

North Kelvin Community Council
Chairperson's Report for 2016
Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This has been a good year for the NKCC and has involved an element of change.

There has been some change in terms of membership of NKCC as some longstanding members resigned due to other commitments before our last AGM. However, new members joined NKCC and have taken on responsibility for various roles within in the community council.

Whilst membership levels do meet the recommended 1 representative per 1,000 population, we do require more members in order to increase the effectiveness of our current activities and to take on new focuses. At present these goals can be challenging when only shared by a small number of members who themselves have limited time due to other commitments.

Despite these restrictions NKCC has carried out community council business during our monthly meetings and have been actively involved in the following issues.

Community Councillors have met with representatives of the Education department, Glasgow City Council and Councillor Stephens to discuss the future of the QMD football pitches. We have sourced quotes for the upgrading of the pitches to 3D turf to illustrate the minimal costs involved in a basic upgrade and have participated in a meeting regarding the use of the site as a new primary school whilst retaining a pitch for public use. Public consultation on this proposal is expected in the near future but other sites are also under consideration.

A proposal has been made to erect a dwelling house on a garden site located beside 1 Doune Gardens. After reviewing the planning proposal NKCC submitted an objection based on West End conservation area guidelines and has been successful in conjunction with local residents, the local MP, MSP and local councillors in ensuring this proposal goes before a full planning committee hearing, so that members of the public can make representations regarding the impact this proposal will have on the local area.

We invited an NHS representative to inform us on plans for the new Woodside Health Centre and raised our concerns about the impact it will have on street congestion in the immediate area due to the minimal parking being made available at the new site.

We have continued to pursue our successful street and lane cleanups in conjunction with Clean Glasgow based on residents requests and local knowledge of problem areas. These events have been successful through leafletting prior to the clean up in order to attract volunteers with up to 20 residents attending events to assist. Due to the success of these events the community council has purchased equipment to improve the effectiveness of these events and have received positive feedback from locals.

We have engaged with local councillors and council departments to highlight any concerns residents have raised such as faulty street lighting, blocked drains and road surfacing issues.

At the QMD street parties we have taken the opportunity to utilise a stall in order to promote the work of the community council, hear locals' concerns and recruit potential new members.

Although our social media presence was already active we have continued to grow our followers on both Twitter and Facebook at a consistent rate as well as launching an informative newsletter to our email listing to promote the community council's work and inform local residents of any information that they may not be aware of, such as events and developments within the area.

In addition we have sought to increase our links with our neighbouring community council representing Dowanhill, Hyndland and Kelvinside area in order to learn from their experience and to pursue issues of mutual interest at our boundaries, such as the deteriorating state of Kirklee Bridge, which has resulted in Land and Environmental Services scheduling maintenance work.

Going forward I believe it is vital that we continue to engage with individuals living within our boundaries and to pursue recruiting new members living within areas for which we currently do not have representation. I believe that the efforts of the community council have had a positive impact on the local community and that further opportunities will arise through successful increased membership.

Jamie Thomas-Harley

Chairperson
NKCC