

# Mount Florida Community Council

## Minutes of AGM 28 October 2014 held in Clincarthill Church Halls, 7pm

**Present:** Community Councillors C. Boyce-Butler, C. Carus, D. Martin, M. Charlwood, C. Charlwood, J. MacDonald, J. Matheson, C. Potter, A. Sutherland, S. Whitmore, L. Rice  
Also attending: L. Davidson, J. Heffernan, S. Johnson, Cllr A. Graham, PCs D. Callan and L. MacLennan.

### 1. Welcome/Opening Remarks and Apologies:

Chris Carus chaired the meeting and welcomed those attending. Outgoing Treasurer Gordon Cumming sent his apologies. Attendance was noted (as above).

**2. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the AGM of 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2013 were approved (Proposed Mark Charlwood, seconded Duncan Martin).

### 3. Chairperson's Report (Chris Carus):

Community Councils are the most local tier of democratic representation in Scotland, their purpose being to give a voice to people on the most local issues. They are non-commercial and non-party political. Their influence is set to grow in the coming years on the back of the Community Empowerment Bill which is currently being brought through Parliament. Community councils are especially important for areas like Mount Florida that can fall between the gaps in local and central government priorities: having fewer social and health problems than the average; having higher than average employment rates; but not being a centre of commerce and wealth.

In the past year, MoFloCoCo has made significant priorities against the priorities that were set at the beginning of the year. We wanted to raise the profile and reputation of the Council locally, and we wanted to address the priorities that residents had told us about, which were:

1. the negative impact of the 'Routes to Hampden Bus Infrastructure 2013' Traffic Regulation Order on Cathcart Road and in the streets around Bolton Drive and Clincart Road.
2. road condition (potholes),
3. litter and dog mess, and
4. ensuring the Commonwealth Games at Hampden were arranged with sensitivity to local life and that plans were well communicated.

It's important to note that we are fortunate to not have to contend with many problems that are common features in other parts of the City. We have relatively few problems with crime, alcohol, housing conditions, or anti-social behaviour. We have a school to be proud of, plus a library and sporting facilities nearby. We also value the attractive variety of local shops and businesses.

In the course of the year we had several achievements to be proud of.

In September we first met with representatives of Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee. From that point on we fought hard to extract any information that would help residents and businesses to plan for the Games. Thanks in large part to our efforts, Glasgow 2014 made some changes to its plans, including the overflow parking in Queens Park and flexibility on business delivery hours. It was good to see Mount Florida benefit from many road and pavement improvements in the run up to the Games. We are glad to have played our part in getting Glasgow ready for what was the best ever Commonwealth Games.

In January we held a public consultation on the impact of the Traffic Regulation order that was implemented in August 2013. Residents and businesses have suffered from the TRO and the benefits are still not clear. As well as some minor improvements in the short term, we extracted a commitment from Land & Environmental Services to a full review

after the Commonwealth Games. We expect the review process to take around 3 or 4 months, and any ensuring new Traffic Regulation to take a further 6 months to implement.

MoFloCoCo's ability to respond proactively to Planning issues was greatly enhanced, first by Sam Whitmore's eagle-eyed monitoring of planning applications, and by Craig Potter who has done an excellent job reviewing Planning Applications and responding to the Glasgow Parks Rules Consultation. Our thanks to Craig and Sam.

Recognition is also due to Amy Sutherland who in March carried out a research project on local business. Her report will continue to be excellent reference document for some time to come.

We held Community Clean-Up events that were well attended in even the most inclement weather.

We built new links, in particular with the Primary School Parent Partnership.

Thanks to our able representative in the Community Planning Partnership, Mark Charlwood, we have engaged early on important local developments including the future of the old Victoria Hospital buildings and of Langside Hall.

We have significantly developed our internal organisation. We have been awarded a second Area Partnership grant of over £2000 which is credit to our reputation as a trustworthy and worthwhile organisation. Janet MacDonald is the mainstay of our administration and does a really excellent job minuting our sometimes hectic meetings.

We have grown our ability to interact with residents, putting us more in touch with local opinion. We distributed to every household copies of two attractive newsletters. We are using new media to better communicate with constituents: our Facebook following increased from 168 to 382 people, and our Twitter following increased from 191 to 312. We had 1500 unique visitors to our website, peaking at 445 in the month of July alone in connection with the Commonwealth Games. We are now experimenting with a new e-newsletter. Membership has increased from 9 to 14, and peaked briefly at 16. We now have 6 vacant positions in the Council. Our average attendance has increased from 10 in 2012-2013 to 17 in 2013-2014.

