

## Minutes of the Meeting of Giffnock Community Council

**Venue:** Giffnock Library

**Date:** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017

**Present:** Jim Martin (Chair), Jim McCann (JMcC), Maureen Powell (MP), Jack Powell (JP), Douglas Lawson (DL), Janey Floyd (JF), Ian Lang (IL), Ian Leifer (IL)

**In Attendance:** Cllr. Vincent Waters, fifteen residents.

ITEM ISSUE			ACTION
	<b>POLICE REPORT:</b>	<p>The police report had been received in advance – it was noted that action was being taken regarding young people gathering in groups around Braidbar quarry.</p> <p>As there was no police representative present because of the AGM, it was agreed that any other matters arising from the report should be deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>DL reported that he and JM had had a meeting with Inspector McQuilter and Seargeant Morgenthaler, who has day to day responsibility for local issues in ER, including attendance at community council meetings. The object was to introduce GCC members to these relatively new members at Giffnock Police Station, and to have an exchange of views regarding local policing.</p> <p>The officers stated that they were focusing more on such issues as internet crime; domestic violence; drug related issues, and the legality of ‘white van traders’, and that, consequently, police patrolling the streets would be a rare occurrence. Because of limited staff numbers and shift patterns it would not be possible for a permanent attendee at GCC meetings.</p> <p>No decision has been made regarding the future of Giffnock Police Station – all police estate is currently under review.</p> <p>The issues of cycling and parking on the pavements were raised. However, it was clear that the police are not interested in the first issue, and that they could only act on the second in cases where vehicles were causing an obstruction.</p> <p>Chair stated that there was a strong need for a local location for all the emergency services, including police, fire and ambulance/first responders. This could possibly located in Clarkston Fire Station.</p>	
1.	<b>CHAIRS OPENING:</b>	Chair opened the meeting promptly and extended a warm welcome to everyone present including residents who were present.	
2.	<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Caroline Wilkinson, Bill Crawford, Charlie Dexter, Mark Hamilton Cllr Jim Fletcher	
3.	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</b>	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were agreed and accepted with minor amendments and these are to be forwarded for publication on the ERC website.</p> <p>Proposed: Jack Powell Seconded: Ian Lang</p>	

4.	<b>CHAIR'S REPORT:</b>	Chair reported that the amendment to the constitution agreed at the previous meeting had been submitted to ERC.	
5.	<b>SECRETARY'S REPORT:</b>	Chair advised that handover arrangements will be discussed with the incoming Secretary	
6.	<b>TREASURER'S REPORT:</b>	<p>With the transfer of the treasurer's role to J McC, JP indicated that the Bank required a 'variation of authority' form to be completed. He advised that JMcC should be added as a signatory, making the signing arrangements any two out of four.</p> <p>The approved balance sheet and all the related receipts also needed to be submitted to ERC in order to release the Administration Grant for 2017/18</p>	<p><b>JMcC</b></p> <p><b>JP</b></p>
7.	<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS:</b>	<p><b>Health</b></p> <p><i>Update on new Health Centre – travel problems</i> The future of the 375 bus is still uncertain – Cllr Fletcher has referred the issue to the IJB, which has proved inconclusive, but has pointed out that the service not greatly used. The accessibility of the new health centre is definitely an issue - wheelchair accessibility is not possible on ER taxis, so bus is an essential public service. Any new taxi applicants must have wheelchair access vehicles, until at least 20% of taxis achieved. This will take time however as such a requirement is costly for new taxi drivers. Newton Mearns CC is also taking up the issue of the need for this service, and to extend its route.</p> <p><i>ERC formal letter to ScotRail about access to Williamwood Station</i> Scotrail have non-compliant access for disabled people – this again is an IJB matter</p> <p><i>Report on defibrillators proposal</i> A Sub-committee committee has been formed, under Bill Crawford with JP and JMcC as members. The target date for a fund raising campaign is the Vintage Car Rally on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. JMcC is setting up a new bank account to hold the monies from this fundraising. The ongoing responsibilities of having a Community Public Access Defibrillator are significant, with regard to regular maintenance, registering with the Scottish Ambulance Service, Training, and Public Liability insurance. JP circulated a paper outlining all these issues. A member of the public gave information regarding other sources of funding, also suggesting that some local businesses (e.g. Morrisons and Kwik Fit) might be approached to see if they would install defibrillators.</p>	<p><b>Sub committee</b></p>

		<p><b>Education</b></p> <p><i>Replacement Head Teachers – OLM Primary school post -</i> Chair reported that a new Head Teacher had been appointed for OLM Primary School . This in turn has created a vacancy at Newton Mearns Primary.</p> <p><i>Crisis of schools placements –</i> OLM primary is fully utilised – Figures obtained from ERC show a significant percentage of school roles are from pupils outside East Renfrewshire. Head Teachers are getting more direct responsibility for budgets. There are concerns that some Local Councils while seeking economies may attempt to use some of the allocated funds to offset a reduction of teaching assistants. Only 18 HMI school inspections have been carried out. It appears that the Pursuit of Excellence curriculum is being ignored by many Head Teachers.</p> <p><i>Safety of schools in East Renfrewshire –</i> Following the issues identified in Edinburgh, all PFI schools were inspected. A non – in depth inspection is carried out each year. All East Renfrewshire schools have been checked for construction problems – but no problems have been found.</p> <p><b>Environment,</b> <i>Woodfarm Playing fields proposed drainage works.</i> The lease of the playing fields has now been signed with the cricket club – monies allocated for the drainage works have now been programmed into this year – hopefully the work will be carried out in the summer</p> <p><b>Leisure</b></p> <p><i>Giffnock North/Rugby club .</i> The Rugby club is possibly introducing dual membership, with Giffnock North using some of its facilities <i>Future of Eastwood Leisure Services ( Pool ).</i> This remains uncertain, despite assurances made by ERC. The £6 million allocated in the budget for maintenance of the leisure centre is clearly inadequate for keeping the pool viable as maintenance of the pool has been neglected. A member of the public had opened a Facebook protest page which had quickly attracted over 1000 responses, which had caused ERC to re-state that they did not intend to close the pool. Councillor Waters stated that such assurances had no validity until money was actually allocated in the budget.</p>	<p><b>Planning Group</b></p>
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8.	<b>WORKPLAN:</b>	<p><i>Community Centre / Hub Feasibility Study</i> Chair reported that Main Street Consulting had been awarded the contract for carrying out the feasibility study regarding the hub, and that an initial meeting with the consultants had been arranged for Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May.</p>	
9.	<b>COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROFILE:</b>	<p><i>Website / social media</i> JP reported that GCC's inaugural newsletter had been circulated via, Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, and also sent out to everyone who had submitted their emails on questionnaires last year. The number of people engaging with these posts is modest and regular posting is needed to increase public interest. JP again stressed the need for all CC members to be active in providing material for posting.</p>	<b>All CC members</b>

		<p><i>Fairer East Ren Survey</i></p> <p>The ER consultation on local satisfaction is currently taking place – closing date for submissions is 8<sup>th</sup> May. Chair reported that an interim profile of Giffnock in particular and East Renfrewshire in general had been submitted. This reinforced the view that respondents felt that there was no sense of place in Giffnock.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>AOCB:</b>	Due to time restraints other matters were carried over to the next meeting	
<b>11.</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	<b>All</b>

<b>Note 1.</b>	
<b>Note 2.</b>	