

Minutes of North Kelvin Community Council
Tuesday 2nd February, 2021
18.30, online Microsoft Teams

NKCC Members present:

Douglas Peacock, Alasdair Smith, Christine Alison, Merle Read, Alasdair MacDonald, Phil Crook, Louise MacKenzie

Apologies: Andrew Smith, Hannah Graham, Elaine Doherty, David Conway

Councillors present:

Martha Wardrop, Ken Andrew, Jane Morgan, John Letford

GCC representatives:

Andrew Beglan, Liz Mair, Andrew Beglin, Cheryl Breen

Residents:

June Allan, Tim Collins, Arthur Fairfull, Raymond Wingate, April Chamberlain, Anne Roche

Community police officers:

Peter Bell, Lorna Watson

1. Approval minutes of previous CC meeting (5th January, 2021),

Proposer: Christine Alison Seconder: Alasdair MacDonald

2. Police Report, Peter Bell, T/Sergeant, G2225

Period of 03/01/2021 to 02/02/2021. Recorded crime is down on what was reported last month.

Housebreaking crimes - Decrease on last month.

Theft by Housebreaking - Commercial premises. Entry gained by smashing window during the early hours of the morning. (Quantity of cash and Tablet device stolen from within).

Areas affected Maryhill Road.

Misuse Drugs Act crimes: Decrease on last month.

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

Theft pedal cycle - Slight decrease on last month. Areas affected Firhill Street / Garscube Road / Caithness Street / Simpson Street / Oban Drive / Kelvinside Terrace / Maryhill Road and Raeberry Street

We have seen a sharp rise in the number of Pedal cycle thefts over the last 6 months. This has coincided with the high demand for pedal cycles - second hand or otherwise, linked to the current COVID pandemic. If I could ask all members and residents to be mindful of this and ensure, where possible, that pedal cycles are locked out of plain sight. D locks offer

the best protection against theft, but the best security method is to keep your pedal cycle within your house. You should have your bike security marked and keep a note of your bike's serial number. You should also keep a photograph of your bike which, in the event your bike is stolen, will give us the best opportunity to recover your bike.

Most thieves are going equipped with bolt cutters and other tools, targeting pedal cycles that have been chained to railings in a communal stairways.

We have an ongoing investigation in relation to these thefts and officers are reviewing these incidents as well as CCTV. Several persons have been identified as being involved in this type of crime, and once the enquiry is complete we should be in a position to charge a number of persons.

Road Traffic Crimes – Decrease on last month.

Crimes of Violence - Slight Increase on last month.

Crimes of Dishonesty (Theft / Fraud / Forgery) - Slight decrease on last month.

Vandalism - Decrease on last month.

Crimes of note –

Trends - As detailed above we have noticed an increase in acquisitive crimes in relation to the theft of pedal cycles.

Obviously the COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing and we are seeing Tier 4 restrictions being imposed once again. 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 the four **Es** – **e**ngagement with the public, **e**xplaining the restrictions, **e**ncouraging the public to comply and **e**nforcing legislation where there is a clear breach of the restrictions.

3. Councillors' Reports

Jane Morgan: HMOs receiving limited attention from council; training for community councillors for the planning process is available via the council. Jane clarified that it was too late for new comments on the Kelbourne St planning application. It was made clear that those with front and back door houses are to receive info on change of bin collection rota. A discretionary fund for self-employed individuals is available via the council.

Martha Wardrop is monitoring the Fergus Dv development. Council to supply cycle storage across the city and 3 have been allocated for N Kelvin (Raeberry St and two on Wilton St). Discussion about N Glasgow planning framework and segregated cycle on Maryhill Rd and the connection of the important roads in the area being linked.

Ken Andrew: It was raised at the previous meeting that a large body of water had appeared on the building site at Fergus Drive, and this led to speculation about the cause of this flood. Ken expressed concern about some flooding in the gardens opposite the site and has been making enquiries about this. Fergus Drive was recently being blocked off and West Point Homes Ltd have denied responsibility for the closure of the road and stated that the Council was responsible. Dumping of rubbish and the danger from fridges is becoming an issue in the current Covid climate.

Douglas - The Council has said that West Point Homes was responsible for putting up advanced notices (1 month) regarding the closing of the road for their crane operation. It would appear once again that the residents are the ones inconvenienced. West Point Homes needs to engage better with local residents as they build their development.

4. Update on new primary school

Jim Wilson, Glasgow City Council: work proceeding well across the school development; completion date has been pushed back; new headteacher has been advertised for; parents council to be represented on interview panel for the new HT in May/June; March 2022 school to be opened permanently.

Cheryl Breen: traffic management negotiations within the council are ongoing; a cycle lane in Queen Margaret Drive is to be included in the preparation of the school environment; there will also be a dedicated drop off point for the school.

In response to Christine Alison's question about availability of school accommodation for use by community groups and organisations, Jim stated that the accommodation was managed by Glasgow Life and the GCC letting department. Concerns over the fees for lets should be addressed to elected officials and Glasgow Life.

Councillor Letford asked if there had been a change to the catchment area for the new school. Jim Wilson explained that early consultation on the issue had led to a small adjustment of the catchment area but there have been no recent changes.

