

Mount Florida Community Council

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of 24th November 2015 Clincarthill Church Hall

Present: Community Councillors C. Carus (Chair), M. Charlwood, C. Charlwood, J. MacDonald (Minutes), J. Matheson, L. Rice

Also attending: P.C. Livesey-Shilland, P.C. Dalglish, Margery Cherry, John Cherry, Rose Street, Allison Ewing, Omar Ghauri, Anson MacDonald

1. Welcome (Chair, Chris Carus):

Chris Carus opened the meeting and welcomed those attending.

2. Apologies:

Apologies were received from R. Carlaw (Treasurer), and J. Perry (Correspondence Secretary). It was noted that the resignations of James Hefferan, Amy Sutherland, Sydney Johnson and Chris Boyce-Butler had been received in the last few months; we are grateful for all their contributions.

3. Minutes of last meeting:

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

4. Matters Arising:

Item 6: There had been a heated conversation at the last meeting about roadworks; we have received a long and thoughtful response from Cllr Graham by email. LES does co-ordinate with utilities about major works: a web link will be sent.

Action ➤ Chris Carus to circulate Cllr Graham's response by email.

5. Community Police Report:

PCs Dalglish and Livesey-Shilland attended, and reported the situation from 28th October to 24th November. The GD57 beat covers from Aikenhead Road to the railway bridge at Battlefield Road, and the GD58 beat from Prospecthill Road to the corner of Battlefield. The community officers cover Mount Florida, Shawlands and Battlefield. A survey carried out in our area had identified 4 main priorities:

- I. drug dealing and use: 5 reports had been received of minor drug misuse (possession); all were detected.
- II. violence and disorder: 1 common assault – the perpetrator was known to the victim and was reported.
- III. driver behaviour: 1 driver reported to the Procurator.
- IV. housebreaking and theft: 3 reports of minor shoplifting and theft from a motor vehicle. The local police team has been successful in reducing crimes of this nature. Advice is to be vigilant; keep common close doors closed – this stops people stealing from closes. Don't leave valuables on display in cars; keep them locked. Lock doors and windows of homes. Don't let strangers into closes. Hide PIN at cash machines. Report any suspicious characters to the police.

Mark Charlwood asked if maps of the area covered could be provided – we had asked for these previously but they had not been received.

Jim Matheson raised a concern about an elderly lady who had been burgled as the close window was left open. A Community Safety Officer can come round and provide advice – phone 101 and ask for the Crime Prevention Team.

Our main priority is tackling anti-social behaviour, mainly relating to football matches: this comes under violence and disorder. It was noted that there are not so many concerts at Hampden since the Hydro opened.

We would like to have consistency in our point of contact with the Community Police. Chris Carus has drafted a letter raising some of our concerns. The Community Police advised that they are now more front-line than previously, and cannot always make community issues a priority. On the lead-up to Christmas there will be more plain-clothes officers out on the streets.

Action ➤ Chris Carus will contact inspector Nicholls, and we will publicise information about crime prevention online.

6. Ward Councillor's Report (Cllr Aitken):

Cllr Aitken was not in attendance.

7. Correspondence:

An enquiry had been received by email about the plans for the Victoria Infirmary. See further below.

8. Treasurer's Report (Richard Carlaw):

Richard Carlaw was not in attendance, but it was reported that he has all the documents relating to the accounts for the last financial year and will send these in. We now have only 2 signatories to the account following Amy's resignation. Chris Carus and Les Rice volunteered to be signatories.

Action➤ Chris Carus to be in touch with Richard to organize this.

9. Letherby Triangle Action Plan (Les Rice):

The current proposal is to close off Letherby Drive, and the resulting space to be used in conjunction with the school. A grant of £5000 from the Area Partnership has been received. ERZ Architects will come up with a design charrette in January; 2 or 3 options will be considered. The final design and report will be ready by March. The Carmunnock Road/Cathcart Road junction will be re-engineered; detailed designs and costings and planning permission (8 weeks) should be ready to go to funders by the end of July.

The present funding will take us up to the final design, and Les Rice has applied for a further grant to take things to the next stage (i.e. planning permission).

10. Parking and Traffic Update:

We have to go through a consultation process as one traffic management scheme will be required for the whole area, including the Triangle. There are still problems with double parking on Cathcart Road, and parking on the zig-zags and pedestrian crossings; lorries are also parking on pavements near the school.

Action➤ Chris is writing to Inspector McQuilter and will raise this.

There are new proposals for yellow lines on Menock Road, Carmunnock Road, Cathcart Road, and Cordiner Street, and at the ends of Ballogie Road and Second Avenue, to aid pedestrian safety. The Mansebrae junction is also to be re-engineered. No parking will be allowed at the Kings Park Road/Kings Park Avenue/Carmunnock Road junction. Responses to the proposal are requested by 11 December.

Many drains are blocked; this is also causing problems.

Action➤ Chris and Joan will draft responses and circulate.

