

GOVAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of General Meeting: 11 June 2012

Present: Dick Carabine (in Chair), Flora Pagan, Esme Clark, Wilma Bruce, Jean Melvin, Robert Preston, Helen McNeill, George Smith, John Foster Apologies: Cllr Allison Hunter In attendance: Councillor Fariha Thomas, PC Julie McKenzie and PC Fiona Malone, Shirley McKnight and Jim Fraser (Elderpark HA)

Minute taker John Foster

1. MINUTES OF MAY GENERAL MEETING

These were moved as correct by Esme Clark and Flora Pagan subject to the correction of Director to Deputy Director in 2b line 3.

2. MATTERS ARISING

a) Fast Link Route

This continued to be an issue of concern. The Secretary would attend a consultation meeting organised by Susan Hanlin of the Central Govan Action Plan with the Fast Link Planning Team on 21 June.

b) Electronic signage at bus stops

Acknowledgement received of letter from our Secretary asking for the introduction of electronic signage but no full response yet from SPT.

c) Mobile mast at Linthouse Bowling Club

This was going to Planning Committee on 12 June. No formal notice had been received as the mast itself was a few yards outside our area. It was noted that we had objected at the consultation stage and that because of its size and character it did affect amenity within our area.

d) South Side Energy Centre, Bogmuir Road The proposed development was outside the Council's area but would definitely affect traffic flow and amenity in our area.

e) Community Champion

Our nomination of Flora Pagan was noted. Applications for the 2012 round of awards for SW Glasgow had yet to be announced.

f) Cigarette ends outside public houses

A response had been received from Alastair Brown of Environmental Health indicating that GCSS will be deploying officers to fine those dropping cigarette butts. Councillor Thomas agreed to investigate whether any bylaw existed whereby publicans were responsible for sweeping the pavement immediately outside their premises.

g) Twenties Plenty signs on Langlands Road

These had been erected the wrong way round. These had not yet been put the correct way round – facing the roundabout on Crossloan Road

h) Letter of thanks to John Flanagan: our Secretary confirmed that this had been sent

i) Patrick Harvie MSP's bus services survey: our Secretary had written about our concerns about safety and the lack of attention to the needs of elderly passengers

3. COUNCILLOR FARIHA THOMAS

Councillor Fariha Thomas attended to indicate how she and her colleague Councillor James Adams intended to relate to local communities in the constituencies. Both would attend Govan Community Council as need arose and the Community Council should be aware of their specific areas of Council responsibility. Councillor Thomas's responsibilities were primarily in the areas of the Area Committee (which she would Chair) and the local Community Planning Partnership. She was a member of the committees responsible for Children and Families, Planning, Petitions and

General Purposes and Community Safety Services. Councillor James Adams has responsibilities for Social Care and the Community Health and Community Partnership (South).

Councillor Thomas's local surgery would be on the fourth Saturday in the Govan Youth Information premises; Councillor Adams' would be on the second Saturday in the same premises

Questions were posed about:

- a) **Funding of Street Parties** – specifically for Lorne Street. Cllr Thomas explained that funding was contingent on the fulfilment of several conditions and was not yet finalised. Cllr Thomas also stressed that in the future greater attention needed to be given to broadening the number of groups in receipt of funds
- b) **Govan Fair and levels of support** – George Smith raised the lack of resources for the procession, the absence of any events for children after the procession and the limited participation by schools.

After discussion it was **AGREED** that at the some future meeting a representative of the Govan Fair Committee be invited to discuss whether more help could be given. The Police would investigate the continuing availability of the Police Pipe Band. It was also **AGREED** that we pass on to the Committee our thanks for its efforts to make the 256th Govan Fair a success.

4. POLICE REPORT

Constable Mackenzie gave the crime report for the period since 14 May (compared to similar period for 2011) for Beat 10.

