

Minutes of the Meeting of Giffnock Community Council

Venue: Giffnock Library

Date: Monday 20th March 2017

Present: Jim Martin (Chair), Maureen Powell (MP), Jack Powell (JP), Caroline Wilkinson (CW), Bill Crawford (BC), Douglas Lawson (DL), Ian Lang (IL), Ian Leifer, Janey Floyd (JF)

In Attendance: Cllr. Vincent Waters, Cllr. Gordon Wallace, PC Donald McLean Police Scotland and one local resident.

Apologies: Jim McCann, Charlie Dexter, Cllr. Jim Fletcher

ITEM ISSUE			ACTION
	POLICE REPORT:	Chair welcomed Constable Donald McLean to the meeting. The Police report for February had been circulated to the members and some relevant issues were raised. In a recent joint operation with ERC officers targeting bogus callers and rogue traders a total of 96 vehicles were stopped with the credentials of the occupants checked and a number of road traffic offences detected. This type of operation will be repeated in the future in an effort to detect and deter criminals from operating in East Renfrewshire. PC McLean commented on a local serious assault incident, also the 2 drug related arrests during the month. In respect of this and the other previously highlighted incidents of underage drinking etc in the area he mentioned they are in the process of setting up a Youth Volunteer Group in East Renfrewshire. Chair requested information about the outcomes of the Consultations about disposal of the Police Scotland Estate. He thanked PC McLean for his attendance which was appreciated by the members.	Police Scotland
	PRESENTATION	There was no presentation at the meeting	
1.	CHAIRS OPENING:	Chair opened the meeting promptly and extended a warm welcome to everyone present.	
2.	APOLOGIES:	Jim McCann, Charlie Dexter, Hammad Khalid, Cllr. Jim Fletcher	
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES:	The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 20 th February 2017 were agreed and accepted with minor amendments, and they are to be forwarded for publication on the ERC website. Proposed: Jack Powell Seconded: Ian Lang	Chair
4.	CHAIR'S REPORT:	Chair opened by referring to his remarks at the January meeting about the pressing need for more member involvement / participation in helping to spread the load of running an active, successful community council. He was now pleased to acknowledge an improving situation as reflected in the following Committee Reports / other initiatives, and was hopeful of this renewed involvement being continued e.g. in the website development initiative.	

		<p>He went on to state that some members may on occasion find the serial reporting about the range of pending issues tedious. The situation of unresolved key issues generally resulted from the absence of agreed attention / action usually by external parties. Experience reflects outcomes are mainly achieved by Persistence / Perseverance in ‘chipping away’ until results are achieved e.g. the funding of the Hub Feasibility Study.</p> <p>He then referred to Chair’s Report item 4 of the previous meeting and raised the following Special Motion (Agenda item 5 refers):</p> <p><u>Proposed change to Giffnock Community Council Constitution, relating to the term of office of the Chair</u> Clause 9.3 (of the Constitution) in its current form states:-</p> <p>A member may not be appointed as Chair more than twice during a term of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, nor be reappointed other than at the first AGM following an election, or at the AGM prior to an election, Without the express approval of East Renfrewshire Council, no one member shall hold more than one of the following offices at any one time: Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.</p> <p>The amendment requested is that the first sentence of the clause be deleted in its entirety leaving the clause to read:-</p> <p>Without the express approval of East Renfrewshire Council, no one member shall hold more than one of the following offices at any one time ; Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.</p> <p>Chair referred to Advice Note1 which had been separately circulated to members in order to provide further clarity. The amendment was put to a vote and was unanimously accepted and approved.</p>	
5.	SECRETARY’S REPORT:	<p>Chair advised on the continued absence of the Secretary, and acknowledged with thanks the efforts of JF in taking and compiling meeting notes which were very helpful in the preparation of the meeting minutes. There was a suggestion to engage a minute secretary.</p> <p>Chair responded that he hoped to have a solution shortly and outlined the range of key tasks involved in the Secretary’s role.</p>	
6.	TREASURER’S REPORT:	<p>JP advised that he had received reimbursement of the outlay on Data registration. He went on to report on the GCC account balance and the presentation of the required accounts for external auditor approval before the AGM.</p>	Treasurer
7.	COMMITTEE REPORTS:	<p>Website Development Group JP tabled his Report on the Use of website and social media.</p>	

