

GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 6 FEBRUARY 2017

Present: Flora Pagan, Esme Clark, Robert Preston, Gina Preston, Helen McNeill, Jean Melvin, Dick Carabine John Foster Attending: Bailie Thomas, Cllr. John Kane, David Jones, Allan Bell, Reinhild Gorniak, Mae Wilson, James Stevenson, Jimmy Stringfellow Apologies: Cllr Stephen Dornan, Cllr James Adams, Wilma Bruce

Minute Taker: John Foster

1. MINUTES OF JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Moved as a correct minute by Flora Pagan and Robert Preston subject to the correction of the spelling of Reinhild Gorniak's name.

2. MATTERS ARISING

a) Police Issues

Our Secretary had contacted the Police but there had been a problem of availability on a Monday. It was agreed that we invite Inspector Kevin Lammie (or a deputy) to the next meeting to discuss how to improve communication and reporting – especially in light of the creation of the new Problem Solving Team.

b) Shopping trolleys

The problem of Asda trolleys had recurred – mainly the older versions. Cllr Kane had spoken to the manager and had been promised that a team would come out to collect. A further meeting would take place to assess progress.

c) Hate Crime

Cllr Kane reported that the Thriving Places initiative was in the process of taking responsibility for this.

d) Alcohol Awareness

Our Secretary had been in touch with Amanda McCrae of Glasgow Alcohol Awareness. It was agreed that she should be invited to either the March or April meeting depending the availability of Inspector Lammie to attend the March meeting.

e) Bus services and bus regulation

Bailie Thomas reported that the electronic signage had been delayed because of the failure of First Bus to supply timetables but that the system would be fully operation within a few weeks. Our Secretary read a report from the *Herald* that the Scottish government was unlikely to support the re-regulation of bus services. This was noted with disappointment given our previous discussions on this matter with our MSP as Transport Minister in which the Community Council had supported bus regulation.

f) QE University Hospital

Members reported continuing problems in terms of the lack of basic supplies (sheets, towels). A maintenance worker, attending the meeting, reported that this was normal for geriatric wards 51-57, that there a continuing shortage of nurses (25 staff nurses short), that nurses were off with stress because of the pressure and that, because of the lack of staff, some patients who were unable to feed themselves were not always being fed. He understood that the same problems existed across the hospital. Cllr Kane said he would ensure that the Health and Social

Care Committee was informed. It was also agreed that the Community Council inform our MSP of our continuing serious concern at the under-resourcing of the hospital (and the health service in general). It was hoped that some nurses, living locally, would be able to attend the March meeting to report further.

g) Cottages in Craigton Road

Mae Wilson reported that an Abatement Order had been served on the owners of the four flats in her block including herself. There were, she felt, difficulties in securing a response from some of the non-resident owners and this might present problems for her in terms of paying for the necessary repairs. James Stevenson, a tenant in the block, expressed concerns about the structural safety of the building. Cllr Kane said he would take this matter up with the relevant officer – especially as the Abatement Order was for routine repairs rather than to address structural safety.

h) Stag Street/Govan Road

Robert Preston reported on the removal of the traffic lights and the traffic island and the reinstatement of his bus stop. He was very happy with this outcome.

i) Greenfield School

Pat Cassidy was now making funding applications for restoration.

j) Govan Community Budgeting Event

All those responsible were congratulated on the success of the event which had seen musical contributions from local primary schools as well as the distribution of £25,000 to local voluntary groups. Sixteen groups secured their full request and another three a substantial part.

k) Mary Barbour statue

This was currently being cast in bronze. Together with the stone base the total weight would be five tons and would require planning permission as street furniture. Cllr Kane reported that it was still hoped to have the statue in place early in May. The Remember Mary Barbour Committee was congratulated on progress.

l) City Council budget

This would be set on 16 February. Although a little more cash may become available as a result of the pressure exerted in the Scottish Parliament over the setting of the Scottish budget in the previous week and the Council's own decision to raise Council Tax by 3 per cent, this would still mean massive cuts in Glasgow of up to £150m over two years. It was likely that some cuts could be mitigated by the use of reserves but the cuts overall would still be very serious. Cllr Kane reported that the aggregate cuts over the past decade left Glasgow's annual income £310m less than it had been in 2007. The Community Council deplored the size of the cuts and its consequences for public services.

m) Potholes: the need for full resurfacing

Baillie Thomas stressed that wherever possible this was being done and that substantial progress had been made. Flora Pagan reported on new potholes on Langlands Road west of Pirrie Park.

n) Development of the graving dock site

Our Secretary reported on the presentation by the City Council and the developers on plans for housing together with the retention of public space and the restoration of the historic features. Baillie Thomas reported that there would be public consultations on 4 and 25 March. The first would be for community views and the second for the planners to give responses. It was agreed that Community Council representation was important – particularly to ensure that the type of housing being built was affordable and available for local people.

o) Match Day parking restrictions around Ibrox

Our Secretary reported on the presentation by Rangers and the City Council regarding the introduction of a scheme for restricted parking in the Ibrox area – extending as far as Craigton Road – on match days. Local residents would be able to purchase a permit for visitors for £10 in perpetuity. There were some concerns that the scheme would have overspill implications for Govan. In these circumstances there might be reason to seek an extension of the area to protect local residents – but they in turn would have to seek the £10 permits for any visitors they might have. It was agreed that representation at the next stage of the consultation was important.

3. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION

a) Membership

As agreed at the previous meeting, there was consideration of our earlier correspondence with those three members who had not attended over a three month period. As one member, Sandy Black, had not responded by the deadline, it was agreed to declare the place vacant and to organise a by-election. The officers would be in touch with the CCRC to make arrangements.

b) Accounts

The Secretary reported that the accounts were imminently expected from our new Independent Scrutineer.

4. PLANNING

a) 847 Govan Road: hot food shop

It was reported that permission had been granted but with a restriction of 11 p.m, closing time.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Garden Party at Holyrood Palace on 4 July

The invitation was read. No member was available to attend.

b) Oral history project regarding the Govan docks

Docks Preservation Society asking for those with memories of working in the docks

c) Humza Yousaf MSP

Details of surgeries were made available

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Kane reported: youth vandalism

Councillor Kane reported on the long-running problem of youth vandalism and disorder that had climaxed with the attack on a police van in McKechnie Street and on the staff of Elder Park Library. Evening opening had been suspended as a result. He had had discussions with Inspector Lammie who was now developing a response that would include an hourly police presence at the Library and some detailed policing arrangements. Councillor Kane also stressed the need for a continuation of diversionary youth work.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

a) Shaw Street/Langlands Road corner

Gina Preston raised the dangerous traffic movements on the road and the likelihood of collisions. It was agreed to write to the Roads Department, copy to CGAP, suggesting that in the redesign of the area, thought be given to either making the roads one way at this point or introducing features that would slow traffic.

b) Elder Park: loss of railings

Flora Pagan reported that loss of railings opposite Uist Street – giving direct access to the park.

c) Dog Fouling

It was agreed that dog fouling had become somewhat worse – particularly in Central Govan and Elder Park. It was agreed to write to Govan and Elderpark HAs and Glasgow Safety Services asking that thought be given to renewing a concerted publicity and deterrence campaign.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 7 March 2017 at 7pm in the Workspace Board Room.