

Mount Florida Community Council

Minutes of meeting of 23rd August 2016
Clincarthill Church Hall

Present: Community Councillors C. Carus (Chair), M. Charlwood, J. MacDonald (Minute Secretary), J. Perry (Correspondence Secretary), G. Thomson.

Also attending: Graeme Ross, Licensing Standards Officer.

1. Welcome (Chair, Chris Carus):

Chris Carus opened the meeting and welcomed those attending.

2. Apologies:

Apologies were received from R. Carlaw (Treasurer), C. Charlwood, and R. Street.

3. Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes of the June meeting were approved (proposed M. Charlwood, seconded J. Perry).

4. Matters Arising:

(i) Item 16(i): Anne McGrory had raised a request about the re-routing of buses along Victoria Road.

Action > Chris will follow up.

5. Community Police Report:

There were no officers in attendance.

6. Summary of Correspondence:

(i) A new licensing application had been submitted by Minnesota Fats, as they wish to hold receptions and other functions.

(ii) The Council are currently proposing putting in traffic calming measures along Mt Annan Drive and Carmunnock Road, creating a 20mph zone, and introducing speed cushions. One resident had been in touch to complain about the proposed height of the speed bumps. Feedback about the changes is required by the end of September.

Action > Joan to send info to Rosie for the Facebook page.

(iii) A resident had been in touch to complain about noisy seagulls around the primary school. Joan had replied, advising them to contact the Council.

7. Licensing Board:

Graeme Ross, Licensing Standards Officer, attended the meeting. He works to ensure conditions of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2009 are met. The focus of his role is (i) guidance, (ii) mediation and (iii) enforcement, with the emphasis as much as possible on guidance. In any situation the officers try to reach a solution without having to enforce the laws. They try to anticipate and pre-empt any issues that might arise, although these are not always easy to predict.

Officers meet regularly with police to discuss issues pertinent to premises, e.g. football matches, freshers' week, etc. Regular meetings are held around Hampden events ('Pub Watch') with on-license premises, the police, licensing officers and community councils can attend. Officers also visit premises (off sales, etc.) and speak with shopkeepers, who are by-and-large responsible. They have set up a telephone group via WhatsApp, so if issues arise others can be contacted quickly.

Premises will not be closed unless serious issues arise, such as threat to public safety. Publicans will sometimes close premises voluntarily for short periods during events. Extra staff will be employed, if recommended, in pubs and licensed premises – this is not a condition of the license, but people in charge of the premises make the decision.

Concerts are not necessarily better policed than football matches, but risk assessments are carried out in advance. The main difficulty is the volume of people attending events. Hampden does not appear to communicate to visiting fans that there is a policy of no drinking in outdoor public places in Glasgow. Some clubs do have the sanction of removing season tickets from badly-behaved fans. Police control movement of fans, and their goal is to move fans away from flash-points as quickly as possible. If police are forced to arrest people, this takes officers away from the streets, which is not helpful.

For our part, the main problems brought to our attention via our post-event surveys are littering and urination. Local residents have suggested that off-licences might display notices or give out leaflets informing patrons of local bye-laws, and Mr Ross was happy to do this. We feel that Safe Glasgow could do more.

Each licensed premises has an operating plan and this must be produced on request of the licensing standards officer.

Action > Chris to email Graeme wording to go on leaflets to be given out at off-licences.

Action > MFCC to feed information received to police briefings before events about our issues (e.g. in specific streets at specific times), via the police liaison officer or via local councillors.

We can get people to report difficulties – there is a problem of under-reporting. We will encourage residents to phone the police to inform them of trouble spots, and the police will then make the decision where to deploy resources.

8. Treasurer's Report:

Richard Carlaw was unable to attend but had sent a report. ERZ have been paid, and hire of the church hall for meetings for session 2016-2017 has been attended to. Chris has still to claim expenses, but the balance should be around £420. Our next grant from the city council is due in September, to cover expenses for next year.

9. Letherby Triangle Action Plan:

The press release has not yet been prepared. Les will go ahead with the traffic count, and the application for a grant of £10,000 has gone to Awards for All. A grant from the Area Partnership has been applied for, but is on hold at present. South Sector Improvement has also been approached for a grant.

Mark and Les have been in contact with Murray McKellar and Felicity Steers of ERZ, to arrange a meeting with LES and DRS.

Action > Les is to arrange a meeting with ERZ and the traffic engineering people.

Action > Press release to be drafted (Chris)

Action > Reports to be published and newsletter drafted.

10. Parking and Traffic:

The Letherby Triangle plans are on hold meantime. Road resurfacing will be done on Advie Place, May Terrace and Hampden Terrace, but the trees have to be cut back to allow trucks in. The letter received by local residents was not very informative and did not specify when work will be done. These are council-adopted roads, so the council is responsible for road maintenance.

11. Langside Heritage Project (Janet MacDonald):

Plans are underway for the first event organised by the Heritage project: a community archaeological 'dig' at Langside Parish church and :Langside Community Garden on Saturday 17th September, for local people of all ages to get involved in hands-on digging and surveying. There will also be demonstrations of metal detecting, local history talks and walks, displays by local history and archaeology groups and the launch of an oral history project.

The project organisers had asked if we are able to help out with a donation; Janet has replied that we get our funding from the city council, and has suggested they apply to the Area Partnership.

We may wish to display information about MoFloCoCo on the day, and to help out practically.

Langside Community Heritage has a Facebook page or people can email Ross Wallace at irwallace@hotmail.com

12. Hampden Neighbours (Claire and Mark Charlwood):

(i) Cllr Archie Graham is keen to have a multi agency meeting at Hampden; we can organise a meeting of all agencies.

(ii) It was noted that some improvements have been made to the Hampden website.

(iii) A qualifier match will take place on 8th October, and the Quarter Final at the end of January.

(iv) We should promote what has been achieved to date, and encourage more people to sign up to receive updates from Hampden.

Action > Chris and Mark to discuss further.

13. Victoria Hospital (Chris Carus):

The Sanctuary Group has been announced as the preferred bidder for the Victoria site. The Victoria Forum is in touch with the industry; Sanctuary Group are held in high regard. The NHS now has little involvement.

The Victoria Forum has put together a 2-page leaflet advocating what the community wants, and this is to be put out on Facebook.

The developer has been in touch with Evelyn Silber, Chair of the Victoria Forum and Langside Community Council; the Forum wanted the developer to listen to community views before drawing up plans. Their press release suggests a mixture of different-sized units of private and social housing. The developer has been asked to show their consultation plan.

14. Anti-littering Project (Chris Carus):

An environmental task force has been set up by the Council. Chris will follow up on this.

15. Communications Plan (Rose Street):

Rosie has been busy on this and asks CCs to keep sending information.

Action ➤ Chris to put out an e-newsletter with updates on Letherby, Hampden, and Hampden Terrace. Hampden Terrace residents' association has been set up – contact Keith Stoddart.

16. AOCB:

An email briefing had been received with information about a Community Council Development Day organised by GCC on Saturday 17th September. This is not linked to the Glasgow Discussion Forum sessions.

17. Close:

Chris closed the meeting, thanking those who attended.

Next meeting: Tuesday 27 September 2016 at 7pm, Clincarthill Church Halls.