

# Mount Florida Community Council

## Minutes of meeting 25 March 2014 Clincarthill Church Hall

**Present:** Cllr Susan Aitken, MSP James Dornan; Community Councillors C. Boyce-Butler, C. Carus, M. Charlwood, C. Charlwood, G. Cumming, L. Davidson, J. MacDonald, D. Martin, J. Matheson, C. Potter, A. Miller, S. Whitmore, R. Wilson.  
**Attendees:** John Cherry, Margery Cherry, Theresa Kewell, Robert Smith, Amy Sutherland, & Community Police Officers PC Raeside, PC Doyle (Cathcart PO).

**1. Welcome & Opening Remarks:** Chris Carus chaired the meeting. We have made great strides against the main priorities we set at the beginning of the year:

1. we have had some success working with the council on the parking restrictions, and there is little more we can do until September.
2. we have given very clear input to Glasgow 2014. Again, there is little more we can do here.
3. we now have more community councillors.

Unfortunately we have not made new progress on the litter and dog fouling topics since before Christmas. We have very little money remaining.

The Communications and Awareness Project comes to a close this month. It has been successful but there are no plans in place to continue it.

With regard to organisation, we have been productive when we set up small sub-committees which meet outside the main meeting and when we define clear roles and responsibilities. Tonight we should take stock of our situation and Amy's research report and identify priorities for the next few months.

**2. Apologies:** E. Cowing.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the meeting of 25 February were approved with the following amendment: Item 5 - Hampden is to be turned back over to a football stadium by 1 November. (Proposed M. Charlwood, seconded R. Wilson).

### **4. Community Police Report:**

PCs Raeside and Doyle reported on crime figures on their beats (57 & 58, covering Mount Florida and Cathcart) from the beginning of January till 25 March. There had been 205 reported crimes, of which 132 were detected. Since the recent road policing initiative began, there had been 30 road traffic offences, all detected; 26 Breaches of the Peace (20 detected); 31 thefts, including 5 housebreakings; all undetected - housebreaking teams are being set up in all areas to try to detect these. It is possible that some of the housebreakings that are so far undetected will be detected retrospectively. Residents are advised to ensure that property is marked and ID'd, and is secure. There had been 10 assaults and 1 serious assault; 16 vandalisms, (2 detected); and 1 attempted murder (detected - no cause for concern among residents). The officers then took questions.

A lot of graffiti has been noticed in our area lately, with the same 'tag'; the officers have not detected a pattern. There is difficulty getting on top of this, as it is usually done quickly. If a pattern develops, they will look more closely at this issue.

The officers were asked if there was any special training being given to police in advance of the Games. They replied that training is ongoing; more resources have been made available. A question was asked re the legality of people allowing dog fouling. Any evidence should be reported, and it is permissible to take photographs of offenders. The officers were thanked for their report.

### **5. Councillor's Report:**

Cllr Susan Aitken attended, and was congratulated on her appointment as SNP group leader on GCC. James Dornan, MSP also attended part of the meeting.

- Dog fouling, graffiti etc. - Residents are encouraged to report such issues to Cllr Aitken, or directly to the Clean Glasgow hotline **Free phone: 0800 027 7027**. They also deal with issues such as antisocial behaviour, fly-tipping, litter etc. They have

power to serve fixed penalty notices. If there is a regular problem, patrol officers can be alerted and will keep watch on a particular area. The more information provided, the better as they can help tackle these problems. Cllr Aitken can also feed information to them if it is reported to her (by email, at surgeries, etc.) Kings Park CC recently tackled an issue of anti-social behaviour via Community Safety Glasgow and the local police. Community Councils can get problems sorted out.

