

Minutes of the Meeting of Giffnock Community Council

Venue: Giffnock Library

Date: Monday 21st November 2016

Present: Douglas Lawson (DL-Vice-chair), Bill Crawford (BC), Maureen Powell (MP), Jack Powell (JP), Caroline Wilkinson (CW),

In Attendance: Cllr. Jim Fletcher, Cllr. Gordon Wallace, Constable James McGoldrick (Police Scotland), Janey Floyd and one local resident.

ITEM ISSUE			ACTION
	POLICE REPORT:	<p>Chair welcomed Constable McGoldrick who then reviewed the Crime Statistics Report covering the period 15th October – 14th November (Report attached below).</p> <p>Chair expressed concern that, once again no report had been provided a week in advance in spite of promises from Inspector Dickson, who has now retired. Constable McGoldrick indicated that a report had been emailed that afternoon to the GCC email address. Under the new arrangements, a monthly report would be produced by Sergeant Morgenthaler. He could not guarantee however, that it would be received a week in advance of any GCC meetings.</p> <p>Chair asked about the reports that the Giffnock Police HQ might closed. Constable McGoldrick stated that he could not see a situation where East Renfrewshire would not have a Police HQ. Cllr Fletcher indicated that there had been some discussion in the past between the council and the Police regarding the possibility of Giffnock Police Station being relocated to the Council Headquarters. In the event of closing Giffnock Police station these discussions could be re-opened.</p> <p>CW asked about a yellow van that has been abandoned in the GHA car park. Constable McGoldrick indicated that, as the van was on private ground, the police are unable to take any action. The responsibility for action would lie with GHA.</p>	
1.	CHAIRS OPENING:	Chair opened the meeting promptly and extended a warm welcome to everyone present.	
2.	APOLOGIES:	Jim Martin, Jim McCann, Charlie Dexter, Ian Lang, Ian Liefer.	

3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES:	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 21st October 2016 were agreed and accepted with no amendments received and are to be forwarded for publication on the ERC website.</p> <p>Proposed: Douglas Lawson Seconded: Maureen Powell</p>	
4.	MATTERS ARISING	<p>Chair advised that any matters arising would be dealt with under the appropriate agenda headings.</p>	
5.	CHAIR'S REPORT	<p>Chair reported that since the last meeting action had been taken regarding parking on the pavement on Orchard Park Avenue and that the parking had stopped.</p> <p>Following the bogus builder fraud reported at the last meeting, the Bank of Scotland has issued a leaflet on how to deal with fraudsters. Bank staff are also checking more with customers.</p> <p>Chair welcomed Vincent McCulloch, the new community council liaison officer, and Janey Floyd, a potential new CC member. Janey was advised that she would need to complete a nomination form, Vincent McCulloch will send one to her by email.</p>	
6.	SECRETARY'S REPORT	<p>Chair advised that the GCC contact List needs to be updated and requested that any changes are forwarded to the Secretary</p>	
7.	TREASURER'S REPORT	<p>JP reported that all receipts relating to the residents survey and the car rally had been received and were being forwarded to ERC.</p> <p>Current bank balance is £1295.89 The Data Protection annual fee of £35 had been paid. Receipt to be forwarded to ERC for reimbursement.</p>	