		<p>Among the key issues highlighted was the benefit's of social media as a tool for engaging with the community. However in order to do so we need to establish a regular routine of posting etc. Proposals included a monthly newsletter and regular postings on Facebook and Twitter. In order to achieve this level of posting all members need to be engaged in providing or sourcing suitable material.</p> <p>There followed wide discussion and exchange of ideas etc. with consensus being We have the tools We need the material. The report proposals were accepted and approved.</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Chair reported that the future of the 375 Bus service remains in jeopardy. While the CHCP have prepared a revised leaflet publishing the service they have advised they do not have any resources / funding for increased circulation / publicity. Cllr. Waters referred to a recent report revealing the update on take-up was poor with the view being that it was not a good spend of IJB funds, and it looks as if the service will cease. At the last meeting Cllr. Fletcher stated he considered that this issue was a matter for SPT and ERC had lobbied them on it.</p> <p>He also advised that the non-compliant DDA access to Williamwood Station would be raised with through the IJB. Cllr Wallace reported that a potential source of funding of defibrillators in the community was no longer available. He provided some indicative costs in the region of £2000 and said some support might be available from the ERC Good Causes fund. Chair agreed to discuss support of Bid and other options, and report back at the next meeting. He was grateful to Cllr. Wallace for his support.</p> <p>Education</p> <p>The situation with the vacant Head Teacher post at OLM primary school remains unresolved for the remainder of the school year with the post now to be re-advertised again. In discussion it was felt that there were other underlying problems existing that needed attention also that as this was such a large school priority consideration should be given to some salary scale, resettlement grant etc. enhancements to help attract suitable candidates. This prolonged, unsatisfactory and unacceptable position is to be referred to the Church representative for review.</p> <p>Leisure Services</p> <p>Chair reported that notwithstanding the recent public assurances that budget provisions ensured the future of the Eastwood Pool, further information reveals that the earmarked provision will be used to refurbish the Centre as a whole in 2018/9 and is unlikely to stretch to meet the refurbishment needs of the pool, so that in the event that more money is not found the future of the pool would be in jeopardy. In discussion wide concern was expressed. Chair considered that in the absence of Cllr Fletcher to respond</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>Cllr. Fletcher</p> <p>Cllr. Fletcher</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>Ward Cllrs.</p>
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		<p>this matter should be carried over for further review at the next meeting.</p> <p>Roads The authorised traffic count measures to be installed on Berryhill Road still remain outstanding. Cllr waters agreed to expedite this issue. JP raised the escalating scale of outstanding road repairs particularly on our side roads in the area. Cllr Waters stated that a ‘worst first ‘strategy is being implemented. He advised that there is provision in the Budget of £1.6m spread over the 5 Wards allocated in 2017/8 for this work. This is inadequate and residential roads will have priority. Roads Dept. are to be approached for details of the roads to receive remedial work.Cllr Wallace stated that there is £600K allocated for 30 local roads repairs including Berryhill Road but more information needs to be progressed.</p> <p>Planning & Licensing Chair reported that a protest had been lodged about an extended licensing hours application for premises at Eastwood Toll, but it had been ruled out due to a deadline mix-up. Concern was raised about circulating reports of a large development at Giffnock North Club with concerns about local traffic impact / demands on limited schools places etc. Cllr Wallace advised that any ‘secrecy ‘concerns were entirely developer/ commercial interests related and ERC was not involved. He said there was no related information yet released in the public domain.</p> <p>Community Engagement IL reported that he had raised the recent GCC approach for the promotion of interest for potential members particularly anyone living in the Eastwoodmains Road / adjacent areas, at the recent Giffnock Synagogue AGM. Chair advised of his recent contact with Rev.Mcdonald of Orchard Park Church, also positive communication received from Rev.Tatton of Giffnock United reform Church and of approaches to Giffnock South Church. These will be developed in collaboration with DL He went on to outline early local schools visits were being planned in conjunction with BC. Chair advised that he had contacted the BID Chair to arrange an early meeting together with BC</p>	<p>Cllr. Fletcher</p> <p>Cllr. Waters</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>Chair / DL</p> <p>Chair/BC</p> <p>Chair/BC</p>
8.	WORKPLAN:	<p>At the last meeting concern and disappointment was expressed about the unsuccessful funding application in respect to the proposed GCC Hub Feasibility Study. Towards the end of the rather heated subsequent discussion there was a surprising interjection from Cllr. Fletcher announcing that it had since been decided that ERC would now be providing the requested funding and support. Chair welcomed this</p>	

		<p>news and said that the Officers Group would meet soonest to prepare for involvement in the lead –in process arrangements in collaboration with the responsible ERC officers. He advised that the Officers Group had since met with Iain MacLean Head of Environment (Major Programmes and Projects) on 15 March 2017 when the outline arrangements were discussed /considered. It was envisaged that a Consultant would be appointed towards the end of April, and a final report released by the end of June. He would provide a further update at the next meeting. In the interim the Officers Group would hold an early meeting to review the potential initiative post feasibility study outcome(s).</p> <p>Chair reported together with JP, MP and JF he had attended a recent Community Councils Forum event focusing on a proposed Fairer East Ren Survey utilising a Survey Wheel assessment tool and which in the break-to group revealed very interesting outcomes. Details will be circulated including a web link and members are encouraged to participate. The Community Planning Team will be publishing the final survey results in due course.</p>	<p>Chair</p> <p>Chair</p>
9.	COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROFILE:	Item 7 – Website Development group refers	
10.	STATEMENT/ QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR	<p>In the absence of Cllr. Fletcher it was decided to carry over the ERC Budget review discussion until the next meeting. The issue of the car shell / junkyard at the dwelling at the junction of Belmont Drive / Orchard Park Avenue was raised. Cllr Waters advised that this unacceptable situation had prevailed for some time despite overtures to the householder.</p> <p>Chair asked if there was any information on the future use of the Clydesdale Bank Building (Bank closing in June). Cllr Wallace advised that the building owner was not very forthcoming with any information.</p> <p>Cllr Waters said he was monitoring the situation.</p>	Cllr.Waters
11.	AOCB:	Chair reiterated the April Meeting will include an AGM and nominations for Officers requested.	ALL
12.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING:	Monday 24 April 2017 at 7pm ****NOTE revised date due to the Easter holiday period	ALL

Note 1.	
Note 2.	