

GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 3 JULY 2017

Present: Flora Pagan, Esme Clark, Robert Preston, Gina Preston, Helen McNeill, Wilma Bruce, Allan Bell, John Foster

Attending: Cllr Richard Bell, Cllr John Kane, David Jones, Kris Jones, Geoff Raybould, Michael Kordas, Mark Hughes.

Apologies: Jean Melvin, Dick Carabine, Cllr Allan Young, Reinhild Gorniack, Cllr Stephen Dornan, Humza Yousaf MSP, Chris Stephens MP.

Minute Taker: John Foster

1. MINUTES OF JUNE GENERAL MEETING

Moved as a correct minute by Flora Pagan and Robert Preston.

2. PRESENTATIONS

a) BAE SHIPYARD GOVAN: KRIS JONES AND GEOFF RAYBOULD

Kris Jones outlined the current plan of work and gave further details on the order for three Type 26 Frigates which had been announced at the weekend. In terms of current developments there had been the launch of the QE2 aircraft carrier last week (for which the Govan yard had built the steel blocks), the construction of the first three of the five Offshore Patrol Vessels was now well on (one vessel was now in the outfitting hall) and there was a firm order for the first three of the eight Type 26 Frigates. This order would keep employment in the yard well into the 2030s and the jobs of current apprentices would be guaranteed. Kris stressed that the work now involved the development of all software systems and that the production process itself was being transformed. Kris also hoped that the confirmation of orders would enable the yard to develop closer involvement with the local community.

Geoff Raybould, the facilities manager, outlined the steps being taken to transform the infrastructure of the yard and to create a more human-oriented production environment. Overall £5m would be spent upgrading facilities.

Questions concerned:

The dredging of the river: how far was it carried east of the yard. Geoff Raybould replied that dredging took place annually and extended up river beyond the yard. The person responsible was Brian Forrester of Clyde Port/Peel Ports based at Greenock.

How many of the 56 entrants to the early recruitment scheme came from Govan High: Kris would get figures – he agreed that local recruitment was important.

Export orders for the Offshore Patrol vessels: Kris indicated that the export of vessels themselves was probably unlikely but the designs and technology might be sold.

It was agreed that Kris would return at a later stage and that community involvement would be further discussed.

b) MICHAEL KORDAS: RESEARCH TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CHARRETTES IN SECURING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING DECISIONS

Michael explained that he was undertaking a PhD and intended three case studies: Lochgelly for 2010, Govan-Partick for 2015 and a further yet to be decided for 2017-8. He would like local testimonies on how far the Govan-Partick charrette had been successful.

Our Secretary praised the process. It had been very well prepared and facilitated all-round involvement. In particular it had focused attention on the rediscovery of the river as a geographical centre for the community and thereby also the historic relationship with Partick. The outcome of funding for the Bridge was very welcome – as was the commitment to a wider planning engagement along the river to the graving dock. Councillor Kane concurred.

In terms of contacts the following were suggested: Pat Cassidy of Govan Workspace, Susan Hanlon of CGAP, Plantation Productions, former Councillor Fariha Thomas and Fiona McTaggart of Govan Housing Association.

c) **MARK HUGHES, VICE CHAIR OF IBROX-CESSNOCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Mark attended on behalf of Ibrox-Cessnock Community Council to discuss a common approach to the long-standing absence of a Community Council in East Govan and the consequent lack of any community sounding board, of an official character, for important planning developments now in train along the river frontage. A map had been sent indicating a potential dividing line.

Members agreed in principle with the proposal if it was acceptable to those living in the area. As a first step it was agreed that representatives from both Community Councils should speak to the officers of Govan C Tenants Association (Chair to contact via Govan HA) and the Riverside Hall (Cllr Kane to sound the Organiser). Steven Dowling should also be notified of these preliminary steps.

