made with the PTA and to invite representatives to the meeting. We agreed to contact the PTA and invite them to attend the next meeting of NCC (Action: D Strathearn).
- Manse Road: Councillor Buchanan advised that the Housing Department would look into the issues raised and hoped to have these resolved as soon as possible. (Action: Cllr Buchanan)
- It was confirmed the Community Council had only received an acknowledgement to its email regarding the littering of blue gloves from the Westlea Nursing Home. Discussion ensued confirming that this is not the only area where blue gloves are littering pavements in the village. Councillor Buchanan agreed to take this matter up with the CHCP. (Action: Cllr Buchanan)

### **6. Treasurer's Report**

The current status of funds are:

- Bank of Scotland account: £693.77 (purchase of laptop)
- TSB account: £1,449.25
- Cash in hand: £7.43 (card for Cllr Gilbert's family, £2.29, paid to secretary)

### **7. Communications Update**

It was reiterated that everyone was equally responsible for deleting junk messages.

### **8. Standing Items – due to time constraints these items were continued.**

- *Parking and yellow lines*
- *Slippery plastic kerbs and flooding issue in Station Rd*
- *Expansion of CCTV*
- *Status and use of former St. Thomas's school site*
- *Pool and Library*
- *LDP3*

## Neilston Community Council

### 9. **Interim CC Meeting**

This meeting will take place on Monday 3 March to which all members of the Community Council should be encouraged to attend.

### 10. **Neilston Station**

Discussion ensued regarding the planned reduced hours at the ticket office at. Concern was raised given staff have been diligent in ensuring that stairs and walkways have been gritted during adverse weather, would this continue to be carried out. It was unanimously agreed that contact be made with Scotrail regarding opening and closing times given Neilston is an end of line station. (Action: G.Squires) One member has advised they would make an FOI request to Scotrail for their detailed plans for Neilston Station.

### 11. **AOCB**

The meeting was advised that the proposed path from Uplawmoor to Neilston (NDT and Sustrans) would now no longer go ahead as ERC had withdrawn funding.

### 12. **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 25 March 2025.**