- Parking Issues - Cllr Aitken is backing Cllr Graham on this. The loading issue at Tesco is being addressed; new loading times are affecting residents of Cathkinview Road. The Roads Department is looking at this again; nothing major will happen until after the Games, but there is now more clarity about where people can park. Promised changes, e.g. to yellow lines, bollards and removal of signs, and clearing blocked drains at kerb extensions have not yet been attended to. Cllr Aitken will chase this up.
- Glasgow 2014 - The issue of shops on Cathcart Road missing out due to routing at the Games has been raised by both Cllr Aitken and James Dornan, MSP. Mr Dornan had recently met with Chief Inspector Carol McGuire, and believes that the new preferred option of access to Aikenhead Road from the station will be via Somerville Drive, not Prospecthill Road as formerly planned. This is to be confirmed. There will be no restrictions to visitors arriving on foot or other public transport. The impact on shops will be lessened. Shuttle buses will operate from the city centre to the Games; Scotrail is also in talks with the organisers. There will be a baton relay party on the Rec, 22 May. This will be free, but ticketed (link not yet open).
- Fliers on cars - people at the gym have been spoken to about this.
- Somerville Drive - problems with electrical vans parked there. If vans block corners, encroach into disabled spaces, etc. this can be tackled, but otherwise little can be done. There have also been some minor issues with anti-social behaviour in Somerville Drive; this has been raised with landlords.
- Changes to surgery times - Surgeries at Mount Florida Primary are as before (6pm, 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month) Posters (in shops) and leaflets will go out advising times.
- Small Business Bonus Scheme - provides rates relief to small businesses. This is easy to apply for. See further at <http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=4617>

## 6. Nominations for new Community Councillors:

Craig Potter, Chris Boyce-Butler and Jim Matheson are now confirmed as Community Councillors. There are still 2 places vacant. We need people to help manage online correspondence and budgeting. Chris Carus asked whether we should raise the constitutional membership from 16 to 20. At present, we need 6 CCs in attendance to be quorate; with 20 members, we would need 7. Work is concentrated among a small number of people at present; it would help if more people could help share tasks.

## 7. Reports of Office-Bearers

7.1 Treasurer (Gordon)	
• Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance of £1060.81 with outstanding payment of £35 due to Chris. Available funds of £1025.81</li> <li>• £641.59 is part of the Area Partnership grant, and must be spent or returned by end of March. £435 is already committed, and £206.59 is available.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> April the balance will be £384.22. The next known expected funding will be the annual admin grant of around £450 due around February 2015.</li> <li>• Church hall rent of around £200 will be due in October.</li> <li>• Note that it costs around £700 to print and distribute a newsletter</li> </ul>
• Outcomes	• None
7.2 Correspondence (Duncan)	
• Updates	• X licenses...?
• Outcomes	• No follow up action required.
7.3 Area Partnership (Mark)	
• Updates	• There is concern about the lack of clarity regarding the future of the old Victoria hospital buildings when the new Southern General becomes operational.
• Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark to find and share a link to an online version of hospital newsletter.</li> <li>• Time to be allocated to the hospital topic in the April meeting.</li> </ul>
7.4 Planning (Sam)	
• Updates	• There were no planning applications for sites in the Mount Florida CC area in the

	past month.
• Outcomes	• None
<b>7.5 Roads and Parking Sub-committee (Alex, Ross, Chris)</b>	
• Recap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GCC agreed in Feb' '14 to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Short term (understood to mean March '14): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shorten to 5m the double yellow lines at 39 Clincart Road,</li> <li>install reflective bollards on triangle on Bolton Drive</li> <li>remove out-of-date and contradictory signage on Cathcart Road between Prospecthill Road and Letherby Drive.</li> <li>LES will clear drains at all kerb extensions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Long term, meaning starting after the Commonwealth Games <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LES will perform a residential streets parking review with aim of creating additional spaces, considering one-way &amp; diagonal parking.</li> <li>LES will perform a review of the loading restrictions, including checking exactly where loading bays are really needed and how big they need to be.</li> <li>Councillor Graham will pursue a high level re-appraisal of the city-wide policy on arterial routes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
• Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris replied to the LES letter about the next steps to confirm our agreement and emphasise the need to carry out the 'short term' actions in the short term, and the long term actions shortly after the Commonwealth Games.</li> <li>Chris prepared a summary, agreed it with Ross and Alex, and sent it to the local newspapers, put it on the website and promoted it on social media. It was printed by the Southside Press.</li> </ul>
• Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that the short term actions have not been completed. Action: <b>Alex Miller</b> will write to Jamie Rodden to ensure completion prior to G2014 moratorium. Escalate via Cllr Graham if no response.</li> </ul>
<b>7.6 Environment (Ross)</b>	
• Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More litter teams have been allocated to Mount Florida area</li> <li>There are new ?? neighbourhood improvement volunteers ???.</li> <li>Ross will organise a community clean-up day to take place in May.</li> </ul>
• Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>All</b> invited to make suggestions for a target area for the clean up.</li> </ul>
<b>7.7 Schools Liaison (Lesley)</b>	
• Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MF Primary is organising a Gala event to take place last Saturday in May (31<sup>st</sup>) and invites MFCC to hold a stall.</li> </ul>
• Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was agreed to take a stall, on the assumption there is no cost. Chris BB volunteered to man the stall.</li> <li><b>Lesley</b> to confirm date and any cost.</li> <li><b>All</b> invited to help run the stall.</li> </ul>
<b>7.8 Hampden/ Glasgow 2014 (Emma → Alex)</b>	
• Recap	<p>We have made representation to Glasgow 2014 on the following key topics in relation to Glasgow 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information required: road closures, parking restrictions, alternative commuting route replacing Aikenhead Road</li> <li>Minimising negative impact, and maximising benefits for local amenities, especially local businesses. Will spectators pass through Cathcart and Carmunnock Roads?</li> <li>Provision for public toilets, litter collection, clearing police horse poo.</li> </ul>
• Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chris wrote to Paul Zealey summarising the discussion in the February 2014 meeting. There has been no reply.</li> <li>Chris wrote to Peter Dallas, Chief Executive of Hampden Park Ltd., as a follow up to the February meeting about the idea of making the Hampden car park available to residents and shoppers on non-event days. He responded to say he was amenable to the idea and asked MFCC to get in touch in September, after the Commonwealth Games.</li> <li>The Hampden information evening is to take place 27<sup>th</sup> March at 5.30 at Hampden.</li> </ul>
• Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Alex</b> agreed to take over the role as Hampden and Glasgow 2014 liaison.</li> </ul>
<b>7.9 Communications and Awareness</b>	
• Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amy presented a summary of her findings. Chris apologies for not having distributed the report prior to the meeting.</li> <li>Chris wrote a review of the Communications and Awareness Grant which was distributed by email prior to the meeting. Chris will close the grant with a similar report.</li> </ul>
• Outcomes	• None
<b>7.10. Queens Park Arena Representative</b>	
• Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark has resigned his position as Mount Florida QPA rep.</li> </ul>

