



Mearns East
Community Council

MEETING OF	Meeting of Mearns East Community Council	
HELD ON	Tuesday 7 th November 2023 @ 7.30pm	
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
	<p>In attendance: William Maxwell (Chairperson), Janet Olverman (Secretary), Elnara Alderson, Anne Lithgow, John Morrison, Joan Macintosh, David Buchanan, Susan Brodie and Doug Pitt</p> <p>Also in attendance Cllr Anderson, Cllr Edlin, Cindy Berry, Finlay Souter, Peter Barry, James Sandeman, Andrew Grant, C Marshall, Margaret Hinchliffe.</p>	
APOLOGIES	Steve Rutherford, Asif Majid, Jane Royston	
APPROVAL OF MINUTE OF MEETINGS	<p>The Chairperson proposed the minute of 3rd October as a true record of the meeting, seconded by John Morrison.</p> <p>Andrew Reid provided a minute of the formal part of the meeting on 3rd October, this was proposed by the Chairperson and seconded by John Morrison.</p>	
MATTERS ARISING/ COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS	<p>The Chairperson, Secretary and a Mearns East Community Council member signed the Model Constitution paperwork for Mearns East Community Council.</p>	
POLICE REPORT	<p>The Police were unable to attend the meeting and sent apologies.</p> <p>PS Fiona McGuffie emailed a copy (extract below) of the monthly police report for the MECC area for the period 7th October to 7th November 2023.</p> <p>“Crime levels in your community council area remain low in the past month.</p> <p>Ongoing issues with youth disorder continue to be a priority for your local community policing team.</p> <p>It is asked that constituents are reminded of the importance of home and property security and it is urged that any suspicious behaviour is reported to Police. The community’s continued engagement allows us to tailor the best policing response to the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One person was reported for drug offences in your area during this time.• One instance of shoplifting were reported in your	



local area.

- One instance was reported of theft of a motor vehicle.
- One instance of vandalism was reported during this time.
- Two instances of attempted housebreaking were reported during this time with one being to a commercial premises.

We have seen a decrease in criminality and youth disorder at The Avenue during this time and this continues to be a focus for us as we work alongside the staff there.

Home security

As it is getting darker earlier with each passing day it is asked that constituents are reminded of the importance of maintaining home and vehicle security. Crime prevention advice can be found on Police Scotland's webpage via the links below.

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/your-home/your-house/>

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/your-home/your-garden/>

Fraud

Instances of Fraud continue to be frequent both nationally and locally. Frequently victims, of all ages, can be scammed when they receive unexpected text or telephone messages and respond to these. Crime prevention messages are regularly provided via our social media accounts and further advice is available at -

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/scams-and-frauds/>

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Comments:

Peter advised that a report from police says House Burglary in East Renfrewshire has doubled to 63 over the past year.

It was disappointing that the attempted burglary in Mearns Road where a boy was stabbed was not mentioned in the report.

Janet to ask Police for more details if available.

It was suggested we ask for conviction statistics each month, if available.

Janet
contact
Police



Mearns East
Community Council

<p>Motion to start meetings at 7.00pm</p>	<p>The Chairperson proposed the motion that our meetings should start earlier at 7.00pm. All members present voted unanimously to the change of start time.</p>	
<p>CO-OPTION OF STEVE RUTHERFORD</p>	<p>The Chairperson proposed the Co-option of Steve Rutherford, seconded by the Secretary.</p> <p>In his absence all the MECC members present voted unanimously to accept Steve Rutherford's Co-option.</p> <p>Janet to send the Declaration of Acceptance document to Steve for signature</p>	<p>Janet email declaration document to Steve</p>
<p>MAIDENHILL FOOTPATH</p>	<p>Cllr. Edlin advised he has put pressure on CALA and ERC and has received an agreement from ERC to establish exactly what the problem is so it can be resolved properly.</p> <p>Cllr Anderson advised the lighting is now working along the whole path. The Mearnskirk Owners Association had been in touch with John Adams at ERC and the lights were switched on at the end of October.</p> <p>Bollards are also going to be installed to prevent motors accessing the lane and being used as a route for getaway vehicles.</p> <p>Further to recent MECC correspondence with CALA, the Chairperson received a response from Lynn Young (Land Co-ordinator) and Graham T McNeil (Land Director) at CALA, who agreed that the path is of a poor standard and has undertaken that they will correct the situation. An extract from the letter below:</p> <p>"It is recognised that a section of the path has not been installed in accordance with the proposed design in terms of both alignment and gradient. The consortium (of which CALA forms part) have escalated this with the nominated contractor to resolve in the first instance, at the earliest.</p> <p>By way of some background, our records show that the path was never designed to be adopted as it was not originally designated to be a safe route to school.</p> <p>With remedial works therefore pending, CALA are intending to keep this path open. If there is an unexpected or unavoidable delay in the works commencing, we will give fuller consideration to temporary closure of the path until such time as the remedial works are completed."</p>	<p>Will to contact John Adams and CALA</p>



