

GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 5 SEPTEMBER 2016

Present: Flora Pagan (in the chair), Esme Clark, Dick Carabine, Robert Preston, Helen McNeill, Wilma Bruce, Jean Melvin, John Foster

Attending: Humza Yousaf MSP, Councillors Dornan and Kane, Allan Bell, Reinhild Gorniak, Jimmy Stringfellow,

Apologies: Jessie Sinclair, Gina Preston, Sandy Black, Councillors Adams and Thomas, Chris Stephens MP, Paul Sweeney

Minute taker: John Foster

1. MINUTES OF THE JULY GENERAL MEETING

Moved as correct by Esme Clark and Robert Preston.

2. POLICE ISSUES

Police representatives gave their apologies as a result a major traffic accident earlier in the day.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JULY MINUTES

a) Asda shopping trolleys

Cllr Kane reported that Asda management had agreed to a meeting with ourselves and Craigton CC. He would liaise with our Secretary about dates. It was noted that Farmfoods trolleys were now also becoming a problem and discussion was needed with its manager.

b) Hate Crime Working Party

Baillie Thomas was considering whether the issue could be taken up from within the Thriving Communities initiative. Some progress had been made on the specific rehousing issue. The minute secretary would check developments. Our Secretary read a letter from the relevant Home Office department responding to our complaints about the housing made available to Asylum Seekers, specifically by Orchard and Shipman, and that these complains were now being comprehensively investigated. Humza indicated that the Scottish government would increasingly secure a locus in such areas and that it was his opinion that private companies should not be involved. Our Secretary was congratulated on the effectiveness of her intervention.

c) Alcohol Awareness

Baillie Thomas had now identified an alternative speaker.

d) Bus services and Fastlink

Two issues were raised.

- i) *Issuing of bus tickets that did not correspond to the journey taken:* members reported that the practice was continuing on most buses apart from McGills where inspectors were checking tickets.
- ii) *Re-regulation of bus services:* there was further discussion of a date for a special meeting on bus services, planning (betting offices) and health funding. A Friday in October was suggested as likely to be suitable to our MP. Invitations should go to councillors and also to Johann Lamont on account of her previous work to change the Category 2 status for betting offices. Humza proposed that we should invite SPT as well relevant trade unions. He noted Lothian Transport as a possible model for Glasgow and that a bill

would go before the Scottish Parliament in session 2017-18 that might provide opportunities for enhancing the community responsibility of bus companies.

e) Cuts and People's Assembly against Austerity

Members were notified of the meeting of the People's Assembly on Saturday 17 September in Glasgow to discuss the impact of cuts on services including housing (Mike Dailley), Health (Lilian Macer of Unison), rail services (Gordon Martin of RMT) and Denise Christie of FBU on fire services.

f) Southern Hospital

Arrangements to be made as under 3 d ii.

g) Future of Govan Shipyard

There was no further report. Humza Yousaf indicated that he would be holding a meeting with BAE later in the month along with Chris Stephens MP and the union convener to clarify issues of investment and employment guarantees. The issue of bidding for commercial craft such as ferries was raised and Humza indicated that he intended to make this part of the discussion.

h) Govan Fair

Jimmy Stringfellow reasserted his position that the Govan Fair in its new form as a limited company belonged to the people of Govan. Other speakers expressed continuing concerns about the procedures of the limited company and the powers allocated to the company board regarding access to membership. Councillors explained the decision by the Council not to provide funding for the Fair. Lottery funding had also been withdrawn. Councillor Kane expressed concern that the Police had now twice been asked to investigate statements alleged to have been made at meetings of the Community Council. No basis had been found for these allegations and such allegations were not helpful for community engagement. He also reiterated his concern at the prices being charged to children at the Shows and the false claim that these charges had been agreed by the City Council. Humza Yousaf suggested that an outside independent arbitrator might secure a better understanding of the issues in dispute.

