

Mount Florida Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting of 24 November 2020 on Zoom

Present: Community Councillors C. Carus (Chair), J. MacDonald (Minutes), Colette O'Donnell, J. Pollock, G. Thomson (Secretary)
Also attending: Bernhard Hidding, Alex McCulloch, Calum MacKinnon, Dale Meller, Anne Sobey, Cllr Susan Aitken.

1. Welcome and Apologies:

Chris Carus chaired the Zoom meeting, which is to be regarded as a regular community council meeting, and welcomed those attending. Apologies were given on behalf of Robert Pollock.

2. Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes of the October meeting were approved with the following amendment: Item 8 should read "there are 12 places on the Community Council, 9 are currently occupied". (proposed J. Pollock, seconded C. Carus).

3. Matters Arising:

(i) **Item 8:** Last month, Chris had said he would arrange ad hoc elections for the vacant places, but we have now agreed to wait another few months as interest is gathering. We will firm up the elections at the January meeting.

(ii) **Item 10(ii):** noise from building works seems to have died down a bit. Calum had been in contact with Battlefield Community Council and they were waiting to hear from the developer

4. Summary of Correspondence:

(i) Notices had been received about stall holders renewing licenses to sell merchandise at football matches. No action required.

(ii) Several consultations are ongoing:

- Climate emergency action plan: we have been engaging in transport issues in response to this. Next year GCC policy will focus on heating homes. It was suggested we look at this in a personal capacity rather than as a community council.

- Food growing strategy

(iii) Changes for tenement bulk uplift will resume in the next few weeks, but will be a request-only service. The service may in future require to be paid for, which may result in more fly tipping.

Action ➤ invite Laura Moran to our next meeting.

(iv) cleaning of back lanes – if they are privately owned, the city council will not clean up, but will provide a tool kit for residents.

(v) waste removal from tenements is moving to an 8-day pick-up. We will communicate more information on this via social media (see further in Cllr Aitken's report).

5. Treasurer's Report (Judith):

There has been no change since last month. Our balance is 577.35, excluding Living Streets and Triangle money.

6. Councillor's Report (Susan Aitken)

(i) **Animating Spaces:** funding is coming through quickly, as part of the wider Spaces for People scheme. Work is going ahead without consultation at the moment, to allow for better physical distancing. All of this is temporary under the emergency legislation, but is likely to become permanent unless there is a significant backlash. Consultation will take place when people are feeling more confident about going out and about.

(ii) **Bins:** The change to uplifts is partly a response to workforce challenges, as about 10% of the workforce is currently off. The council is also moving towards a reduction in household waste.

Kerbside collection – there is now a move towards 3-weekly bin collection: this will not apply to tenements. This is currently being trialled in the NE of the city, and is going well so far. Most local authorities are now doing similar.

There is a slight change to waste collection timings for tenements, moving to an 8-day cycle for general waste and a 16-day cycle for recycled waste. This fits in better with the shift pattern of the cleansing workforce, leading to more consistency of workforce in relation to neighbourhoods. There were some initial hiccups in the pilot, but it is now bedding in well.

Learning from the pilot scheme should mean fewer issues in the SE area. Notification of bin collection days can be accessed via the online calendar.

(iii) Bulk uplift: this had been suspended due to workforce challenges. The focus has been on uninterrupted domestic waste collection. From 2 December, a request service for bulk uplift will resume, online only for the time being. Crews are currently doing a sweep of fly tipping.

(iv) New waste strategy: the new waste management strategy should be seen in light of the climate emergency. Sustainability is important. Targets for net zero carbon emissions mean the new strategy is in a different context from the old systems. Consultations will take place, with hopes for more dynamic engagement.

(v) Langside Library: this was on track to reopen but the news restrictions have prevented this. Glasgow Life are now going to have to repeat the process of cleaning buildings again. There are significant challenges faced by GCC but the libraries will all reopen in due course.

(vi) Communication: In response to a question on how to get information to those not on social media - information goes into the Glasgow Times. It is important in the current situation to minimise misunderstandings.

7. Covid response locally:

Cllr Aitken responded to a question about the high numbers of cases in Glasgow and the West of Scotland. This is due mainly to the high population density. Household transmission is the highest mode of spread due to household mixing. There is little transmission in schools. The test and trace system is working.

8. Mount Florida Bowling Club:

The planning hearing took place, and the application was refused. A lot of work went into the local response. Almost everyone on the committee was against the developer's proposals. There is still the possibility that the developer will appeal the decision, and Chris has put in a request to Planning Aid Scotland to see how we might be involved in any further hearing.

The reasons for the refusal are being documented. The main reasons were (i) that the proposed buildings would not be in keeping with the local area; (ii) that the green space planned was insufficient and didn't meet the requirements; and (iii) a lack of engagement with the local community; loss of the clubhouse. The councillors also refused to accept that the money to be paid to make up for the shortfall in play spaces etc was adequate, and recognition that it would not likely be spent in the immediate local area as there was nowhere to spend it.

Chris has encouraged the Community Trust to engage with the bowling club. The club members seem unwilling to have the responsibility of maintaining and managing the club and may therefore be incentivised to sell the club to the Community Trust. If there was to be a buy-out, there are a range of options including local shares.

9. Transport Sub-group:

Following discussion with residents about transport issues, a sub-group has been set up to continue discussion on making Mount Florida a safer, greener, cleaner area.

- safer streets: a survey has been issued and feedback is sought
- greener streets: a proposal has been drafted for a funding application (see below)

Re greener streets, the council has a funding scheme: Animating Spaces. Grants of up to £20,000 are available for minor town centres to install planters, benches, parklets etc. to make these areas more attractive. Bernhard has written an application which had been circulated; this was submitted by the Community Council last week to meet the deadline. However, it can still be withdrawn if the community councillors not involved with the sub-group disagree with it. There was no dissention. Residents will be consulted about the location of new features if the grant application is successful.

About 60 responses had been received to the survey which aims to identify local issues. We will encourage more people to fill it in and will send to MFPPP, Next Door etc.

10. AOCB

(i) Letherby: The planning application is in. A huge amount of work has gone into getting things this far and all involved are congratulated. We will encourage residents to respond.

Action➤ Chris will forward the info pack to Christine Francis, Laura Moran, Anna Richardson and the other councillors.

(ii) Information is available from Zero Waste Scotland on climate change and responses.

(iii) There will be an energy efficiency strategy under discussion next year.

(iv) Hangingshaws: As of the 2017 city development plan, it has no designation. Anna has looked into this and there had been an enquiry from a housing association wishing to build social

housing. The SFA has asked that no decision be taken on the site's future until 2024 when it will be decided where the 2030 World Cup will be held; if a UK & Ireland bid was successful, there might be matches played at Hampden.

(v) Newsletter: It was agreed that Judith should submit an application to the discretionary grant fund for a newsletter and will get stories from Hampden, Window Wanderland, the Community Trust about their plans for the bowling club site, and Bernhard about the Animating Spaces application. We will try to get something out for February.

Action> Judith to compile list of possible items and suggested word count

Action> Judith to apply for a grant for the newsletter, and seek ads from local businesses

11. Close.

Next meeting: Tuesday 26 January 2021 at 7pm, online (Zoom)