

Minutes of the Meeting of Giffnock Community Council.

Venue: Giffnock Library

Date: Monday 15th January 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Douglas Lawson (Chair), Jack Powell (JP), Maureen Powell (MP).

In Attendance: Cllr Jim Fletcher, Cllr Gordon Wallace, Vincent McCulloch.

Apologies: Jim McCann, Bill Crawford, Janey Floyd, Caroline Wilkinson, Ian Leifer, Ian Lang, Cllr Colm Merrick

Police report:

Constable Ryan Cannon attended the meeting and provided a crime statistics report for the period 8th December 2017 to 7th January 2018, the contents of which were noted.

Further to the incidents of house breaking included in the report, it was reported that arrests of six people in Bellshill had recently been made, which were possibly connected to the spate of burglaries. This is part of a major and on-going police investigation.

An incident involving theft of a BMW at Braemar Court, Hazelden Gdns, Muirend in late December was not mentioned in the report – why was this? Possibly as this in the G44 postcode area, it is included in another area – Constable Cannon agreed to investigate. (This area is included in the Giffnock Community Council area.)

Vincent McCulloch asked if the police report for Giffnock could also be published by him on the ERC website – this was agreed.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 18th December 2017 were presented for approval.

Proposed – Maureen Powell Seconded – Douglas Lawson

Membership – Interim Election

Vincent McCulloch advised that the interim election would be a 10 week process.

If the existing co-opted members were to resign and then apply to become fully elected members, this could give the community council more scope to co-opt further members. It was felt however, that doing this would not be of significant benefit to GCC.

Details of any people interested in applying should be passed to Vincent McCulloch so that he can send them the necessary documentation.

An application has been received from Richard Loudon to become an associate member of GCC. This application was proposed by JP and seconded by DL.

Chair's Report

DL has contacted Neighbourhood Watch to invite them to give a presentation at the next meeting on 20th February.

Vincent McCulloch stated that Neighbourhood Watch would be giving a presentation at the next Community Council Network Meeting on 31st January. This could possibly mean that GCC members would see the same presentation twice. It was decided however to proceed with the invitation.

Secretary's Report

Invitations have been received to attend:-

- The Community Council Network Meeting on 31st January – Bill Crawford and Janey Floyd have indicated their intention to attend; Jack Powell and Maureen Powell also likely to attend.
- The Holocaust Memorial Event on 23rd January – Ian Leifer has indicated he wishes to attend.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer is currently on holiday.

Matters arising from minutes

Roads/Pavements – budget commitments

JP referred to the draft report on the Budget Consultation meeting held in November. At this meeting strong representations were made by various community council members to maintain funding for improving/repairing roads. A suggestion had also been made to allocate £3 million from reserves to improving roads and pathways as it was felt this would lead to future economies on roads maintenance. Cllr Fletcher indicated that all submissions would be considered once ERC knows its budget allocation from the Scottish Government.

DL asked if the detailed results from the public consultation on road improvements could be made available. Cllr Gordon agreed to make enquiries.

Braidbar Quarry/Huntly Park

No indication of any further developments.

Closure of Wholefoods.

JP had written to Graham Shankland in Planning seeking clarification regarding the status of the former Wholefoods building in the Local Development Plan. In his reply Mr Shankland has indicated that the consents regarding housing development have now expired, and that “there is still a presumption in favour of retail use at this site.” However, no approach has so far been made from any retailer.

Community Hub Initiative – VAER, conversation meeting

An email has been received from Ruth Gallagher of VAER indicating their intention to hold a community conversation meeting in the near future.

Planning

MP reported that the BRGR application to open a hot food takeaway outlet in Station Road has been approved on appeal.

This, together with the recent approval of a restaurant with a takeaway outlet in the former Clydesdale Bank building, means that there will soon be four restaurants in close proximity, three with takeaway outlets in the centre of Giffnock. Concern was expressed, both personally, and reflecting reactions from friends and neighbours of GCC members, that this is an overprovision in such a confined area and that problems of parking, littering and loitering could possibly occur.

It was also felt that planning decisions are being taken out of local control and that local authorities and community councils are being sidelined. Further, the planning rules are not working well towards providing a balanced range of businesses in this area. It was agreed to write to Jackson Carlaw MSP expressing GCC's concerns regarding these issues.

AOCB

Refuse collections over the festive period – DL reported that there appeared to be insufficient information about the bin collection arrangements over the festive period, resulting in people missing collections. Cllr Fletcher stated that information was available on the ERC website, but admitted that quite a lot of people seemed to have been caught out by the fact that the system for New Year was different from that of Christmas.

The meeting ended at 8.30 p.m.

Date of next Meeting

Monday 19th February 2018 at 7.00 p.m. in Giffnock Library