

Mount Florida Community Council

Minutes of Ordinary meeting 28 October 2014 (following AGM) Clincarthill Church Hall

Present: Community Councillors C. Boyce-Butler, C. Carus, D. Martin, C. Charlwood, M. 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 and Introduction:

Chris Carus chaired the meeting and welcomed those attending. Chris noted that we are on an upward trajectory, with more going on and more people becoming involved. Our profile has been raised through our presence on social media. However we do need to be more efficient in dealing with bureaucracy to make more time available for constructive projects.

2. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from G. Cumming.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the September meeting were approved (Proposed C. Charlwood, Seconded L. Rice).

4. Councillor's Report:

Cllr Archie Graham was congratulated by the Chair on the success of the Commonwealth Games. He reported that advisers have been sent to the Gold Coast to brief the next Games hosts on the issues that arose. Cllr Graham also thanked residents for their patience shown during the Games. The Commonwealth Games federation has declared the 2014 Games as the best ever. The Athletes' Village is being refurbished, and will provide 600 homes (50% for sale and 50% to rent) and an elderly care facility. A Community Hub is currently being built, and there may be a further batch of houses built. In terms of the legacy for Mount Florida, jobs were created in construction work, and further permanent jobs in the sports facilities; there is a Commonwealth Graduate Scheme and a Commonwealth Apprenticeship Scheme. A new website, currently being worked on, will plot legacy projects in the Ward.

Cllr Graham noted that Glasgow City Council pays for 100 Community Police Officers every year, so it was good to see the officers in attendance.

A meeting to discuss reinstatement of the two stadia (Lesser Hampden and the main stadium) took place today. The UEFA Euro 2020 Championships will be hosted by London, and some games will be held at Hampden.

Work on Mount Florida Primary School is taking place as part of Phase 1 of the refurbishment programme. Work is almost complete, and people are pleased with the results so far.

The Parent Council had asked to meet with roads engineers regarding traffic management around the school. They have been informed that MoFloCoCo are involved in this and there has been dialogue between MFPPP and MoFloCoCo. We will look at any gaps in traffic management that could be addressed by the new plan. There have been some 'near-miss' accidents near the school; the Parent Partnership is looking at this.

Cllr Graham is currently looking into addressing the concerns about the significant shortfall in funding for Queens Park compared to the Botanics and Kelvingrove Parks.

5. Election of new Community Councillors:

This had been well advertised with posters around the local area, and on social media. Sidney Johnson's was the only nomination received. It has been validated by GCC Democratic Services. Her nomination was confirmed.

Les Rice noted that Richard Carlaw had indicated his interest in becoming a Community Councillor and becoming Treasurer. Unfortunately his nomination form had not been

received due to sickness. Chris Carus will find out if his nomination can be accepted at the November meeting.

Sidney Johnson was proposed by Chris Carus, and seconded by Claire Charlwood, and was duly confirmed in the role.

Richard Carlaw's interest in becoming Treasurer was noted. As he was absent from the meeting due to sickness it was agreed to defer the appointment until the November meeting. In the interim, the Chair would cover any immediate issues.

It was felt that there is a need to make ourselves more identifiable to members of the public; Chris Carus suggested putting names of Community Councillors on the website. This was agreed.

6. Community Police Report:

PCs Damian Callan and Lesley MacKinnon Brown reported on crime figures for Beat 57. During October there had been 157 calls received, with 28 of these raised as crime reports. These included 11 disorder offences (5 of which were detected), 7 occurrences of dishonesty (4 detected), 3 road traffic offences (all detected), 1 drugs offence (detected), and 6 sexual offences (all detected). N.B. These latter involve, e.g., offenders' failure to report at Cathcart Police Station, and are not new sexual offences as such. Officers continue to keep working to get crime figures lowered. As a comparison, there had been 156 calls in September, from which 41 crime reports were raised.

Bicycle thefts are currently a problem. Police are proactively targeting this, with plain clothes officers on the street. A new 'smart water' is being piloted in Govanhill; this is a way to mark valuables, and is provided by the police. If it proves successful it may be rolled out in other areas.

7. Organisation and Procedures:

The Chair asked that input for the agenda be supplied well in advance of meetings to allow it to be circulated in good time.

Action ➤ Chris will send out email reminders.

Action ➤ Chris, Sidney, Janet and Amy will get together to co-ordinate information sharing.

Action ➤ Chris to ask Stewart Burns to put Les and Sydney on the distribution list for the weekly Community Council bulletin.

Action ➤ Chris will also ask that our correspondence address be changed.

8. Matters Arising:

i) Item 6.2.2(i).

