

GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 3 OCTOBER 2016

Present: Dick Carabine, Flora Pagan, Esme Clark, Robert Preston, Gina Preston, Jean Melvin, Helen McNeil, John Foster

Attending: Cllr Fariha Thomas, Councillor Stephen Dornan, Councillor John Kane, Chris Stephens MP, Alan Bell

Apologies: Wilma Bruce, Jessie Sinclair, Reinbild Gormiak, Cllr James Adams, Humza Yousaf MSP

Minute taker: John Foster

1. MINUTES OF 2015 AGM

These were moved as correct by Robert Preston and Esme Clark and agreed.

2. ANNUAL REPORT OF WORK

Our Secretary presented a written report. This highlighted a number of important issues where there had been no full resolution: concerns about the new hospital, about parking, about new work for the BAE shipyard, about hate crime locally and the need to give what aid and comfort we can to refugees and ensure that adequate housing was provided. More positively there had been some success in getting the community involved in decision-making on local funding and in the running of Elder Park.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Secretary reported that Workspace had agreed to provide an auditor and that the accounts would be available for submission very shortly. The meeting paid tribute to the late Christine Murphy who had audited our accounts for many years.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR

Chris Stephens MP took the Chair for this item and called for nominations

Chair: John Foster was nominated by Flora Pagan and Robert Preston, on a temporary basis, and agreed.

Vice Chair: Robert Preston was nominated by Esme Clark and Jean Melvin and agreed

Secretary: Esme Clark was nominated by Flora Pagan and John Foster and agreed

Treasurer: Gina Preston was nominated by Flora Pagan and Helen McNeill and agreed

John Foster took the chair at this point with a vote of thanks to Chris Stephens

Continuing Business

1. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Moved as correct by Esme Clark and Flora Robert Preston subject to the correction of 'inspectors' on page 1 and Duncan *Thomson* rather than Thomas under 31.

2. POLICE ISSUES

Police representatives had been unable to attend. It reported that as a result of reorganisation it was hoped that in the future more resources would be allocated to Community Policing and that the

new Inspector for Community Police, Kevin Lammie, would be able to ensure representation at the Community Council.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SEPTEMBER MINUTES

a) Asda shopping trolleys

Cllr Kane reported that Asda management would attend a meeting on 14 October. It was agreed that we would be represented by Robert Preston along with Craigton and Drumoyne CCs. Our Secretary had raised with Farmfoods the dispersal of their trolleys to Elderpark and the shipyard area.

b) Hate Crime Working Party

Bailie Thomas reported that she would raise with Cllr Kane the incorporation of issues of race hate as part of the Thriving Communities agenda – specifically for developing greater cohesion within our diverse communities. This, she hoped, might make the issue more central to wider concerns. Bailie Thomas also noted that the following week was dedicated to Hate Crime Awareness.

Chris Stephens MP reported on his work in the Commons to expose unacceptable practices in the provision of housing for refugees. Orchard and Shipman had now lost the contract (reverting to Serco). Action was needed to ensure that housing provided was in compliance with standards set in the Housing Act and that registered social landlords, as used for the provision of refugee housing, met the necessary conditions.

On a specific case where a refugee family faced deportation it was agreed that the Community Council should write a letter that could be used in the process of appeal. Other organisations were urged to do the same – stressing the contribution of the family to the wider community.

c) Alcohol Awareness

Arrangements would be made for a speaker: Bailie Thomas would provide a contact.

d) Bus services and Fastlink

Two issues were raised.

- i) *Issuing of bus tickets that did not correspond to the journey taken*: members were urged to bring tickets that could be used as evidence
- ii) *Failure of electronic signage system*: councillors would raise with LES and SPT

e) Meeting with MP, MSPS, and Councillors to discuss strategic issues

After consultation with Chris Stephens it was agreed to ask Councillors and MSPs if they would be available for a meeting on the last Friday in October or the first or second Friday in November to discuss

- a) Re-regulation of bus services
- b) Resourcing issues at the Southern Hospital
- c) The contracts for BAE
- d) Planning regulation relating to betting shops (Category 2 to *sui generis*)
- e) Housing issues – particularly for refugees

Officers would consult on arrangements and also the proposal from the September meeting that we invite SPT as well representatives from relevant trade unions.

f) Cuts and People's Assembly against Austerity

Up to a hundred trade unionists and community representatives had attended the meeting of the People's Assembly in Glasgow on Saturday 17 September.

g) Southern Hospital

Arrangements to be made as under 3 e. It was reported that in one case affecting a Community Council member there had been a 14 week wait for a consultation and in another three cancellations of an appointment.