**Mearns East
Community Council**

	<p>The Chairperson agreed to write to John Adams (ERC) and the CALA Director to ask for a definitive timeframe for improvements to be made prior to the winter setting in.</p> <p>CALA have an agreement with ERC – if they do not comply then ERC can impose sanctions.</p> <p>Maidenhill residents complained that although bins have been installed along the path, they are not being emptied. Dog poo bags are piling up beside the bins.</p> <p>Residents are concerned that if there is an accident on the path who is responsible?</p> <p>Residents were advised to write formal letters and email them to their factor to resolve this issue.</p>	
<p>PLANNING SUB- COMMITTEE</p>	<p>David Buchanan - Chair of Sub Committee, Broom Park Exercise Equipment update:</p> <p>David Buchanan and William Maxwell distributed 150 copies of the questionnaire around households adjacent to Broom Park</p> <p>There have only been 16 responses 13 In Favour and 3 Against</p> <p>Three quotes have been received out of the four companies contacted.</p> <p>The quotations received ranged from the best at £29,000 to most costly £34,000.</p> <p>There are various grants which can be applied for but the MECC is expected to raise/fund some of the cost.</p> <p>The big question is whether we should proceed, or come up with another idea.</p> <p>The exercise equipment already installed in Rouken Glen park is used infrequently and it was questioned if this would be the best use of any funding raised.</p> <p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A skate park – the area in Rouken Glen is very popular and well used. • A public Multi-use Games area (MUGA) <p>It was suggested to expand the questionnaire to include the schools.</p> <p>Planning sub-committee chat to be set up. David/Janet to organised time and date.</p> <p>David asked if anyone has a sensible suggestion please</p>	<p>David/Janet to arrange sub-committee meeting.</p>



Mearns East
Community Council

	contact the sub-committee.	
171st GLASGOW SCOUT GROUP	<p>Andrew Grant, 171st Glasgow Scout Group Leader introduced himself and appealed for committee members and/or volunteers to assist with running the Scout group.</p> <p>Without additional help they are struggling to continue. He asked if the MECC know of anyone who would be willing to volunteer.</p> <p>They would be happy to work with the MECC – maybe on litter picks.</p> <p>Janet to make contact with Andrew</p>	
WATER-MAIN WORKS MEARNS ROAD	<p>Update:</p> <p>The Chairperson contacted Scottish Water to seek clarification of the scheduled start date for work at Broom Shops.</p> <p>Scottish Water have changed the dates, but not told anyone else. Even the shops don't know.</p> <p>Peter asked about the tidying up process after the works have been completed. Are they going to make good the mess?</p> <p>The Chairperson advised that Scottish Water have given an undertaking that they will repair the damage.</p> <p>They have reinstated the paths in Broom park.</p>	
EQUALITIES FORUM	<p>Outside the Box in collaboration with organisations throughout East Renfrewshire, are setting up an Equalities Forum and have organised three open days:</p> <p>18th November – Clarkston Library 10.30am – 12.30 This clashes with the Clarkston Christmas show – car park closed and will be chaos!</p> <p>22nd November – The Foundry Barrhead – 10-12pm - some members to attend.</p> <p>2nd December – Clarkston Library 10.30 – 12.30pm</p> <p>The idea of these sessions is to discuss what the aims of the forum should be; how it could be run; how a range of groups could collaborate with a shared purpose</p> <p>These are free to attend and refreshments provided.</p>	
CONSULTATION ON 20MPH TRAFFIC ZONES	<p>A Survey result has been published by Roads at ERC.</p> <p>Newton Mearns South has the highest percentage of car ownership in East Renfrewshire with over 54% of</p>	



