

Minutes of meeting 28 January 2014, Clincarthill Church Hall

Present: Cllr Liam Hainey; Community Councillors C. Carus, G. Cumming, L. Davidson, J. MacDonald, D. Martin, J. McGregor, A. Miller, S. Whitmore, R. Wilson
Attendees: Amir, Dunroban, Fahad, T. Hamid, B. Anderson, C. Boyce-Butler, M. Gilroy, R. Lupton, A. Morrison, L. Mulraney, C. Potter, J. Thomson, P.C. A. Dalgleish

1. Welcome: Chris Carus chaired the meeting.

2. Apologies: C. Charlwood, M. Charlwood and E. Cowing.

3. Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 26 November 2013 were approved with the following amendments:

- (i) Item 9(ix) G. Cumming noted that there had been 2 dissenters to the proposal to have a newsletter in January.
- (ii) Item 9(vi) Environment: Jim McGregor had written to JACK Devine (not Jim Devine).

4. Councillor's Report:

- Cllr Liam Hainey attended, and apologised for missing our previous meetings due to illness.
- Cllr Hainey hopes to be able to focus on priorities; these will include issues such as the Parks Management Policy and the Shawlands Redevelopment.
- Regarding the parking issue, Cllr Hainey is currently contacting the relevant departments about the notification process for when the new restrictions were enforced.
- Jim McGregor pointed out that the sign at the roundabout at Queen's Park Street, which has been damaged could do with being replaced altogether. Jim provided Cllr Hainey with photographs.

5. Parking Restrictions

- This is a complex topic, which has generated a lot of emotion and anger. A number of parking restrictions have been introduced in stages from mid-2013. The reasons given all relate to pedestrian safety and double parking. We have been informed that statutory minimum consultation took place (advertised in press, notice on lamp posts), but many people seem to have been unaware that this was happening. We are in the process of gathering a body of evidence of public opinion about this issue.
- New restrictions are in place on Cathcart Road, Carmunnock Road, Clincart Road, Bolton Drive, Florida Drive, and Prospecthill Road. Many of the complaints are about the measures being too restrictive and unnecessary, badly placed signage, little warning, and aggressive enforcement. On the positive side, it is better for pedestrians, and should give better access for vehicles such as dustbin lorries.

After a short introduction by Chris Carus, we broke into 2 groups to discuss further. Maps of the area were provided, and we sought to hear about personal experiences of difficulties faced by residents as a result of the restrictions, and also suggestions for improvement.

Summary of discussion

Cathcart Road

Issues raised:

- Mix of businesses and residents – restrictions impact negatively on both.
- Businesses are adversely affected especially by yellow lines; signs are unclear as to where people CAN park.
- The 10-minute stop rule on Cathcart Road is now being more strictly enforced, affecting businesses.
- Pedestrian lights at Tesco don't seem to serve much purpose.
- The road linking Carmunnock Road to Cathcart Road is too narrow for left- and right-turning vehicles to wait at the Cathcart Road junction.
- Public safety – footpaths are breaking up.
- Blocked drains are a problem due to the kerb extensions.

- The taxi rank is now in a more inconvenient spot.

Ideas:

- Return things to how they were.
- Remove restrictions on Cathcart Road.
- Loading bays are not needed.

Bolton Drive/Clincart Road area – (New restrictions: traffic island and double yellow lines).

Issues raised:

- Too many cars chasing too few spaces.
- Some double yellow lines are unnecessary.
- The traffic island used to be a keep clear sign – is it legal?
- Some residents felt that restrictions had been put in place to allow vehicle access to Hampden.

Ideas:

- Make the roads around Bolton Drive and Clincart Road one-way with diagonal parking.
- Make better use of road space – parking at an angle to one side would allow more cars to be parked.
- Hampden events – could there be a ‘residents only’ parking area?
- Clean and align drains to avoid mud build-up which causes a slip hazard.

