

Mount Florida Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting of 23 June 2020
held via Zoom, 7p.m.

Present: Community Councillors Chris Carus (Chair), Janet MacDonald (Minutes), Alex Miller, Judith Pollock, Robert Pollock, Gavin Thomson
Also attending: Mandy Burke, Rachel Paisley, Morag McHaffie, Simon Morris, Cllr Susan Aitken

1. Welcome and Apologies:

Chris Carus chaired the Zoom meeting, which is to be regarded as a regular community council meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes of the May meeting was approved (prop. Chris Carus, sec. Judith Pollock).

3. Matters Arising:

(i) Item 7: Space for distancing was discussed; following the meeting an interactive tool was published by GCC. The link will be circulated again.

(ii) **Item 9:** Cathkin Park planning application – Tanya had said she would try to bring the different parties together for discussion. **Action** ➤ Chris will drop a reminder.

4. Correspondence Summary:

(i) an email had been received from South Seeds to let us know they are providing a remote advice service for residents worried about energy bills

(ii) an email was received from a company which is putting in a planning application for a 5G phone mast on Aikenhead Road;

(iii) We were contacted by Karen Gorman of the Langside Area Partnership to say that the budget for this year's Christmas lights was being cut. Cllr Aitken said that every ward will get one display, and that the Area Partnership could be applied to for any additional displays. We have applied for funds to have lights again this year as they were most appreciated. (The big display of lights at Shawlands was paid for by Business Improvement district.)

(iv) There is a planning application for a pump track at Toryglen (20/01380/PLU).

5. Treasurer's Report (Judith):

Judith had circulated the report. We still owe money for Winter Wonderland and the hall let. Living Streets money is still to be spent. There remains around £687 in unrestricted funds, although the cost of the hall let has to come from this.

6. Councillor's Report (Susan Aitken):

Cllr Aitken gave an overview of what has been happening since lockdown began. Many council services have been curtailed or suspended (in particular cleansing), primarily due to staff shortages because of shielding. Some additional staff were recruited to help in care services. The teaching workforce was also badly hit. Many new services have had to be delivered, and staff redeployed.

Around 17000 applications had been received for business grants and these had to be worked through. There were also many applications for council tax reductions, crisis loans, etc. The Third Sector has also been doing lots of good work.

Some services are now being reintroduced. Domestic bin collection was prioritised during lockdown, but depots were closed. A task force will be put into place to deal with fly tipping.

Summer park maintenance has been delayed. This will now re-start, but different approaches are being taken in different areas to maximise room for social distancing. Car parks had been closed but will be re-opened, initially for blue badge holders.

Spaces for People, originally a temporary measure, is here to stay (pop-up lanes, widening of pavements etc). Emergency legislation was for 18 months, but most of the changes will be permanent, to let people have confidence to go out and support local businesses.

There are no dates as yet for re-opening, but hopefully more will be known by the next meeting. The app. for reporting issues has not been in use because there are not enough staff to deal with posts, but will start to come back into use (Chris said that he has been able to report some issues via the MyGlasgow app.).

Committees are starting to meet again, and the Licensing Board has met, though the Area Partnership has not yet met; GCC are not using Zoom due to concerns around hacking, and local input is needed. A full council meeting is expected around the final week of July.

Morag asked if there was any idea of when bulk uplift will resume. Cllr Aitken hopes that it may resume in about three weeks, but this will depend on how things go. Residents can still use the communal bottle banks.

Cathkin Park: last autumn we heard about the request from the Jimmy Johnstone Charitable Trust to extend the peppercorn lease for the park. There were concerns from local residents about the lack of transparency and the dismissive way the Trust had dealt with approaches from other park users.

The Community Asset Transfer has not yet been dealt with, but a new application was put in for additional shipping containers, again without any prior consultation, causing a level of alarm locally. MoFloCoCo had made an objection to the application. The planning officer had made a recommendation to approve the application with conditions, recommending that it be approved for only three years instead of five, and limiting the hours of operation etc. The additional changing accommodation should also not be limited to any one group. GCC has the right to say who can put shipping containers on council land.

Simon Morris, of Glasgow Cyclones (who use the park) had not heard of the recent decision. He had been contacted by local people who had tried to use the park and had not been able to. Glasgow Cyclones hold competitions there, but these had not been able to go ahead. Given the lack of transparency, Simon and Rachel had decided to set up a Friends of Cathkin Park group and have put together a survey to determine how people use the park. They have set up a Facebook page, and several people had volunteered to be part of the committee. Their main agenda is to disseminate information and to encourage as many groups as possible to use the park, and to make it as inclusive as possible. Cllr Aitken encouraged the formation of a Friends group and will help to facilitate it. She hopes that the existence of such a group will help establish a residential presence and build a shared plan. A Friends group would have precedence in planning the future use of the park. Third Lanark members are keen that matters don't descend into football rivalry.

It was felt that the Jimmy Johnstone Trust needs to communicate better with the local community. Much of what they do is very good, and they have made improvements to the park. They are not trying to take over the park, and access to the park and the speedway track is not under threat. A conversation needs to be had around sharing the pavilion and the new units. We need to get past the distrust on both sides.

Councillor Aitken was thanked for her report. MoFloCoCo agreed to publicise the Friends Facebook page and to encourage local people to get involved. Email them at FriendsofCathkinPark@hotmail.com.

7. Covid-19 response locally:

(i) Stephen from Clincarthill Parish Church had been in touch to say that the church grounds have been opened for the community to use. This has been publicised on our Facebook page. They are also looking at responding to local needs post-lockdown, and have suggested having an event in conjunction with the community council and local community, retailers etc. We agreed that this would be a good idea.

(ii) The church is also keen to make its halls and other rooms available to the school to help with social distancing.

Action ➤ Robert will pass on the MFPPP email address.

8. Letherby update:

(i) Another meeting had been held with SusTrans last Thursday. Plans are evolving. The survey is still awaited; this should be ready this week. The road safety audit has been done, and we are close to getting approval for the next stage (full design). ERZ staff are working from home and some are furloughed so things have not been able to move as quickly as hoped.

(ii) ERZ had proposed tighter angles at the bottom of Mount Annan Drive to help slow down traffic at the junction.

9. AOCB:

(i) GCC have published their survey on ideas for social distancing etc. We have already made suggestions, but might further suggest a 'mini Holland' approach for Stanmore, Cumming Drive, Kinmount, Mount Annan etc. We should also encourage active travel, giving rationale – safer travel etc. **Action** ➤ Judith will send information from Lambeth on gateways etc.

(ii) A list of junctions with pedestrian crossings where the timing has changed to automated can be found at <https://glasgow.gov.uk/article/25983/Green-Man-Puts-Best-Foot-Forward-to-Help-Glasgow-Suppress-COVID-19>

(iii) bus routes - **Action** ➤ Chris will look into the change in route of the No. 89 service in the evenings and try to establish why this differs from the daytime route.

10. Close. Next meeting online via zoom on 25 August.

Click: <https://zoom.us/j/906335102>

Or tap on phone: +443300885830, 906335102#

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