

GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

13 MAY 2019

Present: Allan Bell (chair), Flora Pagan, Esme Clark, Wilma Bruce, Reinhild Gorniack, Robert Preston, Gina Preston, Daniel O'Neill, John Foster

Attending: Cllr John Kane, David Jones, Sulcai Secha

Apologies: Chris Stephens MP, Cllr Allan Bell, Humza Yousaf MSP

Minute Taker: John Foster

1. MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING

These were moved as a correct record by Esme Clark and Wilma Bruce

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM APRIL MEETING

a) BAE orders

Chris Stephens MP sent a report that a policy document on shipbuilding will be published later in the week. He also noted reports that the three Royal Navy supply ships were to be built in Spain.

b) Refugees and asylum seekers: right to work

Chris Stephens reported a plan to convene a meeting of Churches and Community Councils from SW Glasgow in June to petition and campaign for the right to work.

c) Presence of police at Council meetings

Our Secretary had received a reply from Police Scotland indicating that in future police representatives would, in order to adhere to the terms of GDPR, only be able to give information on general crime trends. It was the opinion of the meeting that the issue for our Community Council was not the detail of crime statistics but the regular presence of the police themselves. Our Secretary would write to that effect. Cllr Kane suggested contact with Sgt Bob Anderson and noted that crime figures were regularly given to the joint Police-HA Positive Communities Working Group for the Harmony/Elderpark area.

d) Govan Fair Association

The procession would take place as normal on 7 June and would leave Fairlie Street at 7 p.m. and proceed to Langlands Road. The Queen would be crowned in the Pearce Institute at 6 p.m. Flora Pagan noted that the committee desperately needed some new, younger members. Concern was expressed that application for the use of the park had not been lodged in time and the fun fair was therefore unlikely to take place. A fund-raising event had been organised at the Fairfield Social Club that raised over £300.

e) The Graving Dock

No further progress – although construction was now taking place to prepare the dock as a set for a film by Stephen Spielberg over the summer.

f) Blocked gullies and road flooding

The gullies at 233 to 235 Langlands Road remained blocked and the road had been flooded during a recent downpour.

g) Rangers Community Forum

Cllr Kane reported that the next meeting will be held before the end of May.

h) Rents: legal position of pre-1989 Housing Association tenants

The petition to the Scottish Parliament Petitions Committee for a Hearing at the Petitions Committee had been officially lodged. The minute secretary would check when the petition would be open on the web for signature. Once the petition was live, it was hoped that Evening Times would give publicity to an issue that was Scotland-wide. Contact was being maintained.

i) Area Partnership: Cleansing procedures

Cllr Kane reported that Laura Moran, Grade A Officer responsible to the Communities and Sustainability Committee, would now be attending the Area Partnership and would also liaise with community organisations. He was pressing for cleansing uplift statistics to be available on a ward by ward basis rather than in aggregate. It was currently the intention of Cleansing to replace all metal bins by the end of the year. Wilma Bruce noted that the bin for food waste at the entrance to Elder Park had not been emptied for a long period and that the contents were rotting.

j) Consultation on the Transport (Scotland) Bill

Our Secretary had received a response to our letter requesting details of the submission made to the Scottish Parliament by Glasgow City Council. Bailie Susan Aitken clarified the Council's position as supporting the right of councils to run municipally controlled services for all routes, not just loss-making ones, but with the proviso that additional government funding be made available to facilitate this. The Bill was now at Stage 2 and before the Rural Affairs Committee. Similar amendments had been lodged by Aberdeen and Lanarkshire councils. There would be further Hearings in June. It was AGREED that we write to our MSP Humza Yousaf asking that he support the call for full municipal control of bus transport with the requisite government funding in line the agreement reached at the Community Council's Strategy meeting three years ago. Daniel O'Neill noted in this context the report from the Connectivity Commission for a light rail link between the City Centre and the Airport that would also link the QEUH and Braehead.

k) Café 13

Agreements were being reached about the approach to security with a number of physical changes to the entrance to make the premises more secure. Concern was expressed that the Café had been closed over Easter.

3. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION

a) Change of signature for the bank account

This had now been completed and our Treasurer would pay outstanding monies.

b) Strategy meeting

It was AGREED that we would now seek dates in September and that we should identify issues for discussion at our June meeting.

c) Govan Letter

We should aim at late September/October for the next issue to cover issues discussed at the Strategy meeting.

d) Computing equipment

It was agreed to submit an application for funding to cover the £500 cost of a laptop plus printer/scanner to Democratic Services. Daniel O'Neill noted that there was now free software available for iPhones and Android mobiles that enabled the scanning and printing of documents (Camscanner).

e) Signed copy of the amended constitution

We were seeking a replacement copy and this would then be signed and returned.

4. PLANNING

Change of frontage 885 and 1008 Govan Road: no objection

5. CORRESPONDENCE AND SECRETARY'S REPORT

Govan Stones

An application for funding was being made to extend the search for further Stones.

New Glasgow University scientific research campus in Linthouse

This was welcomed as a very positive development in redeveloping the employment base in the area.

Cancellation of Exercise Class for the over 50s

Gordon MacKay had written raising the sudden cancellation in March of the class held in the Pearce Institute funded by Glasgow and Clyde NHS through Glasgow Life and attended by upwards of 15 people. It was agreed that this was a retrograde step given the importance of exercise for health and preventive medicine and that representation should be made to Glasgow and Clyde NHS.

6. REPORTS FROM ELECTED MEMBERS

COUNCILLOR JOHN KANE

Cllr Kane's report covered the following issues

a) Mary Barbour Law

John will be moving a resolution in Council this month in support of legislation that would give Councils far greater powers to combat exploitative rents in the private sector and also to prosecute and strike off landlords in significant breach of health and safety legislation.

b) Glasgow Housing Association – South Side

John reported from the most recent meeting of the Board. An issue of great concern was the effect of Universal Credit on the number of tenants in arrears: the total level of debt had increased by £500,000 in the past six months across the south-side. GHA was, however, still able to make significant contributions to local organisations – including Starter Packs (£19k), the Govan Ferry, Community Energy £5k and a scheme for the provision of electric cars, 'Co-wheels' jointly funded by the Scottish government. The recent Fraser of Allander report on GHA for the period 2003 to 2019 indicated a £2 billion contributions to the local economy – with particularly important contributions to job creation and apprenticeships through the joint venture for all repairs through City Building.

7. OTHER ISSUES

a) Show People at Govan Cross

Cllr Kane reported that one family had visited a site at Clyde Gateway which they found fully satisfactory – though some remedial work will be required.

b) Water Row development: current stage

Cllr Kane indicated that CGAP and Govan HA were actively engaged in development work although there were concerns regarding the possible response from SEPA on flooding. John also stressed the need to take forward current developments fairly quickly as there were indications that, after the next Scottish Parliament elections, priorities will shift to the NHS and to Transport and that less money will be available for housing.

c) Paving of Govan Road and Burleigh Street area: issues about continuation

The new paving was commended. However, concern was expressed that current plans indicated that the paving would not continue down Govan Road to and beyond the Chapel and along Harmony Row where pavements were in a very poor condition. Cllr Kane said he would pursue the issue.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 3 JUNE 2019 at 7pm in the
Workspace Board Room.**