I want to extend thanks to everyone who has contributed to all these successes in the past year, including Community Councillors, City Councillors and residents. I especially want to thank Gordon Cumming and Duncan Martin who will step down from their positions as Treasurer and Secretary. While they will, I hope, remain in the Council, we should recognize them for many years' service to the Community.

Looking to the year ahead I will summarise the key priorities we have discussed in previous meetings.

1. First, Grow Mo Flo, is our environmental project supported with over £2400 from GCC aimed at promoting community spirit, and making Mo Flo and greener and cleaner place. Les Rice is leading the work and has made remarkable progress already.
2. Second, we want to work closely and constructively with Land & Environmental Services on the review of Parking Restrictions. We will encourage input from the Business Association and from residents in the course of the review.
3. Third, we will take advantage of the recent influx of enthusiastic and energetic new Community Councillors to create a strong organization where each of us is enabled to contribute to our full potential.

To be successful in these endeavours we will need new people to join the council, and we must all ensure that we stay in touch with local opinion so that we can continue to represent the people of Mount Florida and west Kings Park.

The Chairman's Report was approved – proposed Janet MacDonald, seconded Claire Charlwood.

**4. Approval of Submission of Independently Examined Statement of Accounts:**  
Copies of the audited accounts were circulated. The accounts were accepted (proposed Mark Charlwood, seconded Sam Whitmore).

**5. Demission of current Office Bearers:**  
The current office bearers stood down.

**6. Election of Office Bearers:**  
Claire Charlwood was elected to temporarily chair the meeting until the election of Office Bearers was completed (prop. Chris Carus, sec. Janet MacDonald)  
The following Office Bearers were elected:  
**Chair** - Chris Carus (proposed Mark Charlwood, seconded Les Rice).  
**Minute Secretary** – Janet MacDonald (proposed Chris Carus, seconded Sam Whitmore).  
Les Rice proposed Richard Carlaw as **Treasurer**; Richard was unable to attend the meeting due to ill health, and has yet to be elected as a Community Councillor. Election to the post of Treasurer was therefore deferred until next month's Ordinary meeting.  
Sydney Johnson was proposed as **Correspondence Secretary**; she has still to be elected to the Community Council, therefore election to the post of Correspondence Secretary was deferred until next month's Ordinary meeting. The Chair will cover these posts in the interim.

Other posts:

**Community Planning Partnership Representative:** Mark Charlwood (prop. Chris Carus, seconded Les Rice)

It was suggested that we merge the posts of planning and licensing monitors, and to create a new post of **Licensing and Planning Secretary**. Craig Potter was elected to this new post (prop. Sam Whitmore, sec. Les Rice).

Amy Sutherland was elected to the post of **Social Media Secretary** (prop. Chris Carus, sec. Mark Charlwood).

We need people to work on **parking issues**. This will be deferred to the Ordinary meeting.

Les Rice will continue to lead **GrowMoFlo**.

The post of **Schools Liaison** is vacant following the resignation of Lesley Davidson.

Queens Park Arena Rep. – Les Rice.

Hampden Liaison – Mark Charlwood.

Business Association rep – Amy Sutherland

**7. Appointment of Independent Examiner:**  
To be deferred to the November meeting.

**8. Appointment of Associate Members:**  
This refers to people who may be invited to work with us due to their community involvement or expertise.  
James Heffernan – Director of Stanmore Social (invited and accepted).  
Mount Florida Primary Parent Partnership (MFPPP) will try to send representatives on rotation to our meetings, but will not have a formally appointed associate.  
City Councillors, MSPs, MP etc. are all ex officio members of the Community Council.  
**Chris Carus** will check the Constitution to see who should be formally invited to meetings.

**9. Review of Inventory and Resources:**  
Inventory: Flip Chart easel; hanging banner; free-standing banner.

**10. Date of next AGM:**  
The next MFCC AGM will be held on Tuesday 27th October 2015 at 7pm in Clincarthill Church Halls.

**THE AGM WAS CLOSED**

**Normal business meeting resumed.**