

Minutes of NKCC Meeting – 20/1/15

Present: Christine Alison, Elaine Doherty, Douglas Peacock, Martin Venherm, Merle Read, Helen Stephens (Councillor), Kieran Wild (Councillor), Graham Leggett (Police), Colin Miller (Police), Jock Morris, Bernadette Doyle

Apologies: Cameron MacFarlane, Peter Blackshaw

1. Minutes of previous meeting were approved.

Proposer: C. Alison

Seconder: E. Doherty

2. Police Report:

7 street drinkers, 6 drug incidents, 5 thefts (1 vehicle, 4 house breaking), 3 assaults, 1 vandalism, 4 traffic offences, 3 breach of the peace.

Operation Quarter Light has been introduced in order to tackle car theft.

Merle reported that a ground floor flat in Mingarry St (which backs onto the hostel in Queen Margaret Drive) had been broken into. Christine added that there seemed to have been an increase in antisocial behaviour in Queen Margaret Drive (e.g. drinking alcohol in doorways). The police stated that there had been an increase in plain clothes and uniformed patrols in that area.

3. Queen Margaret Drive – Road Closure

Merle gave a report about the events surrounding the closure of QMD. There had been an emergency meeting of QMD Traders' Association which was attended by Scottish Water, Helen Stephens and a representative from GCC (Steven Anderson). There had been complaints about haphazard arrangements, short notice to traders and residents, lack of signage. Merle reported that the traffic was driving too fast around the diversion and that temporary traffic lights, which had been promised, had not been installed. Helen added that Scottish Water is responsible for most arrangements and GCC is responsible only for identifying the diversion.

The traders are looking for financial compensation. Kieran stated that SW may refund water rates to businesses. There is a petition for compensation to traders.

Merle added that the bins on the West side of QMD had not been emptied, and that notification of the water being turned off overnight on Thursday 22 Jan.

Drivers have been using Hotspur Street as an alternative diversion (illegally). This diversion would need a road traffic order to allow it to be an official diversion. Helen offered to raise this issue with the Chief Constable.

4. Councillors' Reports:

Helen reported that QMD had been the main issue of concern in her correspondence. GCC has just reconvened after the Christmas break.

The issue of gritting of roads and pavements was discussed. Kieran suggested that more grit bunkers could be placed in the streets for residents to use. Merle agreed to put information about grit bunkers on NKCC facebook page. Elaine agreed to draft a letter to LES about the issue of gritting and providing more bunkers. She will forward this to NKCC members for approval and Peter (as secretary) will be asked to forward the letter to LES.

5. Planning Officer's Report:

Christine reported on:

- Firhill Stadium Development of flats
- Application for the use of a unit in Garscube Road as a personal training gym and physiotherapy clinic
- Installation of new shopfront (Lloyd's Pharmacy) Maryhill road
- Erection of dwelling house in site adjacent to 1 Doune Gardens/167 Wilton St

The only application to which there was any objection was the erection of the dwelling house. This was discussed in detail.

Jock Morris (resident at 1 Doune Gardens) gave a detailed report: Spectrum Properties (Bill Roddie) purchased the land in 1995. The architects have described the land as unused, which is not the case. The land has been used as a pleasure garden (as stipulated in the deeds) for 150 years, and in recent years has been maintained as a garden by residents in 1 Doune Gardens. Spectrum Properties has not maintained the garden. The deeds state the ground must be used as a garden in perpetuity. The plans show that the proposed dwelling house will be three stories high and will be 12 metres from 1 Doune Gdns and 167 Wilton St. There is a mature Lime tree on the land. Jock is going to enquire about tree protection. Friends of Glasgow West are going to lodge an objection to the proposed development. All the residents of 1 Doune Gardens and 1 Striven Gardens are going to lodge objections. There will be a public meeting in the Church of Scotland in Belmont St (date to be confirmed)

There was a unanimous vote (5 votes) by NKCC to oppose the proposed dwelling house. Merle will post an online petition. Martin will send a letter of commendation from NKCC to Jock for maintaining the garden and making a positive contribution to the aesthetics of the community. Christine will draft a letter of objection and forward it to NKCC members for approval.

6. Treasurer's Report: Douglas submitted NKCC Accounts 30/9/13 – 30/9/14

The Accounts were approved. Proposer: C. Alison, Seconder: M. Venherm

7. Webperson's Report: Merle reported that there had been more activity on facebook, mainly because of the QMD closure. Martin agreed to take photographs at the next meeting in order to put them on the facebook page.

Merle stated that she would like to attend the digital workshop in Edinburgh and it was agreed that her travelling expenses would be paid.

8. Correspondence: no correspondence report due to Peter not being able to attend the meeting.

9. AOCB: Christine said that we had agreed at the social in December to come up with ideas for actions this year. She proposed trying to facilitate community clean ups and gardening activities in the public garden areas. Also, it was suggested that we plan ahead to have stalls at events (eg West End festival/FORK Gala) to raise our profile. We agreed to draw up a calendar of events at the next meeting.

Helen suggested that we could advertise NKCC by buying Facebook advertising.