**Mearns East
Community Council**

	<p>households owning two or more cars.</p> <p>The majority of trips undertaken are between 5k and 10k which would equate to at least a 45 minute walk.</p> <p>Within East Renfrewshire cycling is mainly seen as a leisure activity. Walking is seen as a utility and leisure activity.</p> <p>Many people find cycling unsafe due to traffic and road conditions.</p> <p>The wet weather doesn't help.</p> <p>There are 74 controlled traffic zones planned to be installed over all of East Renfrewshire across the next five years. Details of the location of each area are currently not available. At present three zones are planned in our area during the next financial year.</p> <p>The basic message is that reducing speed increases pedestrian safety.</p> <p>Cllr. Edlin stated that the majority of his constituents are not in favour of walking everywhere.</p> <p>It would be useful to discover if there is any data available about accidents in the school areas.</p> <p>There are already safe zones around schools.</p> <p>The air quality in East Ren is good, which negates that argument for a reduction in pollution generated by traffic.</p>	
<p>DATES FOR LITTER PICKS AND ORDINARY MEETINGS</p>	<p>Litter Picks:</p> <p>2nd December 2023 – this clashes with the Maidenhill Primary School Christmas Fayre - suggest another date.</p> <p>3rd February 2024</p> <p>2nd March</p> <p>6th April</p> <p>4th May</p> <p>8th June</p> <p>MECC Committee Meetings:</p> <p>5th December 2023</p> <p>6th February 2024</p> <p>5th March,</p> <p>16th April,</p> <p>7th May (AGM)</p> <p>11th June</p>	
<p>AOCB</p>	<p>Planning Democracy Webinar – 6th December – NPF4 –</p>	



How things have changed. The Chairperson will attend.

Consultation on Glasgow City Centre

Residents, businesses, and organisations are being invited to have their say on proposals to take Glasgow city centre forward into the next decade.

With an increased focus on the future of town and city centres, the consultation on the City Centre Strategy will give Glaswegians the opportunity to shape Scotland's most important economic area, including creating more jobs, providing better transport options and increasing the residential population.

The consultation runs from 13th Oct 2023 until 3rd December 2023

Installation of Litterbins on bus-stops at Waterfoot Road

Cllr Edlin to write to the environment department to ask if some can be installed.

Nitrous Oxide

James found 16 large canisters of Nitrous Oxide in Broom Park and contacted the police.

From 8th November 2023, national legislation will be introduced by Westminster making this an illegal substance.

Penalty for possession will be up to 2 years imprisonment.

Penalty with possession to supply or trading of nitrous oxide cannisters – up to 14 years imprisonment together with unlimited fines.

The problem in Scotland is that under Devolution, part of the legislation comes under Westminster and part Edinburgh legislation.

In Scotland, because nitrous oxide is not classed as a controlled substance, it is not routinely screened for in toxicology tests.

The Scottish Government said that, given the reserved nature of the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, it had not pursued any discussions on the issue with retailers.

The number of reported deaths are very few and no records are available within Scotland after 2020 (National Records Office). Nitrous Oxide is mainly used by youths in our area and can be purchased easily on the internet.

If we find any of these cannisters on our litter picks we should report them to the Police.

Defibrillators

Two new defibrillators to be installed in Maidenhill and



Mearns East
Community Council

	<p>Kirkhill primary schools.</p> <p>MECC Christmas lunch</p> <p>Suggested date - 9th December – litter pick first</p> <p>Please let the Chairperson know if you are able to attend.</p>	
<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p>	<p>The next meeting will be held on 5th December at the earlier time of 7.00pm in Mearns Castle High School.</p>	
	<p>With there being no further business, the Chairperson thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting</p>	