

NORTH KELVIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

VIRTUAL MEETING 6 October 2020

PRESENT

Community Councillors

Douglas Peacock (DP, Chair)
Inta Bakewell (IB)
David Conway (DC)
Alasdair Macdonald (AM)
Merle Read (MR)
Andrew Smith (AS)

APOLOGIES

Christine Alison (CA)
Elaine Docherty (ED)

Councillors

Ken Andrews (KA)
Jane Morgan (JM)
Martha Wardrop (MW)

Others in attendance:

Hannah Graham (HG, Associate)
Six local residents (PG, TR, RW, SN, CM, AR)

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of September meeting approved (MR, AM). Outstanding action (point 3) was a letter to be sent to St Charles Primary re road safety: DC agreed to write. Minute taker required for November meeting.

2. POLICE REPORT

Thanks to Sgt Bell for sending the following report for the period 02/09/2020 – 06/10/2020.

Recorded crime is up on what would have been reported last month.

Housebreaking crimes – No change on last month.

Oban Drive (Attempt housebreaking with intent to enter and steal) - Bike shed broken into overnight (No property taken)

Extra attention will be provided by uniformed and plain clothes officers.

Misuse Drugs Act crimes – Increase on last month.

Theft of Motor vehicle – No crimes recorded this month (second month in a row)

Theft pedal cycle – No change on last month

Bike stolen from common landing, chain cut by unknown means. (Recommend D locks as these offer the best option for bike security).

Road Traffic Crimes – Increase on last month.

Crimes of Violence – No change on last month

Crimes of Dishonesty (Theft/Fraud/Forgery) – Increase on last month.

Vandalism – No change on last month

Crimes of note – Robbery (Mayhill Road) - Shop premises - Demand money, thereafter take hold of cash register and take possession of money - 3 x persons arrested.

Sexual crime (Location not disclosed to protect the identity of the victim) - Suspect identified (suspect is known to victim) - Positive line of enquiry

Trends – Obviously the COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing and we are seeing tighter restrictions being imposed. We are generally seeing a good level of compliance with the restrictions imposed in the community council area however this unfortunately cannot be said of other areas.

Our efforts continue to be directed towards Engagement with the public, Explaining the restrictions, Encouraging the public to comply and Enforcing legislation where there is a clear breach of the restrictions.

Points to be forwarded to Sgt Bell for response (CA):

1. A 'peeping Tom' had been reported to the police last week but this was not mentioned in the report. The person who made the report is said to be feeling extremely unsafe in their own home (a flat backing onto a lane). Can we have assurance this is being followed up?

[Response from Sgt Bell rec'd 26/10/20: "There was indeed a crime of Voyeurism raised for this incident, which occurred on Queen Margaret Drive last month. Extensive enquiry was carried out by the local community Policing team and by our public protection unit, however the identity of the suspect remains unknown. We will be adding this area into our patrols for extra attention. I would encourage anyone observing any male acting in a suspicious manner to contact 999."]

2. MW said there had been an event at Kelvingrove Park where people could bring their bikes to be security marked. Could something similar be arranged for us, given the history of thefts in the area?

[Response from Sgt Bell: bike marking event at Maryhill Police office (car park) to take place on 14/11/2020, 1200–1600 hrs.]

3. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

KA In light of Covid-19 outbreak among students at Murano Street halls, Environmental Health had spoken to local shopkeepers to remind them of good practice.

Problems noted re noise at Fergus Drive development.

Dunard Street school becoming a car-free zone may have a knock-on effect on the surrounding streets.

Similar zone around Glasgow Academy would be ideal but difficulties in introducing it because it is a private school. This would also have knock-on for our area unless parking zone is introduced.

A potentially dangerous tree on Doune Gardens had been reported by NKCC and was being dealt with.

MW Information being sought on implications of building work on new school and QMD public realm. No answers as yet.

Neighbourhoods and Sustainability work on Byres Rd project encouraging but has been impacted by Covid.

Information being sought on refurbishment requirements for Belhaven Nursery.

Increase in guerrilla gardening noted in the area. More work needed done here re food-growing strategy. What more could be done here in terms of raised beds, allotments etc?

Correspondence with Glasgow Academy re traffic problems. Car-free zone can't be imposed but looking at what measures can be supported. Police have been helpful in this.

JM Planning issues: Flats on Kelbourne St (date for commenting has passed). Not commenting at this stage because of being on the Planning Committee. Flats on Mingarry Street: new plans in. Botanic Crescent Mews.

[in answer to Q] Council financial support for back court improvements probably wouldn't be available.

Community Fund cuts. Some money had been found to support the most vulnerable. Same position will recur next year: hard decisions have been delayed rather than reversed. Money in the transition fund has been allocated for 18 months. Some groups lost out because evidence in the form was insufficient. Are there anomalies in that you have more chance of being funded if you are better at form filling?

Scottish Water works at Flint Mill. The noise and vibration have been intolerable for some people. The echo barriers are inadequate. MW to follow up with SW. Information on SW website inadequate. Residents unhappy at not being taken seriously by SW. Works are anticipated to take a further 3 weeks. DP to invite SW to attend our next meeting if noise has not quietened down by then. JM also to contact SW in relation to flooding at Botanic Crescent.

4. GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL'S PUBLIC CONVERSATION ON GLASGOW'S TRANSPORT FUTURE

We are encouraged to respond to the [transport consultation](#) as the transport strategy was last updated 10 years ago. Closing date is 30 Oct 2020 [for the public and 13th Nov for community councils].

MR previously responded to Stephen Dowling that we are willing to attend a related community council development session on 24th Oct.

AM was due to attend a related webinar on Wed 7th Oct.

MR is to put details of the consultation on the website/facebook.

Progress on the proposed **controlled parking zone** has been slowed up by the pandemic and by the complexity of the scheme, which considers some changing traffic priorities as well as parking. No date yet available for completion of the final proposal. Meanwhile parking on corners etc continues. Police take action only if they witness an offence taking place.

5. COMPLAINTS ABOUT ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN WILTON STREET GARDENS

Following recent reports of antisocial behaviour there have been conciliatory discussions between Wilton Island Association and the hostel unit on Wilton St which have helped defuse local concerns. The colder, wetter weather has also helped. Problems have also been reported at the playpark opposite Hotspur St.

KA and JM had had a meeting with police and Neighbourhoods and Sustainability to discuss the general issue. Sometimes people arrange to congregate in particular areas though they live well outwith them. Organised activities are not of interest to all youngsters and are mostly not available at present anyway. MW also concerned about support for young people and wishes to support community groups such as WIA.

The benefit of the Wilton Street gardens to the community and was noted and the activities of the Wilton Island Association were praised.

6. PARKING RESTRICTIONS AROUND FERGUS DRIVE DEVELOPMENT

The [restrictions](#) are expected to have a big impact.

Problems with the planning system in that:

- the Curves plan was only allowed on appeal and the issue of traffic was therefore not considered
- planning applications for some big developments in the area have been considered only on their own merits rather than in terms of the cumulative effect on the community (the school, Fergus Drive, Kelbourne St).

It was expected that objections to the parking restrictions would only have led to prolonging the disruption caused by the construction phase of the development.

MW: the developer has a responsibility to ensure road safety. MW would like any incidents reported to her.

The developer's poor communications with the community was noted. Residents had been inconvenienced by another unannounced closure of Fergus Dr which was reported to have taken place on 29 Sept.

There was discussion of whether a requirement could be enforced such that developers would have to provide social housing as a proportion of any new development. It was thought this might end up increasing the cost to first-time buyers. But in any case people who live in NK may be priced out of buying in the area. We have a responsibility to represent those in the community that might be underrepresented. JM offered to get a statement from the planners about this requirement. Should we take a position on this issue? HG agreed to draft a statement for our consideration.

7. REMOVING GRAFFITI FROM QMD SHOP SHUTTERS AND STREET ELECTRICITY BOXES

A resident had volunteered to remove graffiti from shop shutters. How could we help? At present we cannot organise a clean-up, but we can make graffiti wipes available to individuals and participate as individuals but not in groups.

KA offered to investigate the current use of community payback.

MW: does NKCC have public liability insurance? Should speak to Neighbourhoods and Sustainability. Is a risk assessment needed? Council might be able to supply equipment and permission for removal.

If we get advice about this it could go on the website for the use of interested residents.

8. PLANNING REPORT

Fergus Drive: DC had written to the Council on 14 September to express our and the community's concerns over the handling of the Fergus Drive development but had received no reply (it was noted 28 days had not yet passed).

Kelbourne St: we had just missed the date for submitting comments but it was agreed that there were extenuating circumstances (such as documents being unavailable for several days because of the temporary closure of the planning portal for maintenance) and DC should submit our response to the application in any case [now available on the [planning site](#)].

There was a delay until after the closing date to public comments being lodged on the planning website.

Mingarry St: the planning application for the old fire station is available ([20/02229/FUL](#)). As the closing date is 30 Oct, DC was to write requesting a short extension to allow us to take any issues raised at our November meeting into account before submitting any comments [done on 6 Oct but our proposed extension was not permitted; our objection was submitted and accepted].

The City Council is holding a **pre-planning consultation event** on the evening of 14th October. It was thought advantageous for us to attend but it was not known if anyone would be available.

9. LICENSING REPORT

AS noted when we had objected to an HMO application previously we had asked for reasons for objection being dismissed, but had had no response. KA to investigate.

GlasGLOW is taking place at the Botanic Gardens in Oct/Nov. It may be another parking stress on our choked-up streets, but there has been little enough fun for families this year. No objection to be submitted.

10. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

MR had issued newsletter including info on how to make comments on Kelbourne St flats.

Concerns had previously been expressed that we did not make sufficient effort to inform residents about planning etc but it was agreed that we do what news-spreading we can via available resources (website/facebook/noticeboard) given we are 5 councillors under strength.

11. AOB

None noted.

Chair was thanked for duties. Next meeting: Tuesday 3rd November 2020