Conclusions

- The majority were in favour of returning things to how they were (except for corner lines) on Carmunnock Road and Cathcart Road.
- The idea of having clearer signs at Cathcart Road/Carmunnock Road met with unanimous support.
- 14 were for, zero against, making Bolton Drive/Clincart Road area one-way with diagonal parking.
- 8 people were for, 4 against, making Stanmore Road one-way to reduce congestion.
- Residents’ permits – in some parts of Glasgow, these have to be paid for. There was a majority against residents’ permits.

Actions

- Cllr Hailey agreed that our concerns are valid, and will take away and discuss these complaints and suggestions further with LES.
- It was agreed to set up a sub-committee formed of Chris, Alex and Ross to take this forward with the city council and LES to put forward views of residents, and do a walking tour of the areas affected with local councillors. Specialist advice has been offered by local resident Gordon Richmond. We will brief the city councillor attending next month’s meeting.

6. Community Police Report: PC Alistair Dalglish reported.

- Since the last update, 61 crimes had been reported in our area, the majority relating to housebreaking. Residents are asked to be vigilant; people dressed in workmen-like clothing are gaining entry to tenements and breaking into flats via the loft spaces. These break-ins seem to be perpetrated by the same people. If you see anything suspicious, DO NOT approach; get in touch with the police. There had been some increase in crime over the festive period.
- There may be some road closures in Mount Florida due to the Commonwealth Games. Police will not be in charge of security for the Games, so it is not yet clear which roads may be closed to vehicles, or for how long. The Commonwealth Games security team will decide, but as it is an event which will attract world-wide attention, security will be a priority. The strategy will probably be similar to what happened at the Olympic events at Hampden. The Police will pass on more information nearer the time.
- Aikenhead Road Police Station – From towards the end of March, the station will no longer be open to the public at night. It will still be used as a holding area but will not deal with public enquiries due to cut-backs. There will be a phone outside the station, however. Phone 101 for non-urgent issues. Further notification of the closure will be made in the press and on the Police Scotland Facebook page. We also hope to have an update at the next Community Council meeting.
- Duncan Martin had received a letter from the police to ask for our input about priorities. Surveys are being carried out to determine priorities in each area. These are reviewed to help set targets.
- A resident brought up the issue of double yellow lines preventing some people (e.g. pregnant women) from parking near their own homes, thus becoming an issue of personal safety. P.C. Dalglish replied that he agreed that this is a valid issue; however they are unable to help as police do not have powers to address this, and advised concerned residents to contact their local councillors or MP.

- Community wardens should be contacted regarding issues such as dog fouling. If residents see community police on duty and have any issues, feel free to contact them directly. The Community Police will do their best to address issues of concern, and will keep residents updated on issues around Hampden and parking during the Commonwealth Games.

7. Nominations for new Community Councillors

Chris Boyce-Butler and Craig Potter agreed to stand as community councillors. Nominations forms were completed and have to go to the city council for approval.

8. Reports of Office-Bearers

(a) Treasurer (Gordon Cumming)

There was a balance of £1394.56 at the last meeting, including what was left of the grant received from the Area Partnership. We have since received our annual district council grant of around £490, giving a total of £1884.67. Outlays included printing and delivery of the recent newsletter; a cheque is to go to Chris Carus to meet expenses. This should leave a balance of £1060.81.

(b) Correspondence (Duncan Martin)

- Handbooks of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils (2013) were distributed.
- A notification of new licenses for Hampden food vans had been sent on to Duncan.

An email had been received from Cllr Aitken in response to matters raised at the last meeting

- re police horse dung after events at Hampden, there is no legislation relating to this, but residents are asked to report any incidents to Land and Environmental Services on 0141-287 9700 to ensure that streets are cleaned without delay.
- Tenement properties should be re-stickered soon with up-to-date information on disposal of bulk rubbish.
- Leaves on Prospecthill Road should have been cleared towards the end of December, but Jim McGregor reported that this had not been done (see further below).

(c) Area Partnership: Mark Charlwood was not in attendance.

(d) Planning (Sam Whitmore) No planning applications had been submitted.