### 8. Researcher's Report: (Amy Sutherland)

Amy has been investigating local issues as part of a Community Business Study. Trying to ascertain what issues affect local businesses, and how much awareness they have of MoFloCoCo. She had interviewed 14 local business people, a mixture of shops and service providers, gaining some useful information. The main issues they identified were:

- (i) Parking. This is a long-term issue.
- (ii) GCC – lack of communication; spending priorities.
- (iii) Vacant shops
- (iv) Volume/speed of traffic
- (v) Environment – could be more attractive – nothing to make it stand out at present
- (vi) Condition of pavements
- (vii) Sense of community

Regarding awareness/perception of MoFloCoCo, there is more awareness among those who live here, though less awareness of what we do. Amy generally received a positive response; there is optimism. Local businesses are already engaged in some of the issues. More communication and active engagement is needed; more work on addressing parking issues and increasing GCC's communication with local businesses.

Amy was thanked for her excellent work. Our main purpose is to represent residents, but businesses are also important.

### 9. Setting Next Objectives:

Community Councillors identified our most important priorities. These included having a Notice Board; Funding for community involvement; Hampden; litter; Commonwealth Games legacy; arresting the growing number of vacant shops; potholes; links with local businesses; closer link with local MSP.

We need to establish 2 campaigns – purpose, process, date. A decision was made to tackle those issues which engendered most interest –

- Building relationships with Hampden
- Supporting local businesses

**Action** - Mark Charlwood will speak to Cllr Graham about making steps to develop collaborative relationships with Hampden and/or QPFC.

**Action** - it was agreed that Craig would pull together those Community Councillors interested in the local business-related topics and hold a meeting. The purpose of the meeting would be to define a plan of action for a business sub-committee, to be agreed at the next meeting.

### 10. Closure of Communications and Awareness Grant:

(See above, Section 7.9)

### 11. Social Media Policy:

This will again be held over till next month due to pressure of time.

### 12. AOCB

(i) The Community Council noted with sadness the passing of former Community Councillor Betty Russell. Duncan Martin and Gordon Cumming had attended the funeral.

(ii) Attendance at the Community Councils' discussion forum this coming Saturday is encouraged. Topics for discussion should be sent by Thursday lunchtime.

(iii) Chris Carus proposed a dinner for Community Councillors to meet and socialize. Saporì D'Italia can accommodate us on Wed. 2 or Wed. 9 April, at 6.30pm, with a 2-course dinner for £10. Chris will email CCs.

(iv) Local business liaison – there is no community business forum. Further discussion will be held with Jim Matheson.

**Next meeting: Tuesday 22 April at 7pm, Clincarthill Church Halls**