

## **Crookfur, Greenlaw and Mearns Village Community Council**

### **Minutes of meeting 23rd March 2017 in Fairweather Hall.**

**Present** David Pearson (Chair), Bryson McNeil (Depute Chair), John O'Brien (Treasurer).

Vincent McCulloch, ERC community council Liaison officer, Councillor Gilbert.

Apologies. Karen Armstrong, Azra Saleem, Lee Teh.

The absence of elected councillors, O'Kane, McAlpine and Buchanan was noted.

### **Minutes of meeting 9th February**

A resident pointed out a possible misunderstanding in the item about Crookfur Homes - the security guard is there merely to ensure buildings are secure - there is care during the day and telephone link beyond.

The minutes were proposed by John O'Brien and seconded by Bryson McNeil.

**Police report** given by local police officers. This was a lengthy report which is available online from Giffnock Police web site.

The increased number of offences detected is thanks to a new strategy of 'proactive policing' by Police Scotland which is viewed as having a beneficial effect for the general community.

One item not mentioned in the report is the increasing use of social media by gangs out with the area to arrange fights with local groups. The police urge parents to be aware of this issue and make efforts to ensure the safety of their children by being certain of where and what they are doing outside the home.

There are new email addresses for local police

There is a new Police Scotland youth group, volunteers wanted.

As part of an ongoing consultation process residents views are sought via an online survey.

E-mail and web addresses for all the above were issued at the meeting

**Treasurer's Report** cc funds £567.00 no expenditure.

### **Access to Eastwood Health and Care Centre**

The continuing lack of public transport access to the health centre was again highlighted and Chair had contacted Julie Murray who has promised to review the local bus. Councillor McAlpine was dealing with this issue and had met with Julie Murray, although there appears no improvement for the near future. All present expressed disappointment over this issue and the Chair will continue to press for improvement.

### **No 4 Bus.**

The reduction by First Bus of the No 4 service through Crookfur has been pursued vigorously by the community council all to no avail as First Bus is a private company with no great interest in maintaining loss making routes.

MP Kirsten Oswald had met with First Bus management to convey local feeling on the issue and was intending a subsequent meeting with SPT.

The Avenue Shopping Centre management is also concerned about the impact of the service cut to both retail staff and customers.

After a suggestion from a resident, John O'Brien will press First Bus to re-route the no.38 along Stewarton Road to serve Greenlaw Village.

Councillor Gilbert will find out if the no 29 local service could be extended to serve the new Health Centre.

### **Maidenhill /Greenlaw Road proposed drainage /sewer connection**

This a proposed 'temporary' connection to allow sewage/ drainage from 400 properties at Maidenhill to pass through Greenlaw Road.

Despite numerous contacts with Scottish Water, ERC planning and SEPA, no update or clarity on this issue is available. None of the foregoing accept responsibility for this matter or realise the flood history of Greenlaw Road. All appear to be complicit in a refusal to recognise residents' concerns.

It was mentioned that ERC should be reminded that they are the Flood Prevention Authority.

A resident suggested that this was a matter that should be addressed by elected councillors and it was really beyond the remit/powers of the community council.

Councillor Gilbert said that he was 'aware ' of the problem

There was a brief discussion regarding the failure of elected councillors on Planning committees and Planning officers to genuinely consult with, or take account of local residents concerns.

### **City Deal**

The Chair had distributed brochures highlighting this project, which provides ERC with some £38 million spending for economic benefit.

A resident suggested that the funds should be used et.al. to provide multi-level car parks in Clarkston and Giffnock shopping areas and also at Patterton and Whitecraigs railway stations, both of which are occasionally overcrowded . He also suggested a revamp of Greenlaw Village/M77 exit to a 'diamond junction' and upgrade of the Kingston Bridge M77 on ramp and that the Dams to Darnley project was a complete waste of resources.

Concern over the Wake Park initiative to exploit the reservoir for water activities the centre - could become a target for vandalism. Also there is no access by foot and the road is painfully inadequate for any increase in traffic.

### **Mearns Primary School - inconsiderate parking**

The Chair has contacted the Head Teacher who provided details of all the measures taken to reduce this problem, acknowledging limited success so far .A resident remarked that CCTV Cameras should be installed to cover the problem area and identify the culprits. Perhaps it should be observed that it is parents that cause the problem. The idea of parking permits for carers visiting patients was welcomed.

## **ERC contacts.**

ERC should provide contact numbers and email addresses for all departments in order to facilitate easy correspondence for residents.

An Ayr Road resident desires that ERC should be reminded that Crookfur Park was bequeathed to Newton Mearns residents and that no further development should be contemplated or allowed around, or in the park. There was concern that the park is in disrepair and that there is building debris within the grounds.

The community council has agreed that a hustings for the May local elections will be held on 13 April 2017 at 6.30 pm in Fairweather Hall. Candidates will be contacted.

## **Planning issues support for community councils**

Chair drew attention to two organisations - Planning Democracy and Planning Aid Scotland - who might be a useful source of advice and guidance to community councils.

**Place Standards Tool** This had been issued to community council members and was promoted as a useful mechanism by which individuals and communities could evaluate aspects of their own area. Chair provided the web link to the tool.

**Future community council minutes can be found in the community folder that sits on a table in Mearns Library.**

Bryson McNeil  
Depute Chair