Ibrox-Cessnock Community Council was thanked for its initiative.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JUNE MINUTES

a) Police Issues

The Chair had spoken to Sergeant Crawford Inglis who had agreed to ensure attendance by a named member of the community team if duties permitted. Alan Bell had also been contact with Sergeant Inglis concerning the sale of alcohol to underage children.

b) Shopping trolleys

Cllr Kane reported that he had again been in touch with the Asda manager regarding the existence of an exit from the shopping centre without a locking mechanism –with little response so far. William Graham, the PA to Humza Yousaf, our MSP, was following up our request that he propose an amendment to legislation that would allow Councils to impose fines on stores that persistently failed to stop trolleys littering streets.

c) Hate Crime

Cllr Kane reported that Hate Crime would be incorporated in the Draft Community Plan for the Thriving Places initiative.

d) Bus services and bus regulation

Councillor Richard Bell reported that he had been in touch with SPT and been told that once McGills provided full information this would be displayed on the electronic timetables. There was further discussion on the disappearance of 'late' buses from the display (leading to some passengers getting on the wrong bus when the late bus turned up without announcement on the screen and was mistaken for the following bus). Councillor Bell agreed to raise this issue also.

e) QE University Hospital

Members were asked to keep notes of problems relating to lack of staffing and deficient care ahead of our Strategy meeting in September. Flora Pagan reported an old lady collapsing outside the hospital door – and no staff available to help (instruction given to call an ambulance).

f) Mary Barbour statue

The statue would be unveiled after the school holidays so that school children could play the leading part – along, it was hoped, with Sir Alex Ferguson.

g) Development of the graving dock site

There was no new information on planning applications by New City Vision. Our Secretary noted a film being made by Fablevision on the docks as part of an initiative by Clyde Docks Preservation Ltd.

h) Dog Fouling

Our Secretary had contacted both Housing Associations and the Glasgow Safety Services asking that a concentrated campaign be organised. Councillor Bell reported that there had been a positive response from LES to the proposal. It was AGREED to contact Stephen Egan of LES to suggest a short meeting early in the autumn involving elected representatives. HAs, LES and GSS to consider how to take the initiative forward.

i) Lyceum building

Councillor Kane reported that Fiona McTaggart of Govan Housing Association was now taking the initiative in developing plans, principally for use as a concert venue, and in persuading the current owners to sell the property at a fair price. It was AGREED that the Community Council should write to Duncan Thomson of DRS giving support to the proposed new use.

j) Riverside Walkway

The new pathway from Water Row to the Church would be officially opened on 7 July by Sir Alex Ferguson at 12.30 pm.

k) Asylum case

The Chair would attempt to visit.

l) Tea in the Pot

Jobs and Business Glasgow was working on a funding proposal.

m) Boxing Club

A permanent venue was still required.

n) Awareness of Identity Fraud

The spokesperson for the campaign sponsored by GCVS, invited to talk to our July meeting, was ill. It was hoped that an intervention could be organised at a later date.

o) Govan Fair

Disappointment was expressed at the lack of entertainment for children, especially in the park, and the shortness of the procession. It was agreed to return to the issue.

p) Shaw Street-Langlands Road circuit: traffic hazard

Cllr Bell reported that LES had had no complaints regarding speeding traffic. Gina Preston nonetheless felt that two-way traffic did constitute a danger and was supported by others present. It was AGREED to contact James Rodden of LES and ask for an assessment – particularly covering traffic flow between 8.30 and 11 a.m.

3. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION

a) Accounts

Plans were made to start preparing our accounts for audit in August – so that the audited accounts can be presented to the AGM in October. It was AGREED to change the signatories to our bank account to reflect current officers. A cheque for £45 was signed to cover the hire of the Pearce Institute for the Hustings.

b) AGM

This would take place on the first Monday in October.

c) Strategy Meeting

It was agreed to investigate the suitability of Friday, 29 September or failing that Friday 6 October. Issues to be highlighted should include QEUH and bus service regulation.

5. PLANNING

New Govan Parish Church – St Mary’s

This was in response to the discovery of dry rot. There were no objections

6. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

6. REPORTS

There were no Councillors’ reports other than the items already covered. The Council was in Recess.

The funeral of Councillor Alastair Watson was to take place in Govan Old on Thursday 6 July at 11 a.m.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2017 at 7pm in the Workspace Board Room.