

GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 11 JANUARY 2016

Present: Dick Carabine, Flora Pagan, Esme Clark, Robert Preston, Gina Preston, Sandy Black, Wilma Bruce, Jean Melvin, Helen McNeil, Jessie Sinclair, John Foster
Attending: Bailie Fariha Thomas, Councillor John Kane, PC Kirsty Douglas, PC Stuart Wilson, Reinhild Gorniak, Allan Bell,
Apologies: Cllr James Adams, Cllr Stephen Dornan, Helen Duffy, Humza Yousaf MSP

Minute taker: John Foster

1. MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Moved as correct by Helen McNeil and Robert Preston and agreed.

2. POLICE ISSUES

The Police representatives provided a written crime report for the period 1 December to 10 January

Breach of Peace	3
Theft	4 + 1 theft by finding
Vandalism	9 + 1 reckless conduct
Drugs	3
Assault	3 + 1 serious
Robbery	2
Weapon	3
Housebreaking	1
ASB	4

One crime was noted where crime was perceived to be racially motivated

The Police representatives reported that in general the period had been relatively quiet and that a number of the reported offences were alcohol-related, maybe seasonal. There were no new issues raised.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE NOVEMBER MINUTES

a) Asda shopping trolleys

There had still been no response to our letter and the number of abandoned trolleys was even worse than before.

b) Hate Crime Awareness Week

Bailie Thomas reported on the meeting of the Race Hate Crime Working Party before Christmas which had affirmed the importance of maintaining the initiative and would meet again on Tuesday 19 January.

c) Alcohol Awareness

It was agreed to invite Andrew Brown to the February meeting (Minute Secretary to supply Secretary with contact details).

d) Bus services

A meeting was taking place between local councillors and the Fastlink team the following day to discuss a range of problems. Issues raised included First buses not stopping at scheduled stops, the

need for maps explaining *which* stops were for *which* buses and the dangerous road configuration of the traffic lanes at the Govan Road/Drive Road corner.

e) Cuts and People's Assembly against Austerity

Councillor Kane reported that figures for 2016-17 were now available and indicated that Glasgow would lose £75m in 2016-17 (the biggest cut for any local authority in Britain) and £55m in 2017-18. The Council would not set its budget till March but severe cuts would undoubtedly be inflicted on non-statutory areas such as LES. Scottish government cuts in other areas, such as teacher training, also impacted on Glasgow – as indirectly did the 10 per cent cut in the budget for Culture and Arts.

In discussion it was noted that the additional areas of finance (such as that for the purchase of privately owned tenements) were the result of requests for funding to the Scottish government that were tied to those areas. It was also felt that some services, such as those in cleansing, were already near breakdown as a result of the non-replacement of staff.

The meeting showed support for maximising protests at the cuts and noted the impending initiatives by Glasgow Trades Union Council and the People's Assembly against Austerity.

f) Graving Dock

Our Secretary reported the presentation at the Central Govan Action Plan meeting on 15 December where the owners of the site, New City Vision, represented by Harry O'Donnell, outlined plans for development. Currently still tentative, the plans would include the restoration of much of the dock structure, a link to the Science Centre, some private residential housing and one high rise office block – with the site opened to the public. It was agreed that there would also be community consultation with residents in adjacent schemes.

g) Southern Hospital

It was felt that the signage had in general improved. However, concerns were expressed at a) failure to answer phones b) the discharge of patients without adequate care (missing essential medicines) and c) the lack of beds, on occasion, for those admitted through A&E. It was agreed to raise these issues with our MSP, as the NHS was a Scottish Parliament responsibility, and to invite her, if feasible, to the March meeting.

h) Future of Govan Shipyard

There were no further reports.

i) Govan Fair

Sandy Black noted that there was no further report to be given at this stage.

j) 31 Burleigh Street: application for a bookmakers

Our Secretary had written to our MSP Johann Lamont as agreed at the previous meeting asking for an intervention in the current consultation and requesting that betting offices be re-categorised as sui generis and local government given greater powers to take into account social factors such as proximity to other betting offices and public houses and the residential character of the street.

k) Potholes: Crossloan/Craigton Roads

These two potholes had still not been filled in – despite assurances to Councillor Thomas by LES. Another large pothole had emerged on Edmiston Drive at Ibrox stadium.

l) Blocking of access in Rathlin Street and Wardrop Streets

The Secretary would visit to assess how far GHA vans were blocking access in Wardrop and Rathlin Streets. The minute secretary would monitor also.

4. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION

a) Membership of the Community Council

Elections for the three vacant places had taken place. The voting was

Kevin Magee	21
Jessie Sinclair	19
Sandy Black	13
Jim Stringfellow	1

Kevin Magee, Jessie Sinclair and Sandy Black were thereby elected and congratulated by the meeting

b) Accounts for the past financial year

The auditor had been on holiday but it was hoped that the accounts could be available for despatch to the City Council very soon.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

6. PLANNING

South Street incinerator

This was going to Planning Committee the following day. Bailie Thomas noted that environmental considerations, such as chimney emissions, were dealt with separately by the Scottish Environmental Planning Agency, and were not valid reasons for objection to the Planning Committee.

7. COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Kane reported that Council operations had been seriously disrupted before Christmas by a week-long collapse of the IT system subsequent to a fire. Many incoming emails were lost over this period and if constituents had not received answers they should resend.

He further reported on the Mary Barbour project – with the maquettes about to go on tour from Elderpark Library to the Luma Light building, the Riverside and Kilbarchan. The result of the competition would be announced at the gala concert at the Fruit Market on 27 February. There would also be a fundraising Burns supper in Linthouse on 22 January. Cllr Kane thanked the many local firms, organisations and personalities who were now contributing towards the statue which would either be outside the underground station or across the road at Water Row.

8. AOCB

a) Caravan parked near gate of Elderpark Library

This had been stationary for up to a year. Police indicated that it would be illegal if parked without a number plate.

b) Pallet business at Arthurlie Street and traffic hazards

Jessie Sinclair reported on the dangerous traffic conditions caused by the recent opening of a pallet depot, with many trucks picking up and depositing pallets. This was combined with a long standing problem caused by cars exiting the Social Work offices at high

speed. Bailie Thomas indicated that she would ask LES to conduct a traffic management assessment. The police representatives said that they would also investigate.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 1 FEBRUARY AT 7PM IN THE ELDERPARK WORKSPACE BOARDROOM.