

## Mount Florida Community Council

Minutes of Ordinary meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
Clincarthill Church Hall

**Present: Community Councillors** C. Carus (Chair), R. Carlaw (Treasurer), J. Perry (Correspondence Secretary), J. MacDonald (Minutes), J. Matheson, L. Rice

**Also attending:** P.C. Livesey-Shilland, P.C. Dalglish, David McKean, Rosie Street, Gavin Thomson.

### 1. Welcome (Chair, Chris Carus):

Chris Carus opened the meeting and welcomed those attending.

### 2. Apologies:

Apologies were received from M. Charlwood and C. Charlwood.

### 3. Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes of the November meeting were approved (Proposed J. Perry, Seconded L. Rice).

### 4. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising from the previous minute.

### 5. Community Police Report:

PCs Dalglish and Livesey-Shilland attended, and reported the situation for the last two months.

- I. drug dealing and use: minor offences only (12 offenders in possession of a controlled substance).
- II. violence and disorder: 3 common assaults (mostly party nights) and 1 drunk and incapable.
- III. driver behaviour: 3 drivers reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- IV. dishonesty: 2 Offences (shoplifting); housebreakings are down, the recent initiative is getting results.

Chris had tried to contact Insp McQuilter because a resident had contacted the CC about a suspected brothel or escort services. Insp McQuilter had been on holiday and so far had not been able to make contact with Chris. Chris had instead contacted 101, and received a return call which confirmed Police are aware and are taking steps.

The officers reported that there will be an increased police presence at events at Hampden.

The floor was opened for those present to raise issues. It was mentioned that there have been traffic problems around St Fillan's Primary, with a logjam building up before 9 a.m. The officers replied that the Council is now dealing with traffic problems rather than the police.

There have not been any major problems in our area; the spell of bad weather has been keeping people indoors, and the crime rate has been a bit lower than usual. A question was asked about domestic abuse figures; these are logged under various headings so exact figures were not available to hand, but information can be found on the Police Scotland website.

### 6. Ward Councillor's Report (Cllr Richardson):

Cllr Richardson was not in attendance due to work commitments. She had sent an email to say that she has been chasing up the issue of missed bin collections, and will be liaising with council reps. She is also meeting with NHS representatives re the Victoria redevelopment. Cllr Richardson welcomes emails, phone calls or visits to her regular surgeries.

### 7. Summary of Correspondence (Joan Perry):

- There had been 2 applications for street vendors' licences.
- It had been reported that only 2 sets of Christmas lights were working at the Triangle; this was reported to the Council and was fixed the same day.

### 8. Treasurer's Report (Richard Carlaw):

Richard Carlaw reported an opening balance of £6811. A cheque will be required for leaflet distribution, leaving a balance of £6381.

Jim Matheson had a claim for expenses (to be counter-signed by Mark Charlwood).

ERZ are covering costs for the event at the Triangle tomorrow.

We will have to put in a further grant application for the newsletter.

Chris and Les have to sign forms to become signatories to the account; this will be processed by the end of the week.

A form for internet banking (to be signed by Mark) will allow members to check the balance online.

#### **9. Letherby Triangle Action Plan (Les Rice):**

An event is being held tomorrow at the Church of Pentecost; 3500 leaflets were distributed. There will be 3 sessions at Mount Florida Primary, and 2 sessions in the evening. Les will be at all the sessions, and Jim will assist at the workshops. Focus will be on:

- dreams, aspirations and big ideas
- ideas and solutions

Everyone will have a chance to put forward ideas. There is a Facebook page – see Letherby Triangle Ideas Page.

An agreement has to be reached on traffic management around the Triangle. Everything will be wheelchair accessible.

#### **10. Parking and Traffic/Mansebrae Update (Joan Perry):**

There has been no further update on Mount Florida parking.

Re the Mansebrae junction (on route to new hospital), 1 road will be closed, and new traffic lights will be installed at Menock Road. There will be other minor changes (blocking off corners, etc.)

Joan submitted some questions about the prioritization of these restrictions which may have limited impact, when there are worse problems unaddressed elsewhere. The response from LES said that independent funding was coming from the NHS specifically to improve the flow and reliability of bus services to the QEUH hospital. We expect residents at the junction of Kings Park Road and Carmunnock Road will have more difficulty to park their cars.

The Council will notify local residents before carrying out works, which won't happen until March/April.

#### **11. Hampden Neighbours (Chris Carus):**

Claire Charlwood had sent an update. A meeting had been held on 23 November between Claire, Peter Dallas and Cllr Richardson. There is now a local residents' information page on Hampden's website <http://www.hampdenpark.co.uk/visitor-information/residents-information.html>

- Patrons visiting Hampden are advised to use public transport; there is little information on cycle routes or the provision of cycle racks.
- Peter Dallas will attend the Community Council meeting in March and we will review the finals and semi-finals.
- Claire recommends inviting Peter Dallas to attend the Area Partnership meeting on 23 February.
- The survey on our website is open, and Chris will put a reminder on social media on Monday.

#### **12. Victoria Hospital Forum (Chris Carus and Jim Matheson):**

Jim gave an update on the forum, which consists of representatives of local community councils and other community groups, and is chaired by Evelyn Silber (who also chairs Langside and Battlefield CC). Lots of emails have been circulating between forum members. Jim believes that the purpose of the Forum is to ensure that there is a public route through the site. Jim felt that there are contradictory aspects to the forum – a questionnaire had been created, but he felt that some matters raised in it should not be decided by local residents, but by the developers.