<p>8.</p>	<p>COMMITTEE REPORTS</p>	<p>Education Chair expressed concern that 8 of 32 schools in East Renfrewshire are without a head teacher, including 3 in Giffnock, which have been vacant since August. Cllr Fletcher stated that interviews had been held, but that no suitable candidates had been found. It was preferred to hold out until good quality candidates could be found. In the meantime schools were running satisfactorily, with acting HTs. Chair asked about the ‘Empowering Teachers and Communities to Achieve Excellence and Equity’ review of governance in schools. Cllr Fletcher stated that this is a Scottish Government initiative which is wide in scope, but vague in its terms of reference. Both Cllrs Fletcher and Wallace expressed concern that the initiative was linked to the proposed increases to the higher council tax bands, which would be detrimental to East Renfrewshire residents.</p> <p>Health Chair asked whether the 374/5 bus service would be continued after the 6 month trial period. Cllr Wallace undertook to make enquiries. Chair reported that the Health and Social Care Partnership are undertaking a review of how people access support. A working party has been set up to develop a series of hubs across East Renfrewshire, staffed with a mixture of HSCP staff, staff from carers in the community and volunteers who are familiar with local needs. They will encourage friendship groups and various social activities. The proposed ‘hub’ for Giffnock is the new health centre, which is not handy for many Giffnock residents, and not actually in Giffnock. Chair asked about accessibility for disabled people at Williamwood station. Cllr Fletcher stated that this was a matter for Scotrail, and that there was no indication of any action being taken.</p> <p>Cricket pitch Cllr Wallace agreed to pursue access/sight of the lease details.</p> <p>Parking Charges ERC has now issued a consultation document regarding parking charges in council operated car parks throughout the authority. There was a general discussion regarding the scale of charges and the reasons for them. Any responses to the consultation must be submitted to ERC by 2nd December. It</p>	<p>Cllr Wallace</p>
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		<p>was agreed that GCC should consider making a submission.</p> <p>Planning / Licensing MP mentioned a planning application for a house extension in Berryhill Road. As this is a conservation area, it would be important that appropriate building materials are used.</p> <p>Chair mentioned the current consultation regarding the Local Development Plan. JP suggested that notification should be given of the feasibility study regarding a hub in Giffnock.</p> <p>Community Engagement Contact has been made with Rabbi Jacobs (Ian Liefer). Efforts are also being made to secure a representative of the Muslim community (Hammad)</p>	
9.	WORKPLAN	<p>JP reported that the final survey results yielded 1847 responses, with 83.6% of respondents supporting the establishment of a community hub.</p> <p>The request to ERC to support a feasibility study has resulted in a bid being made for a grant through the Renewable Energy Fund. Bid application needs to be completed by 2nd December, and bid is likely to be considered sometime in January</p>	Chair/JP/ DL
10.	COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROFILE	<p>JP reported that the survey had also shown that GCC needs to use a variety of channels to communicate with the community at large. Hammad Khalid has agreed to share the responsibility of managing the website and social media with JP. JP to pursue setting up Hammad with the necessary tools through Ross Legate.</p> <p>JP stressed the importance of making regular use of social media in order that the public would start to visit it on a regular basis. He appealed to all GCC members to assist in providing ideas/material for posting.</p>	JP
11.	STATEMENTS / QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR	<p>Swimming Pool Cllr Fletcher indicated that a report is expected in the new year regarding the future of the pool in Eastwood Park</p> <p>Berryhill Drive Residents have still not had any response to emails from council officials (Roads Dept)</p> <p>Wellfield Avenue BC stated that work was being carried out to lower the kerbs in Wellfield drive. However, the road surface is in a poor</p>	

		<p>state which raises issues regarding priorities in such work being carried out.</p> <p>Braidbar Quarry Cllr Wallace reported that a survey of the fencing at Braidbar Quarry had been carried out. This revealed that cutters had been used to cut off padlocks and that some fencing was missing. These matters are being attended to.</p> <p>Disposal of nappies in Giffnock library. CW reported that she attended sessions for mothers and infant children in Giffnock library, in which up to 35 parents with young children attended. While the library has baby changing facilities in the toilets, there were also notices requesting that used nappies should be taken away. She asked if suitable bins could be provided for disposing nappies, as it was difficult for parents to take them with them. As Cllr Waters was not in attendance, this matter would be carried over to a future meeting</p> <p>Speeding in Merrylee Park Avenue Cllr Wallace indicated that ERC was not generally in favour of introducing traffic calming measures on roads. However, if residents were to report any incidents, this would raise the profile of the issue with the council, which could possibly lead to some action being taken.</p>	
12.	AOCB	There was no other business	
13.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	Monday 19 th December 2016 in Giffnock Library at 7pm.	

Community Council Meeting Updates

Our focus..... Your priorities

INTRODUCTION

This report covers progress we have made in dealing with your priorities for the **Giffnock Community Council** area for the period **15th October to 14th November 2016**. A list of these priorities is provided at the end of this report for your reference.