(e) Roads and Parking (see discussion above)

(f) Environment (Jim McGregor):

Jim reported that he had emailed Cllr Aitken in November regarding leaves; he heard back on 16 January that LES had cleared the leaves, but Jim had taken photos to show that they had not been cleared. To date, some clearing has been done, but not all.

Balfour Beatty – fly tipping is a concern. Photos have been sent to Jack Devine of the Parks Department; they have responded to some extent.

Litter wardens – Jim asked Cllr Hailey how many wardens are on the South Side. Cllr Hailey could not provide a definitive answer, but said that there is an officer responsible for the area and he will get in contact with him.

Betting shops do not have receptacles for cigarette disposal, which is a problem. BetFred say they do not have a policy for disposal.

Bulk Uplift – Items left on pavements constitute fly tipping and will incur a large fine. Closes are in process of being re-stickered with up-to-date information.

Shieldhall Tunnel (storm water storage) project will commence mid 2014 and take around 3½ years to complete. See Scottish Water website for more info www.scottishwater.co.uk

(g) Schools Liaison (Lesley Davidson)

Lesley had attended a PT meeting at Mount Florida primary. There will be 50 lorries per day going to Hampden during building works, and when the Games are over, this will happen again in reverse, which is cause for some concern. Could Hampden Committee fund road repairs? We will hold over and discuss further at the next meeting.

The School is holding a Scottish Family Fun Night on Thursday 6 February at Clincarthill Church, 7-9pm. Tickets £2.50 per adult, £1.50 per child.

(h) Hampden/Glasgow 2014 – Emma was not in attendance. This will be discussed further with Paul Zealey at our next meeting.

Consultation on Parks Management Policy: Public perception is that measures are draconian, some are unenforceable and are an over-the-top response to events in Kelvingrove Park at the royal wedding. It is 'politicized, reactionary and pointless'. We are invited to make a response to the consultation.

Action – Chris Carus will summarize communications we have had online, and a volunteer was sought to write a letter of response to LES. Craig agreed to draft a letter; Chris will send this on behalf of Mount Florida residents. (Cllr Hainey suggested comparing the new proposals to the current legislation.)

(i) Communications (Chris Carus)

An Area Partnership grant of £2000 had been received and, along with £400 from our other funds, had been used to improve our communications with local residents. The remainder of the money has to be spent by 31 March. One idea had been to pay someone to do some work on our behalf, e.g. research to find out ways to help local businesses, in order to foster better relations. The Area Partnership had agreed that they money could be used in this way, and we note that the grant has to be accounted for. We would wish to have detailed discussion with local businesses to find ways to help each other. Could local businesses, for example, help to fund our newsletter, perhaps by means of advertising?

Another idea was to put out another newsletter before the end of March. There was some discussion on these suggestions, and it was noted that we may not have much information to put in another newsletter by that date. It was also noted that the timescale is tight to advertise for and interview a researcher and get the necessary work done.

A vote was taken on the proposals: 3 voted in favour of a newsletter, and 5 in favour of employing a researcher. Gordon asked that the outlay for this should be no more than £640; he and Chris will get together to go over the grant figures in more detail.

Action - A sub-committee is to be formed to take this further – Chris Carus, Craig Potter, Duncan Martin and Ross Wilson agreed to be part of this. Chris to call a meeting of the sub-committee.

9. Consultation on Parks Management Policy

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Action – Craig Potter volunteered to summarize communications we have received online from residents. Chris Carus will send this letter on behalf of Mount Florida residents to LES.

9. AOB

(a) As the meeting had overrun its time, it was suggested that several issues should be held over till the next meeting. These include: establishment of sub-committees; social media policy (paper circulated in advance).

(b) Langside Hall community asset transfer – it was unanimously agreed to sign the letter asking for comprehensive information before proceeding.

10. Meeting and Process Review

It had been a lengthy meeting but had a good turn-out; most people were there for the parking issue.

It was generally agreed that the papers circulated to community councillors beforehand had helped the meeting run more smoothly and be more productive.

Next meeting: Tuesday 25 February at 7pm, Clincarthill Church Halls