i) Pallet business at Arthurlie Street and traffic hazards

There was no further report.

j) Community Planning Partnership

The bus station was now in operation along with the re-developed underground station. It was, however, noted that not all bus companies were using the new sheltered bus bays and that McGill buses were continuing to use the stop on Golspie Street with no shelter.

k) G51 Parking Campaign

The outcome of the Appeal was to be published the following day. The Report would be advisory only and would be referred to the Executive of the City Council. It was noted that some temporary steps had been taken to increase parking spaces and that ultimately another 500 places were likely to become available.

l) Cottages in Craigton Road: subsidence

Cllr Dornan reported that he had had discussions with Duncan Thomas of DRS and that there were plans for Glasgow HA to make monies available for the stabilisation of viable cottages and the demolition of the others.

m) Shop rubbish: Crossloan Road

Allan Bell reported on a new problem which had arisen with the community fruit shop – with fruit refuse being allowed to litter the road. Councillors would raise with LES. It was felt that ultimately either Elder Park HA or Urban Roots should be considering the issue.

n) Plans for the cooperative management of Elder Park

Our Secretary had maintained her involvement and reported good progress. The Council would maintain its overall support and provide the necessary services.

o) Environment Task Force

There was considerable disquiet expressed by members at the state of streets and the inability of LES to maintain the same level of services as in the past. While the Task Force could concentrate on particular areas for a short period of time the problem was now more systematic.

p) Govan Job Centre: request for information for the Community Notice Board.

Minute Secretary had provided a notice giving details of our meetings and would ensure that this was regularly updated.

q) Govan Road reconfiguration at Stag Street

There was no current information on progress towards the elimination of traffic islands that had proved to be hazardous and the introduction of a new road crossing.

r) Central Govan Action Plan

Our Secretary reported that funding had been continued for a further five years. Information had been provided at the last meeting on a plan for the redevelopment of the graving dock for housing that would preserve the dock and most of the historic buildings.

4. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION

a) Accounts for the past financial year

It was agreed to approach Workspace for an independent auditor in light of the death of Christine Murphy, our accountant, this summer. It was hoped that the accounts could be ready for submission by the AGM.

b) Computing equipment for the Secretary

A quote was tabled for purchase of a computer and printer from PC world. It was agreed to proceed.

c) Membership

The membership would be reviewed at the AGM and any necessary action taken then.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership

Details of a briefing meeting that had taken place the previous month.

Tara Beall: booklet on the Thirteen Treasures of Govan

6. PLANNING

Helen Street A movable stall for the sale of food on match days: no objection

Pacific Quay: Hotel development by Icen. Secretary to examine potential impact on Govan, particularly parking arrangements.

7. COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Councillor John Kane reported.

- a) **Thriving Places** A launch meeting had been held in August attended by 36 community representative who had heard a report from Fraser Stuart, director of Gorbals HA, on a parallel development in the Gorbals. The Govan TP initiative would face greater challenges, covering an area of 20,000 people, but a good start had been made. Councillor Kane indicated that the cuts in Council services now made it essential that a greater engagement was secured by local residents. A steering group had been established. There would be a more detailed report on progress at the next meeting.
- b) **Old Hill Trust Building:** ownership had now finally passed to Elder Park HA from City Properties. Immediate steps would be taken to secure the building.

8. Humza Yousaf MSP

Humza indicated that he would try to come to as many meetings as he could and asked members to raise any problems they had with his office at 1612 Paisley Road West. He could, if members wished, arrange a visit to the Scottish Parliament.

9. Deaths

The Community Council expressed its great sadness at the deaths over the summer of Dr Moyna McGlynn, minister at Govan and Linthouse Parish Church, and of Christine Murphy, Director of Elder Park Housing Association, who had been our auditor for many years.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 3 OCTOBER IN THE ELDERPARK WORKSPACE BOARDROOM AT 7 P.M. THIS WILL BE OUR 2016 AGM