This report aims to highlight emerging issues in your area, and to provide crime prevention advice and guidance to the members of the Community Council and to the residents that they represent.

This document does not provide a comprehensive statistical breakdown of numbers of crimes reported as this does not provide any context for the reader.

INFORMATION

1. Assault & Violent Crime

There were no crimes of violence in public reported in the period.

1. Drug Dealing & Drug Use

There were no drugs related crimes recorded in the Giffnock area during the period. Nevertheless, officers within the East Renfrewshire area continue to exercise their statutory stop/search powers wherever and whenever appropriate. Over recent weeks the newly formed Problem Solving Teams, working in the sub-division have made a number of recoveries of controlled drugs through pro-active stop searching of individuals. Additionally searches under warrant have also been carried out. Within the East Renfrewshire area persons were charged with a total of 14 charges of possession of controlled drugs, 3 charges of possession with intent to supply and 1 charge of supplying controlled drugs.

3. Drunk or Disorderly Behaviour

The months of October and November often result in rises in anti-social behaviour related to “Trick-or-Treating” and fireworks. This year has been no exception, and we saw an increase in the number of calls. Many related to throwing eggs, although the number of calls relating to fireworks being misused was quite small.

In mid-October there were a number of incidents in and around Fenwick Road involving a large group of youths who were committing acts of disorder and vandalism. A number of these youths have been identified and charged and enquiries are still ongoing with a view to identifying further persons involved. The acts of disorder have now stopped.

Other acts of vandalism including graffiti and two smashed car windows have been reported. Positive lines of enquiry are ongoing in relation to a named individual.

We will continue to deploy resources in areas where such acts occur, and would encourage residents to report acts of disorder to us using the 101 service (or if appropriate 999), in order that we can build a clearer picture of where anti-social behaviour and criminality is likely to occur.

4. Housebreaking & Other Theft

During the period there were no reports of housebreakings or other thefts in the Giffnock area.

NEWS

From the 1st November a new structure has been applied within our Greater Glasgow Division. Uniformed officers are now assigned to Local Policing Teams and Problem Solving Teams. The police representative at your meeting will be able to explain more as to the responsibilities of these two entities. We are very hopeful that the new arrangements will lend themselves to ensuring that the service we provide will be better tailored to the needs of your community and will be more effective at addressing your concerns.

Road safety remains high on our agenda. During the period a total of six persons have been charged with road traffic offences in the Giffnock area. These include persons driving without insurance, driving without a driving licence, failing to comply with red traffic lights, failing to report road accidents and other “Construction and Use” offences.

CRIME PREVENTION

Across East Renfrewshire violent crime remains low. Acquisitive crime (i.e. Thefts etc.) does occur and much of this is opportunistic. Insecure doors and cars are easy pickings. Ladies purses are often lifted from unattended handbags in supermarket shopping trolleys.

As we approach the festive season acquisitive crime often rises. Please be vigilant and don't give opportunists the chance.

We will all have noticed the recent drop in temperatures and morning frosts. Every year, we receive reports of cars being stolen when owners leave their vehicles unattended in their driveways with engines running, in order to defrost windscreens whilst they are getting ready to leave their homes in the morning. Please don't be tempted to do this. Criminals actively target these opportunities and insurance companies will often refuse to pay out on policies if the driver has failed to take reasonable precautions to prevent the theft

Please remember you can contact the police on any of the following:

Twitter - @policescotland
Facebook – PoliceScotland
Web – Scotland.police.uk
101 – Non emergency
999 – Emergency
0800 555 111 - Crimestoppers

Please take part in our public consultation process by visiting our website

scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

and completing the online survey.

LOCAL PRIORITIES

1. Assault & Violent Crime

You told us that assault and violent crime are concerns within the local area and the impact these have had on how safe the local community feels.

2. Drug Dealing & Drug Use

You told us of your concerns about people selling drugs from their homes and from streets within your community and the associated problems of drug users.

3. Drunk or Disorderly Behaviour

You told us that there were problems with public drinking, youth disorder and vandalism/graffiti.

4. Housebreaking & Other Theft

You told us your concerns about housebreaking and other forms of theft, including stealing from motor vehicles.