11. Grow MoFlo update (Les Rice):

There is a proposal to upgrade the back quad at Cathcart Road/Bolton Drive/Cathkinview/Clincart Road, using Garden Culture Solutions. They advocate growing food at home, using recycled materials etc. A detailed design proposal has been produced, along with a time schedule, and funding is being sought. Les asked about costs for full-time personnel over 12 weeks. Jim had raised the possibility that MoFloCoCo could suggest ways of funding. There is the potential for the space to grow food and provide recreational space for 200 flats. There is also the potential to have volunteers, and if successful, the scheme template could be rolled out city-wide.

Impetus has to come from residents on this; Les will advise on getting community approval and applying for grants. Mark suggested getting a solicitor involved, to sort out issues of land ownership and advise on legal issues. MoFloCoCo will help to publicise and organize events.

A community clean-up will take place on Saturday 12 December at the Triangle, from 10a.m. – 12 noon. This will link with the school procession, etc.

12. Hampden Neighbours (Mark Charlwood):

Claire Charlwood had attended the Langside Area Partnership meeting on 3 November. Hampden boss Peter Dallas had been invited but did not attend, nor send a representative. Claire contacted him about several matters including the Hampden website. Mark Charlwood has also spoken to new GC councillor Anna Richardson, who is assisting. Claire is trying to get Peter Dallas to suggest ways in which they could help. She met with Peter Dallas, David May (Hampden's IT specialist) and Anna Richardson on 23 November and raised several issues:

- Hampden's reputation is not good with residents, and Peter Dallas seemed surprised by this.
- Peter Dallas was unaware of our surveys after events at Hampden.

- Not much is being done in terms of clean-up after major events.
- Parking permits help in the immediate area but there is a need to encourage visitors to use public transport.
- Hampden also needs to encourage good behaviour from fans.
- Claire took along pages from Wembley website as an example. We hope to see updates on the website encouraging visitors to come by public transport and by bicycle. We also hope to see more bike racks available.
- There was nothing on the website about future events (this has now been remedied; there is also now a message on the Hampden website asking visitors to respect the local area.)
- We encourage Hampden to remind visitors from outwith Glasgow that that drinking in the streets is not allowed.
- It would be good to have an easier way to sign up for the newsletter.
- Hampden is willing to give a few free tickets for the Hampden Experience from time to time, e.g. at special events – contact Colleen Lobban (manager).
- There will be big matches on Sunday 31 January and Sunday 13 March.
- Peter Dallas expressed a willingness to come to our meetings. Claire will invite him to our March meeting following the March League Cup Final.

13. Victoria Hospital Grant Application:

Bob Marshall attended, representing the Chair of Langside Community Council. They are proposing a community-led consultation relating to the Victoria and Mansionhouse sites. The Victoria site in particular is important, and the wider south side community has an interest in the planning process. Of the 5 community councils in the area, Langside and Mount Florida are taking the lead in this. An initial meeting was held with the NHS several months ago; attempts are being made to get a developer to come up with a proposal, to be followed by a more formal public consultation. There are concerns over this, as the NHS want to maximize the value of the site. There is the possibility of lots of flats being built, and not much else. The NHS has, however, indicated a willingness to listen to the point of view of the community.

There is a Government Department which funds and supports community-led consultations – the joint community councils have put forward a proposal to the Scottish Government match funding and a second application has gone into the Big Lottery. We should hear the outcome in the new year.

The Victoria Forum, a local group (not formally constituted) has been set up, with representatives from community councils. Jim Matheson asked what else had been done. A website, Dropbox account and email account have been set up. There is also a Facebook page, and local groups have been contacted. John Easton, a local resident, has been active in letting people know about progress. An information suite has been set up for developers interested in the site, and other local interested parties. Around 8 members of the Victoria Forum will be attending a meeting shortly.

A charrette, facilitated by experts, will be held, and has to be substantially completed by March. Bob Marshall has been in touch with the main GCC development planner. A pre-planning consultation will have to take place. If a developer is appointed it is hoped that they will be involved in the community process, and that sensible, feasible ideas will lead to a focused conclusion of the charrette.

Jim Matheson had received emails reporting that planning permission has not yet been granted for the Mansionhouse site; decisions on that site could have a bearing on the decisions re the Victoria site. A decision was reached at the last forum to inform the local press and to have a website in place. A further meeting will take place next week; it is hoped that a detailed press release will be ready to go out and that there will be a major launch.

Jim Matheson is trying to get land campaigner Andy Wightman involved – the title deeds to the site suggest that land should be returned to public open space when the site is no longer in use for medical purposes. The NHS is proposing to overturn the burdens; they have put in a proposal to the courts, but this information was not widely publicized and the date for objections has passed. The NHS has put in place a planning application to demolish all but the listed building – supposedly a ‘holding’ application to allow this to happen eventually if necessary. This will have to be watched closely.

It was proposed that Bob Marshall and Evelyn Silber become associates of MoFloCoCo. (Proposed Mark Charlwood, Seconded Les Rice). This was approved.

14. Communications Plan (Rosie Street):

Our Facebook page has over 600 ‘likes’, and is constantly reaching more people.

15. AOCB:

Chris will organize a social event in the new year.

16. Close:

Chris closed the meeting, thanking those who attended.

Next meeting: Tuesday 26 January 2016 at 7pm, Clincarthill Church Halls.