At our last meeting, we appointed Les Rice as Queens Park Arena rep; a minute of the meeting is to be forwarded to David Seers. **Action** ➤ Chris Carus

ii) Item 6.2.2. (ii)

A representative of the Friends of Queens Park had attended our last meeting; we have not heard anything further from the group re our signing their letter to GCC.

iii) Item 10 (AOCB)

Further to our discussion about the proposal to build flats near Old castle Gardens, Chris Carus has written to Garry Kennedy. Craig Potter had looked into the planning application, and the site appeared to be suitable in respect of the planning process. There does not seem to be much basis for objection; the only possible basis might be that environmental information had not been received. We will monitor the situation, but will take no further action.

9. Correspondence:

(i) Information had been received about workshops for Community Councillors regarding benefits sanctions. The deadline had passed, but if any further information is received on this, Chris will forward to Jim Matheson.

(ii) Claire and Mark Charlwood had been to an information event about Langside Halls. Questionnaires had been completed. Plans are afoot to turn the area outside the halls into a piazza as part of the Shawlands regeneration project, but this project is independent of

the Langside Halls project. The Friends of Langside Halls are currently determining the feasibility of the refurbishment – is there a will to use the halls? They are looking for information from local people as to how the venue might be used. They could perhaps work with the Queens Park Arena project. The architect who has drawn up the refurbishment plans is willing to come along to one of our meetings with a presentation. It was agreed to invite the architect to our January meeting.

(iii) There will be a WWI commemoration lighting event at the City Chambers on 11 November (1 place available).

(iv) A Youth Crime and Youth Justice questionnaire had been received – Chris Boyce-Butler will complete this on our behalf.

(v) Parks Rules Consultation – we are invited to send a rep. to the follow-up discussion on 15 November at the City Chambers. Craig may be able to attend – he will contact them to find out more information, and will send our previous consultation response to Les.

(vi) A Community Planning Partnership workshop will be held on Monday 3rd November; Mark Charlwood will attend on our behalf.

(vii) School Catchment Area – proposed change. We have had no response since circulating information about the consultation on social media.

(viii) Chris and Mark attended the Community Councils forum on Saturday last. All Community Councils are to be asked whether our administration budget is sufficient. It was agreed that our response will be that under the current circumstances the administration grant is sufficient to cover our administration costs. It was mentioned that the forum is a good place to meet and learn from Community Councillors from other districts.

10. Parking Review:

Chris Carus gave an update. Complaints regarding the restrictions mainly related to Bolton Drive/Clincart Road, where parking spaces had been lost; and there was also an issue at Cathcart Road, where signage was unclear and businesses have lost custom and residents are inconvenienced by the extension of peak hours restrictions. We need to make a reasonable assessment of what is possible, mapping out loading areas and determining business needs.

Action ➤ Amy will find out if anyone in the Business Association wishes to be more involved in this. She will also ask James Dornan how things are going with the Association.

LES had said they would review the situation after the Games, and Chris has met an official from LES. We need people to work on the review, as this is one of the local residents' biggest priorities.

The MFPPP is also working on the issue of pedestrian safety, particularly with regard to the traffic flow around the school.

The review should also link to the redevelopment of the Triangle.

Action ➤ Les will get involved.

11. Grow Mo Flo:

Les Rice gave an update. Around 30-40 people had attended the environment launch. One of the main projects that people wanted to see is the redevelopment of the Triangle. We will take this forward as a project. There may be a redesign of the Triangle, and the creation of a pop-up market place with benches, new trees etc. This could be good for local businesses. Les has talked with the Planning Department. There would need to be an evidence base for why it should be pedestrianised – public engagement needs to happen. Les will liaise with the school, Glasgow Life, Planning Dept., our MP, MSP, Stanmore Social etc. This project needs support.

Mark Charlwood has been in touch with the Council officer in charge of the Shawlands redevelopment, and will put him in touch with Les and see if we can get him on board. Issues such as insurance would not be a problem as we would not be adopting the Triangle; it would still belong to the Council. They would ultimately have to run it; we have to justify it. We will need help with engagement funding. Chris Boyce-Butler, Janet MacDonald and Claire Charlwood are willing to help with the community consultation.

Action ➤ Chris Carus will contact Tom Harris, James Dornan etc.

Craig Potter can advise on planning issues.

The plan for the Maclennan Street Quadrangle is underway. We still have some funds which could be used to draft plans, buy tools etc.

12. Group Photo of Attendees:

A group photograph was taken which will be uploaded to our Twitter and Facebook pages.

13. AOCB

(i) Urban Roots has officially adopted Mount Florida Station. Planters and signage will be up by next spring.

(ii) The Stanmore Social Community Garden will be cleared on 22-23rd November. An extravaganza is planned, with planting of trees and bulbs and an orchard.

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