

# GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015

Present: Flora Pagan, Esme Clark, Robert Preston, Wilma Bruce, Jean Melvin, Helen McNeil, John Foster, Abour Dean.

Attending: Bailie Fariha Thomas, Councillor Stephen Dornan, James Stringfellow, Recibild Gormiak, Helen Duffy

Apologies: Cllr James Adams, Cllr John Kane, Gina Preston, Dick Carabine.

*Minute taker: John Foster*

### 1. MINUTES OF JULY GENERAL MEETING

Moved as correct by Esme Clark and Wilma Bruce.

### 2. POLICE ISSUES

Police representatives were not present. Issues raised were:

- **1006 Govan Road:** new door now being installed by the housing association
- **Anti-social behaviour:** incidents were reported in West of Scotland Housing Association houses in Langlands Road: all those aware of ASB were encouraged to phone 0141 276 7708.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JULY MINUTES

#### a) Asda shopping trolleys

The meeting AGREED a letter drafted by the secretary reporting the continuing presence of abandoned shopping trolleys. There had been no improvement and apparently no response to the complaint lodged with the store. The secretary raised the need for cooperation by local businesses to raise the standards in the area and noted the commitment of Asda headquarters in Birmingham to a good neighbourhood policy.

#### b) Govan Fair

Members of the community council expressed concern that the route of the Fair had been changed several times without notice and that the Fair programmes had not been available until one day before the Fair itself. Jimmy Stringfellow claimed that the change of route had been because of ongoing construction work. Councillor Dornan pointed out that neither the police nor the Land and Environmental Services had requested any change in the route as applied for by the Govan Fair Committee and the changes had been initiated by the committee itself.

#### c) Race Hate Working Party

A further meeting was taking place on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Plans had been made for a local hate crime awareness week during the October school holidays which would involve local organisations, school children and young people. A play which addresses such issues will be held in a local secondary school. It was agreed that these issues should be featured in the next issue of the Govan Letter under the headline Govan Already Welcomes Refugees noting the very positive work which had been done in Govan but also the continuing problems of hate crime locally.

#### d) Alcohol Awareness

The secretary was sending an invitation to the speakers to attend the November meeting. Councillor Dornan noted the need for legislation to limit the availability of cheap alcohol. It was suggested that a feature appear on this in the *Govan Letter*.

#### e) The summer ferry across the river

This will be continued until the 20<sup>th</sup> of September.

**f) Royal Mail post boxes: ending of evening collections for boxes in the Elderpark area.**

The Secretary read letters from Royal Mail forwarded by Gordon MacKay which indicated that two boxes in the Elderpark Area still had a 6pm collection. These were at Elder Street/Harhill Street and Elderpark Street/Langlands Road. It was however, noted that the boxes themselves still had a 9am collection indicated and it was agreed that the Community Council should write to Royal Mail pointing this out.

**g) Provision of bus timetables**

The secretary reported that she had delayed writing SPT requesting the display of timetables at libraries on account of the number of route changes over the summer. It was noted that First Bus was cancelling a large number of services.

**h) Bus stop in Golspie Street**

Baile Thomas said that she would clarify what had happen concerning the proposed relocation of the bus stop.

**i) South Street Waste Processing**

The proposal had yet to be considered by Planning. Our objection would be heard among others.

**j) STUC and People's Assembly Rally against Austerity: George Square**

Further information was awaited on council cuts. The issue of the continued funding for breakfast clubs was being referred for further consideration amid concern that the children of parents in need or on low wages would suffer adverse consequences.

**k) Graving Dock**

Concerns were expressed that any plans for the future of the graving dock fully involve local community organisations and elected members. It was suggested that discussions might take place with Pat Cassidy of Govan Workspace about its preservation and use as part of the wider heritage project in Govan.

**l) Southern Hospital**

It appeared that there had been some improvement in the signage. Although the meeting expressed unhappiness at the last minute change of title, it was felt that any further change would only incur greater cost.

**m) Future of Govan Shipyard**

The secretary was asked to consult with Pat Cassidy of Govan Workspace about a public event in the Fairfields Building later this autumn which would enable people in Govan to be informed and to raise any issues or concerns.

**4. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION**

**a) Bank Account**

The Treasurer had made all books available and the secretary would contact our usual auditor, Christine Murphy, to enable the audit to be completed by the October AGM.

**b) Membership of the Community Council**

Membership forms were available for the two applicants for the two places advertised as of November 2014.

The Secretary had contacted the Community Council Resource Centre and been advised that our constitution allowed us to propose an increase in membership as long as this was

agreed at a prior advertised meeting. It was agreed that we should seek to increase our membership by 3, that we should indicate our intent in the October issue of the Govan letter and officially agree the change at our November meeting.

c) **Govan Letter**

A draft content list was distributed for the next issue which it was hoped would be available for October. This was agreed with some additions. It was considered whether it might be appropriate to have an opinion piece on the adequacy of existing funding methods for councils and on the options that were currently being put forward.

d) **Community Council AGM**

This would take place at the October meeting and officers would be elected for the coming year.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Johann Lamont MSP: surgery dates for the autumn.

**6. COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Baillie Thomas reported that a new leader of the City Council would be announced this Thursday.

Councillor Dornan raised the issue of the Govan Fair's AGM and the circumstances in which it had been abandoned. He indicated that he had written a letter to the Charity Commission raising his concerns as had other elected members. It was noted that two members of the existing committee had been removed in violation of the provisions of the existing constitution. 42 members had also been removed from membership. The chair of the meeting had refused to take a motion of no confidence.

The Community Council recorded its opinion that the Fair should be organised by a committee that was responsible to local community organisations – as had been the case in the past.

Jimmy Stringfellow reported that he as chair had initiated plans for a limited company to take over the management and had drafted a new constitution for this purpose. He indicated that no money had been paid to organisers and that in future it would not be necessary to seek a grant from the council. At this point a motion of next business was moved

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: AGM, MONDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2015 AT 7PM IN THE ELDERPARK WORKSPACE BOARDROOM.**