There were 33 crimes reported (47 in 2011) and 15 detected (20 in 2011). There had been 5 drug offences detected (6), 0 knives being carried (0) and one house-breaking (5). There had been 4 arrests for disorder/breach of peace (5), 4 assault (8), 3 thefts (3), 5 minor anti-social (8), 2 vandalism (7) 8 thefts from cars (3) and 3 traffic offences (1). There had been 22 complaints compared to 17 last year. Govan Fair had passed without major incidents.

Issues raised were:

- a) **Shopping trolleys** from Asda being left in the street – potentially damaging cars. **AGREED** write letter to Asda asking that the current five day rota for collection be made more frequent.
- b) **Vandalism of bus shelters**: police seeking to prevent
- c) **Throwing of stones at cars** and buses and between gangs of youngsters, esp. on Govan Road. The Police and Jim Fraser of Elderpark HA indicated that there was cooperation in raising anti-social behaviour of children with parents

5. ELDERPARK HOUSING ASSOCIATION

a) **Jim Fraser: Refuse collection and replacement of bins**

Jim reported that metal bins were regularly inspected and requests made to Cleansing for their replacement. Those without bottoms were replaced by Cleansing free of charge; those damaged or missing at the expense of the HA. He would like to see the metal bins replaced by the green wheelie bins (principally to reduce vermin) but tenants were unwilling to bring them out through the tenements as required by Cleansing. It was reported that in Burndyke Court Cleansing themselves brought green bins out. This would be followed up. It was also noted that all metal bins were missing from 231 Langlands Road.

b) **Shirley McKnight, Deputy Director on development policy**

Shirley indicated that she was primarily attending to ask for Council support for a proposed redevelopment of the Hills Trust School site. The proposal was for a mixed development including units for sale, units for rent, for shared equity and some for those with disabilities.

There would be tenements fronting Golspie Street and terraced housing further back approaching the Harhill houses. Funding difficulties had made it problematic to take the development forward but it was hoped to secure sufficient funds from the sale of properties in Cessnock.

It was moved on a motion from Flora Pagan, seconded by Jean Melvin, that the Community Council give its support and unanimously **AGREED**.

Shirley then reported on the detrimental changes in housing grants for new build introduced by the Scottish government over the past year for community-based HASs.

This had reduced government funding for a three bedroom unit from £70,000 to £40,000. Compensation had also been removed for building on brownfield inner city sites and for the costly process of preparing the site. The government has asked housing associations to make up the difference through higher rents and cross subsidy from sales. For the poorer areas of Glasgow, where sale prices were low, these changes had made development entirely uneconomic and Elderspark HA had taken the decision to end further development work. So had a number of other inner city HAs. A campaign had been undertaken by the Glasgow and West of Scotland Forum of HAs (Secretary Jim Harvey) to modify the policy but unfortunately without success.

It was **AGREED** at the meeting that the change in policy was highly detrimental to areas like Govan and that we should investigate how far further attempts could be made to modify the policy jointly with CCs in similar areas such as Scotstoun and Whiteinch – possibly through a petition to the Scottish Parliament and involving local MSPs.

6. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORGANISATION

a) Website

The Minute Secretary reported that this was now operational. It currently included minutes, dates of meetings, reports of conferences, and contacts. He asked that members consider what additional areas should be included – particularly of details of local services. It was agreed that we should investigate how far local historical videos could be included. The meeting recorded its thanks to the Minute Secretary and to Ronnie Campbell for their work.

b) Auditing of Accounts

The Treasurer would start the process of preparing the accounts for audit when the new session began in the Autumn.

5. PLANNING

a) **233 Langlands Road and 243 Langlands Road:** replacement of windows. No objection

b) **Office of Govan Shipyard:** CCTV and lights on roof. No objection.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

a) **Glasgow City Council Democratic Services:** Lee Hanlin would be responsible for Govan Community Council

b) **Community Payback Scheme:** consultation meeting 26 June at Parish Halls. The chair would attend.

8. NEXT MEETING MONDAY 3 SEPTEMBER at 7 p.m. in the BOARD ROOM, WORKSPACE, 100 Elderpark Street. It was **AGREED** that officers be given powers to meet and transact business meantime.