

Minutes of the meeting of North Kelvin Community
17th February 2015
Held in St. Charles Church Hall Kelvinside Gardens

1. Welcome

Members: Cameron Macfarlane (CM), Chairperson. Peter Blackshaw (PB), Secretary. Merle Read (MR), Webperson. Christine Alison (CA), Planning Officer. Martin Venherm (MV). Elaine Doherty (ED).

Also attending: Laura Wright (LW), Manager Aspire. P. MacKenzie, Resident.

Councillors: Kieran Wild (KW). Chris Kelly (CK). Helen Stephen (HS).

PC Sam Green (SG) and PC Jasarat Ahman (JA), Police Scotland.

Apology: Douglas Peacock.

2. Police Report. Officers Green and Ahman reported a total of 63 crimes of which 29 have been detected (17 January – 17 February). Of these crimes 4 were assaults, 16 antisocial behaviour, 3 cars and 3 bikes stolen, 8 drugs misuse. A number of questions were asked but the officers were new to the area so they couldn't answer all the questions. One local resident, PM, asked if the police could help with antisocial behaviour around Wilton Street, most nights from around 11.00 pm; this was backed up by ED. The officers promised to investigate and report back to PM. They were thanked for a full report.
3. The minutes of the last meeting were approved by MR.
4. The contractor carrying out the flood relief scheme has confirmed that this will be completed on time. The shopkeepers' committee have expressed concern over the length of time it has taken to complete the work; they are seeking compensation. Clouston Street will be resurfaced shortly. It was reported that the footpath in Queen Margaret Dr. at the shops would be replaced with tarmac. We supported the traders' association's request for high-quality paving slabs to be used.
5. Community clean up: we will investigate what can be done to improve the Yarrow Gardens area and we have had a request to tidy up Oban Lane/Queen Margaret Drive end. A pity that the opening (the pend) has been defaced along with the notice board but this can be rectified with a new coat of paint. We still have the upper part Of Oban Lane to clear at some point and PB asked if we could include Oban Passage for a clean up. KC stated he would contact Queens Cross Housing as they own the rights of the Lane; he will find out if and when a clean up could be completed.
6. Councillors' reports. KW on the Forth and Clyde regeneration that was organized by the Scottish Canals: this lasted 4 days. Many people attended & learned a lot about future plans for the Forth and Clyde Canal. HS reported on the meeting that took place in the local Church of Scotland to oppose the application of a new building on the corner of Doune Gardens/Belmont Street. There were over 60 people in attendance with Ann Laird of Friends of Glasgow West leading the meeting. HS and Ian Wotherspoon also took part. CK reported on the recent spell of bad weather that left the owners of Kelvinside Avenue unable to get out and about, there being only one grit bin for the whole estate; this has now been sorted.

7. Planning Officer report – concerns again raised about proposed parking at the newly planned Woodside Health Centre.

8. Treasurer’s report – in the absence of the Treasurer, there was no report to hand.

PB added that a letter had been received from the Resource Centre to say that our accounts are now being processed, so very soon our bank would be able to notify us of an update to our account.

9. Webperson – no report but we are getting a lot more hits online. PB said that the money that we have in our account could be used to improve our website and to advertise more.

10. Correspondence. It was stated that we had received a letter from ‘The Lord Provosts Office’ regarding an invitation to Her Majesty The Queen’s Garden Party at Holyroodhouse; we were offered tickets to attend this event. PB said we had received a letter of thanks from the Royal College of Nursing for our support in protest at the lack of parking at the new Southside Hospital – we had been asked to support other Community Councils in the North about parking. CK said although it was the hospital’s policy that staff should travel by public transport, the bus does not run at times to suit many of the staff. We received news of speed bumps to be installed in Wilton Street to control the traffic flow. Finally PB reported on the Community Council Forum that he attended. Part of the meeting was taken up with a discussion on the grant that was available to Community Councils; many said this was inadequate. A survey had been sent out to which we had replied but the response was poor from others. We need to find ways to spend our grant money.

11. A O B. CM reported that he was standing down as he was unable to fulfil all that was asked of him and because of other commitments to lead the Council to the best of his ability. As no one stepped up to take on the chair it would be on a rolling basis. CM was thanked for all his work and he was wished well as he sails off into the sunset on a world cruise. A more formal letter will be sent, when we find which port to send it. CM will still serve the council in the future.

A word of thanks was also expressed to the Manager of Aspire for coming to the meeting, and on this note the meeting was closed.

The date of the next meeting is 17th March 2015.