Councillor Morgan asked if there will be a pedestrian crossing for QMD and was assured that there will be crossing in place for the opening of the school in 2022.

Jim Wilson: safe walking route for P1 will be risk assessed.

Assessment of the risk in crossing QMD to be assessed for children.

Councillor Wardrop: residents' newsletter from contractor should also go to businesses on QMD

Anne: has any considerations been made for the improvement of the pavement on QMD?

Answer: ongoing consideration in council.

Douglas asked if the contractor to build the school could be asked if they could pick up litter within the fenced area they have erected north of the school as it borders Maryhill Road. Jim Wilson said he would ask them.

5. Low traffic neighbourhood

A Beglin: parking control scheme, low traffic neighbourhood - through traffic and permanent controls should benefit LTN.

Alasdair: controlled parking, West of QMD has a problem on Hotspur St; children from Wyndford will use this route.

A Beglin: consideration ongoing how the streetscape can be used to improve the environment for pedestrians/ children and the deterrence of motorists;

A Beglin: enhance Hotspur St to deter its use by motorists; traffic calming QMD: no specific proposals but he'll look at it and get back to CC

Ken Andrews stated as St Charles would be used for primary school children before the new Maryhill Road school is built he was worried about kids / families crossing QMD opposite Fergus drive. Could A Beglin look at putting in safety features as it's a busy area there.

It was stated that police occasionally attend the bus gate at far (west) end of Hotspur Street. It was asked if a camera could be installed there, similar to the city centre ones. A Beglin said he had raised this before but due to lack of budget this hadn't been progressed.

A Beglin: Go live date for parking control scheme should be September 2021 provided objections currently being analysed do not cause delay.

A Beglin to investigate the possibility of a 20mph limit for QMD and to get back to CC. Traffic regulation order proposals are on hold to synchronise with the proposals for Byres Road and when the proposals for Byres Road will be completed.

Douglas asked that A Beglin review whether there is a street pedestrian fence on QMD as children are likely to come out of Oran Gate to cross over to the new school. This is due to Oran Gate being approx. 50 feet above (north) from where the new pedestrian crossing is expected. This new fencing would stop a beeline to the school.

6. Location and purchase of new noticeboard

Christine said that £2000 from area partnership should be available soon. It was proposed that the noticeboard be sited next to the bike stands at corner of Oban Drive and QMD. Land and Environmental Services has to be consulted for confirmation of this proposal. It was discussed where the board should be sited with some discussion that it might be sited on the Firhill side of the community. A final decision has still to be made. Louise to contact Q X Housing about their publicizing of the CC and its work.

7. Planning Officer's report

Louise MacKenzie: nothing of note proposed on council website. David contacted council this morning to outline the CC attitude to Kelbourne St development.

David Conway email to CC, can we appeal Kelbourne St? No provision for appeal to the plan at this stage.

Jane Morgan: an appeal is not possible. There could be a judicial review if there are grounds, but that is probably too expensive. Jane has submitted a paper to GCC about reforms to the Planning Review Group with a proposal to increase the membership from three to five. Jane recommended reading the exchange between the applicants and the planning department as to why they could not accept the initial proposals for Kelbourne Street.

Ken Andrew: CC could complain about failure of process rather than the application. The PRG misunderstood what the CC was saying about this development. Ken agreed with Councillor Morgan that the review committee needs to be improved.

There were 41 conditions attached to the approval: how do we ensure developer is held to account? Cllr Letford said he would follow up any failures in this regard brought to his attention.

It was proposed that **David Conway** write to the Planning Committee and Chief Executive about the failure of process.

It was suggested that there might be other CCs experiencing concerns about the planning process.

Merle: this is not the focus of area partnership meetings. Ken: Better to go by Steven Dowling at GCC to have link with CC from all 23 CC and the wards.

Phil: keen to link up with other CCs in order to pursue a common objective ie fairer planning decisions. Action: Douglas (with Phil) to approach Steven Dowling on how we could link in with other CC.

Martha Wardrop: there is a body concerned with planning democracy and Community Councils who have similar concerns; Martha to get back to Douglas about the status of 'planning democracy'.

Next city plan: **Louise** to try to incorporate comments about planning democracy into city development plan.

David to be consulted on how to approach planning procedures and the process for deciding them.

Douglas – very unhappy with the decision and the process of how the Kelbourne Street planning application had been decided on. Due to one of our own Councillors Hanzala Malik making the decision against our wishes, and indeed many in the community, but has never even been to one meeting of this Community Council. How could a good decision for this community be arrived at without this happening.

8. Licensing report

No comments

9. Communications report

Steven Dowling's comments on accessibility were noted. Social landlords are to be contacted to include CC information and how to contact us. Marshall housing, Queens Cross Housing etc.

Merle noted the difficulty of us and other CCs keeping up with some Council website accessibility regulations. Newsletter has been issued.

10. AOB

Hannah Graham's membership of NKCC was approved.

Proposer: Christine Alison. Seconder Merle Read

Douglas thanked Councilor John Letford for attending and his contribution to this meeting and that he was more than welcome to attend subsequent meetings. Councillor John Letford stated he was happy to attend subsequent meetings.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 2nd March 2021.