

Mount Florida Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting of 22 March 2022
Clincarthill Church Hall. 7p.m.

Present: Community Councillors C. Carus, C. Charlwood, M. Charlwood, Janet MacDonald (Minutes), Amber Mohammed, Judith Pollock (Chair), Robert Pollock, Natasha Visser (Secretary), Robbie Warringham (Treasurer)
Also attending: Mandy Burke, Jan Clark, Jim Dutch, Bob Gillespie, Rachel Gillespie, Shane Goodbody, Tracey Jolliffe, Matt James(?), Claire Johnston, Alan Martin, Elaine Moir, Allan Munro, Margaret Munro, Catriona Noble, Sara Paciaroni, Nicola Smith, Eddie Waldron.

1. Welcome

Judith Pollock chaired the meeting and welcomed those attending.

2. Attendance and Apologies:

Attendance as above; apologies were received from Cassandra McLuckie, Paddy Smith, Cllr Anna Richardson and PC Sammy Garcia.

3. Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes of the February meeting were approved (proposed C. Charlwood, seconded N. Visser).

4. Matters Arising:

(i) We had received feedback from Christine Martin about the **signage on Bolton Drive**. She had been under the impression that it was completed; Judith has sent current photographs.

5. Ratification of new members:

Cassandra and Paddy had been ratified as community councillors; unfortunately neither was able to attend tonight's meeting. We are now up to our full complement.

6. Summary of Correspondence (Natasha Visser):

(i) Susan Aitken had responded to our email regarding road markings. The remaining works will commence on 28th March.

(ii) Notification of three licensing applications had been received for concerts at Hampden.

7. Treasurer's Report (Robbie Warringham):

The report had been circulated to CC members. The biggest expenditures had been on the zoom account and the newsletter. The remaining Living Streets funding should be transferred to general funds. The newsletter is funded by Places Called Home. Robbie has added a new status column to the report to show ringfenced funds. The available funds (excluding those ringfenced) is £791.57.

8. Ward Councillor's Report:

No report.

9. Community Police Report:

No officers attended, but a short report was sent. The Hampden Community Reassurance Action Plan will remain in place. There had been a slight rise in youth antisocial behaviour. Any incidents should be reported on 101.

10. Hampden (Amber Mohammed)

Amber and Judith had taken a note of residents' comments following the last round of matches at Hampden, and had drafted a report which was sent to Hampden outlining our concerns. A police sub-committee has been formed to look at the impact on the local community of events at Hampden. Several meetings are now being held before matches take place. Amber reported that at the upcoming Poland match, sniffer dogs will be in place to sniff out any pyrotechnics.

Following the semi-finals Hampden have committed to providing portaloos around the area; 30 portaloos will be positioned around the stadium, the station and the route between the two. Parking: more people are being redeployed. Parking wardens will be deployed at Kings Park Avenue and Curling Crescent hotspots. There will be a mobile police patrol on duty.

Litter: it has been discovered that only one set of litter pickers is sent out per week, so that if they have been in the area the day before the match, they will not return until the following week. They have now been sent the events list so that clean-ups can be scheduled following the matches and other events. We have been assured that more red bins will be put out on match days. Clubs will also try to get the message out to their fans to respect the local area.

It is hoped that police officer numbers will be up to normal by Thursday night. Another meeting will take place before the semi-finals in April.

Several points were raised, including fans urinating in the library garden on their way to matches, and buses sitting with engines running during matches. These issues have been recognised. Residents aware of any instances of law breaking or antisocial behaviour are urged to make a report via 101 or the online form, as all incidents will be logged and if it is deemed necessary, further resources may be deployed.

11. Queens Park in the Community:

Charlie Bennett had been invited to attend but had not shown up.

12. Mount Florida Community Trust regarding proposals to develop the former Bowling Club:

Nicola Smith presented a brief picture of the Trust's history and plans for development of the former bowling club site as a community asset. The Trust has consulted widely and has shown a community desire for a local green space. The Trust's aim is to keep trying to do what the community wants. A community right-to-buy petition would need the signatures of at least 10% of the local community. The Scottish Land Fund would allow for a feasibility study, support the purchase of the land and building at current value, and also contribute towards necessary renovations. The Trust could apply for a right to buy if the current owner (Noah) is willing to sell, which at the moment is doubtful. The Trust is happy to receive more members or others willing to help with the petition etc., and is also looking for another director.

13. Noah Developments regarding proposals to develop the former Bowling Club:

Paul Winacour of Noah attended, along with Alex Orr of Orbit Communications. Mr Winacour said that following the rejection of Noah's first planning application, they had drafted a new plan with considerable changes to the architectural plans, and had held a community consultation event on 24th February. Comments and questions from this event will be published on their website. They are seeking information from the community on how the community facility part of the site should be developed. He said that they had taken on board that local people wanted the clubhouse to be retained, and that they have secured the building, and that it is insured and is being monitored regularly. It had been noted by neighbours of the clubhouse that there has been some vandalism to the roof. Mr Winacour believed that Noah's plans for the site satisfy open space standards. Noah will put up £250,000 towards refurbishing/redeveloping the clubhouse and would lease it to a community group; the terms of the lease would have to be decided. He made it clear that Noah intends to hold on to the site and will not sell to the local community. Noah is a commercial enterprise and so making a profit from the site is their main motivation. Asked what they would do if the local community rejects their plan and wishes to retain the whole site as a community green space, he said he did not believe that the majority of the local community would want this, but it is not clear what this response is based on; the comments from those attending their consultation event did not seem to indicate that many people were in favour of their proposals.

12. AOCB:

(i) Judith had attended a Scottish government meeting about participation requests. She and Amber will meet Malcolm Cowie on Wednesday to discuss further.

(ii) An action plan is needed for Bolton Drive and the Triangle; this will be done through GOMoFlo.

(iii) Letherby Triangle: Judith and Amber had met Derek Dunsire and Alex Robb from the GCC Liveable Neighbourhoods team and he was impressed with the potential to improve things in Mount Florida. Both are keen to support the Triangle plans.

(iv) The latest newsletter has been delivered.

(v) The lease of Cathkin Park had gone through a system that did not involve any consultation. Judith had written to our ward councillors. The lease holders did not engage the local community. Nicola had also contacted all the councillors on the decision-making committee about this issue, and had received replies from Tanya Wisely and Jon Molyneux which she will forward.

13. Close.

Next meeting: Tuesday 26th April 2022 at 7pm, Clincarthill Church Hall