Jim said that Evelyn Silber was writing to Fiona Robertson of Living Streets

<http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/> Jim said that **one of the aims of the forum was to get** the best route for the public, **in addition to the listed buildings remaining in place**. The forum is intended to have an impartial role, **however that no longer seems to be the case as** Jim sees some questions in the questionnaire as contradicting this position. There had been 2 requests for a charrette (one to the Scottish Government, and one to the NHS; both were turned down). Jim feels that the remit of the forum was to put in a plea for a public walkway on the Victoria site, and to retain the listed buildings. GCC and the NHS want the site to be sold and redeveloped ASAP. Jim said that to date, a disposal strategy has been approved, that a high-quality development appropriate to the area is sought, and that it is important to achieve best value. Jim feels that the forum is generating bad publicity that might deter developers. He has been in touch with Fiona Robertson, who has offered to come out and speak to the Community Council. Jim feels that the forum is moving away from its

original remit; also there has been no input from Govanhill CC. He feels that there is politicisation from within **the Forum**, those attending seeming to want to push their own ideas and influence the direction of the development, and he no longer wishes to attend. He was encouraged to remain, to ensure his views are heard.

Chris Carus is also a member of the forum, and had a very different understanding of the issues. The original remit of the forum was minuted at their November meeting – to ensure there is thorough community consultation about the redevelopment and to remain strictly impartial as to the outcomes. The Victoria Forum considers that the statutory minimum pre-planning application consultation process would be insufficient for a large, complex, urban site such as the Infirmary, and that wider public consultation was needed. In response to Jim’s criticism of the conduct and governance of the Victoria Forum, Chris highlighted that decisions about what to do next are always held in minuted meetings.

In response to Jim’s criticism of the questionnaire Chris said that the questionnaire was designed by a small group of people within the forum who were available and willing to help, and recognized that these people are not polling experts. The questionnaire was sent to all forum members, including Jim, before distribution for their comments but no feedback was received.

Chris said that the Forum is committed to remaining impartial. The Forum has to act as a counterbalance to NHSGGC’s desire to focus primarily on the sale value. That’s because the redevelopment will have a really important impact on quality of life in the area for decades. So it is necessary for the Forum to think pro-actively about how to campaign to that end.

The forum is definitely not party political. It has been updating ward councillors while talking to the NHS.

NHSGGC presented to the Forum a design brief that they had commissioned from an architect. This brief forms part of the tender documents available to potential developers and indicates the criteria that bids will be considered on, besides price. Discussion included retention of the Nightingale wards but the NHS does not feel it would be economically viable to retain these wards.

Chris expressed his disappointment that Jim had chosen to keep his concerns to himself over a period of many weeks and never once shared them with Chris or other members of the Victoria Forum. Ill feeling could have been addressed long ago. Chris was also disappointed that Jim had chosen to make contact with NHSGGC representatives and consultant Fiona Robertson without the knowledge or agreement of the Forum. This has the effect of undermining the Forum and, by association, Mount Florida Community Council because it undermines the single unified voice the Forum was trying to maintain.

The majority consensus of MFCC remains in agreement with the Victoria Forum: that the statutory minimum process is not enough; and that more thorough community consultation is needed. Community Councils have little money and only voluntary manpower, so we can’t properly or fully represent all people in the area on this important issue.

To improve governance with respect to MFCC’s participation in the Victoria Forum it was agreed that the minutes of the Victoria Forum would be sent to all MFCC members.

The next forum meeting is on Monday 8 February.

It had been proposed that the Community Councils jointly hold a public meeting in the absence of an NHS-supported or independently funded charrette but there has been no agreement as yet to do this. Chris submitted a request for £50 to support costs such as a public meeting (to cover room hire, printing etc.) assuming this was agreed by the Victoria Forum and assuming a fair sharing of costs with other Community Councils. This was agreed.

**Action** ➤ Jim to forward minutes of the Forum to Janet.

### **13. Proposal to invite new members to vacant posts:**

There are currently 4 empty places on the Community Council. It is proposed that we invite nominations to the vacant posts. (Proposed C. Carus, seconded J. Perry).

**Action** ➤ Chris will get posters printed. (Offers of help to distribute posters welcome.)

### **14. Communications Plan (Rosie Street):**

We have 660 ‘likes’ on Facebook, and community engagement has been going up throughout January. We will have a lot of information to put out following the Triangle information day tomorrow.

**Action** ➤ Les will upload photos.

### **15. Social Event with neighbouring community councils:**

Provisional date 9th February; finger food, buy own drinks.

**Action** ➤ Chris will organize. Venue (possibly the Indoor Bowls) to be confirmed.

**16. AOCB:**

- Chris will organize a walking tour of the area, on a Saturday morning, meeting at the station and talking to people about local issues.
- Budget consultation (online); how to set budget for Glasgow City. Meeting for community Council reps on Tuesday next, at the Palace of Art, 7-9p.m. Register by Friday. Chris will attend.
- The shop next door to Minnesota Fats, under the same ownership, is being turned into a function room, and has been offered free for us to hold meetings, if we wish to take this up.

**17. Close:**

Chris closed the meeting, thanking those who attended.

**Next meeting: Tuesday 23 February 2016 at 7pm, Clincarthill Church Halls.**