

**NORTH KELVIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MEETING  
1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2022  
MINUTES**

<p><u>Present</u></p> <p>Alasdair Macdonald (treasurer/acting chair) Christine Alison (secretary) Merle Read Elaine Doherty Louise MacKenzie Hannah Graham Phil Crook (minutes secretary)</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Douglas Peacock Alasdair Smith Andrew Smith David Conway</p>	<p><u>Residents attending</u></p> <p>Sandra Huettenbuegel Andrea Fisher Alison Bass Diana Fuentes Josh Swiss</p> <p><u>Councillors attending</u></p> <p>Jane Morgan Ken Andrew</p> <p>Apologies from Martha Wardrop</p> <p><u>Also attending</u></p> <p>Gillian MacDonald, Community Liaison Coordinator, GCC</p>
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**The meeting started at 1835**

1. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were agreed.

Proposer: Merle Read    Seconder: Christine Alison

2. Police report

Constable Bell provided a report which was presented by Christine. There was no housebreaking, vehicle theft and cycle theft, but an increase in drugs, road traffic offences and crimes of violence. He drew our attention to a scam currently doing the rounds in the form of a WhatsApp message being received alleging to be from a family member asking to cash to transferred. These messages can begin with 'Hello mum' or 'Hello dad' before going onto say that they need money transferred over urgently. The scammers say they are messaging from a different number as their phone has been lost and they claim they need money for a new phone or to allegedly pay a bill urgently. The scammers provide their bank details and if successful they may come back for further demands of money. Constable Bell warned that if such a message is received you should try to reach out to your family member / friend by another form of communication to confirm their request for help is genuine.

Cllr Andrew noted that scams arriving by text or mobile can also be forwarded to OfCom on 7726.

### 3. Councillors' reports

Councillor Morgan mentioned that the Maryhill Library re-opened on January 24<sup>th</sup>, which is most welcome, and that she has had some correspondence with residents about the size of parking spaces within the RPZ, which do not seem to be standardised.

Cllr Andrew reported that work on the new school on QMD has slowed a little, but an August opening is still planned. Two classes have started, using rooms at St Charles. He is concerned about speeding down QMD and is talking to the police about what can be done when the school opens. There may also be parking problems with the school drop-offs.

The meeting also discussed the fact that the one way and no entry signs linked to the RPZ have mainly been uncovered, even though, as Cllr Andrew confirmed, they only come into operation when the RPZ is enforced. This is causing a great deal of confusion. The problem was reported a month ago to Roads and nothing has been done. The NKCC agreed to go out at the weekend and cover them up ourselves.

### 4. Current state of rubbish and recycling collection

There was a general discussion about this. Gillian MacDonald explained the challenges which the Cleansing Department had faced over the last two months, including the strike, two four-day holidays and Covid. While members appreciated that resources had been strained, they wanted a) to say that communication with residents had been non-existent, and b) assurance that lessons would be learned to avoid a repetition. It is clear that staffing levels have absolutely no reserve built in, and the slightest disruption has serious consequences. The problems had been brought up quite strongly at the recent Hillhead Area Partnership Meeting, and in the press, so the Council are perfectly aware of the depth of feeling among residents and councillors. The question is whether they will act.

The Council have said that NRS faces operational challenges in workforce planning, with an ageing age profile of the frontline workforce. Over half of team members are in the 50+ age bracket, while operational processes are predominately manual in nature and working days are often 10½ hours long.

### 5. National Litter Strategy Consultation

Linked to rubbish and recycling is the whole question of litter and fly-tipping. A consultation has been launched and everyone is encouraged to respond.