g) Future of Govan Shipyard

Chris Stephens reported that there was still concern at the potential employment consequences at the failure to give timed commitments to building of the general purpose frigates. The date for the first cut of steel for the Type 26 Frigates was now October 2017 instead of October 2016. Chris would keep the Community Council informed.

h) Community Planning Partnership: new bus and subway station

There was praise for the new subway and bus station but concern expressed at the lack of light after dark in the bus station area and the need for some form of flood lighting – and possibly more staff. Councillors present agreed to raise this with SPT.

i) G51 Parking Campaign

The outcome of the Appeal was to endorse the general direction of City Council plans but to propose a 70 per cent reduction in the main charges on residents, businesses and visitors and a partial exemption of two small areas for motor cycle parking. The G51 campaign was unhappy with this recommendation and holding a meeting on 12 October. The City Council Executive will be considering the proposals and the precedents set for other areas of the city. It was agreed to monitor these developments and, depending on the outcome, consider representations to the City Council.

j) Cottages in Craigton Road: subsidence

There was no further report on remedial action by Glasgow HA.

k) Shop rubbish: Crossloan Road

Allan Bell reported on progress in securing an intervention by Elder Park HA.

l) Plans for the cooperative management of Elder Park

Our Secretary reported that there had been no further meeting. Yvonne Reilly maintaining liaison.

m) Environmental Task Force

Cllr Kane reported that the City Council had removed 130 tons of fly-tipped rubbish from the Ward over the past period – with the provision of an additional 1400 hours by volunteers. One of the areas cleared was the War Memorial area in Central Govan. This would continue. It was hoped that comparative statistics would be available to assess progress and that LES enforcement could be strengthened to reduce tipping.

n) Govan Road reconfiguration at Stag Street

No further information. It was felt that urgent action was required to avoid an accident as a result of the current placing of the two traffic islands.

4. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION

a) Accounts for the past financial year

It was hoped that the new auditor would be able to scrutinise our accounts over the next week.

b) Computing equipment for the Secretary

This was being purchased.

c) Membership

It had been proposed at the previous meeting to review membership in order to ensure that the renewal of the Community Council was maintained. It was noted that two members had not attended for more than three meetings without apology. It was agreed that these members be written to and that, if required, the Community Council invoke proceedings for by-elections to be held before the end of the year.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Email from Ian McGilivray on the Graving Dock

This was read to the meeting. It was agreed to note the correspondence.

6. PLANNING

Pacific Quay: Icen Hotel – it was thought that no problems would arise from parking arrangements.

There had been no new notifications.

7. COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

COUNCILLOR KANE

Councillor Kane noted the plans by the Scottish government to double nursery/early years provision by 2020 and the local implications. It was also noted that discussions were scheduled for the Area Partnership to consider the growing shortage of primary school places – particularly in denominational schools which, in large measure, provided places for children from Eastern Europe and Africa – and the possibility of building a new school in Govan. It was agreed to monitor such discussions.

Councillor Kane also noted that discussions were taking place on the budget cuts for the coming year and urged members to take part in the consultations – either directly or on line.

Councillor Stephen Dornan

Councillor Dornan expressed concern at the granting of planning permission for a Domino Pizza outlet at 250 Drumoyne Rd immediately adjacent to residential properties. This made provision for continued provision for the delivery of pizzas to 2 a.m. in the morning.

8. REPORT FROM CHRIS STEPHENS MP

Chris stressed his availability to take up issues and his surgery hours (second Friday in the Pearce Institute for our area). The issues most frequently raised concerned tax credits and ESA.

a) Petition against state pension injustice to women

Copies of the petition were distributed, to be returned by Friday, to ask the government to reconsider the injustice inflicted on women by the postponement of the pension age by up to five years and the arbitrary impact depending on age.

b) Grant assistance for T in the Pot

He had been working with T in the Pot to secure continued funding. Councillor Kane was also assisting and a temporary grant had been secured from the Robertson Foundation.

c) All-Party Committee on Youth Violence

The Committee would be visiting the Govan area

9. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Large van parked at 231 Langlands Road

This was filled with wood and paint and represented a fire hazard. A notice of removal had been placed on the van by LES at the beginning of September but no action so far taken. Councillors agreed to follow up with LES

b) Pensioners gardens

Helen McNeill raised the very unsatisfactory character of grass and hedge cutting in pensioners' gardens. Baillie Thomas agreed to raise.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 7 NOVEMBER IN THE ELDERPARK WORKSPACE BOARDROOM AT 7 P.M.