**Action:** Phil will draft a first reply on behalf of the NKCC and circulate for comments.

### 6. Citizens' Panel

Glasgow has proposed the setting up of Citizens' Panels as part of the Open Government Action Plan. Commitment 1, *Increasing Participatory Democracy - Exploring the Implementation of Co-developed Citizens' Panels across Glasgow*, will run from March 2022 to May 2027. It says *"There is an appetite to increase the level of participatory democracy in the city, and build upon previous and in-progress, devolution of decision making to the lowest level in the city's governance, and so this commitment will explore options for implementing co-developed Citizens' Panels in Glasgow, learning from existing participatory processes in the city, and with our partners through the Open Government Partnership. Any implementation of Citizens' Panels will have an overall aim of*

*increasing participatory democracy and demonstrate the influence of local people's input to the allocation of local resources and citizen led service redesign."*

At the recent Hillhead Area Partnership meeting, members were informed about progress. Three wards, Calton, Canal and Greater Pollok, have been chosen to pilot Citizens' Panels which will then inform the roll-out to all 23 wards. The progress report stated *"We will establish, maintain contact and facilitate information sharing and engagement with the Citizens' Panels to ensure that the views of communities are better represented in planning and decision making. This will be complementary to engagement with Community Councils across the city via the involvement of the lead officer for that work"*.

Members were reminded of The Glasgow Citizens Panel, which is a representative panel of 1000 individuals (selected for 2 years) run by Ipsos MORI and which looks at specific issues. This does seem to work well.

It is not at all clear in anything so far produced how Community Councils will interact with Citizens' Panels. What is their mandate and authority? Is there an implied hierarchy? How will disagreements be resolved?

A mail from Partick Community Council shows that we are not alone in being apprehensive. It is ironic that Community Councils have been so little involved in the discussions.

**Action:** Christine and Phil will work on a representation to Bernadette Monaghan, based on the mail from Partick, but also including the fact that NKCC includes part of Canal Ward and so we would hope to be involved in the pilot.

#### 7. Louisa Jordan Memorial

Louisa Jordan was born at 279 Garbraid Street (now part of Maryhill Road, between Northpark Street and Bilsland Drive) and also lived at 30 Kelvinside Avenue. The NKCC think it is appropriate to try to commemorate her in some way. This also links in to an offer from Tesco to the NKCC of funds for a project of our choice.

Christine has arranged that Kate Dargie, a Local Heritage Officer, will come to see us in February for a walk-around and to discuss possibilities.

#### 8. Clean-up

A very successful clean-up took place last Sunday around Yarrow Gardens Lane. Suggestions for the next one to be sent to Elaine. In relation to Tesco's offer of support for our regular activities (in addition to what is said at point 7), Elaine will compile a list of items useful for our clean-ups that we are short of (eg bin bags, litter pickers) which Merle will pass on to the Tesco store manager on QMD.

#### 9. Planning Officer's report

Louise reported on one proposal which has been re-submitted for 914 Maryhill Road, as mixing students and fast food was not acceptable. The NKCC agreed that we need not comment again.

Diana Fuentes asked the NKCC for advice on the proposal for the Mingarry Street site which are still not resolved. Apparently the developer has been given three months more to modify his application,

but residents were not informed, and their window for commenting has closed. The NKCC have little space to help and suggested a) writing to Cllr Morgan and b) also looking at Under One Roof.

Also raised was the dangerous state of the temporary fencing around the vacant land adjacent to the children's park on Kelbourne Street. Louise offered to contact Planning Department about that.

We agreed that the letter sent to the GCC CEO re Kelbourne St should be put on the website.

The CC were reminded that comments are still requested for the NDP4, the Local Development Plan regulations and guidelines, and the Open Space plan.

10. HMO report

There were no specific HMO applications to discuss. However, the general policy towards HMOs is still very much a hot topic. Phil will join Jean Charsley (Hillhead CC) and Tom Johnstone (Woodlands and Park CC) at a meeting with Mairi Miller on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to continue the discussion started at the Hillhead Area Partnership meeting.

11. Communications report

There was nothing to report.

12. AOB

Phil informed the meeting that he had a mail exchange with Mary McPhail from Roads, regarding the circular we received about the Prohibition of Motor Vehicles Order around schools. The Order does not state whether the prohibition applies all year round or just during term-time. Mary confirmed that it applies in term-time only, and that the signs are hinged so they can be closed during the holiday. Dunard Street school do not appear to know this. Nor do we know whose responsibility it is to do the opening and closing.

**The meeting finished at 2030**

Phil Crook  
Minutes Secretary  
7 February 2022