

Draft Minutes of Meeting of NKCC – 7 February 2023

NKCC members attending

Christine Alison (secretary)
Elaine Doherty
Murray Glen
Alasdair Macdonald (treasurer)
Louise MacKenzie (acting chair)
Merle Read
Frank Shennan
Rowena Statt

Apologies

David Conway
Douglas Peacock
Stuart Wallace

Councillors attending

Ken Andrew
Keiran O'Neill
Martha Wardrop

Others attending

Martin Neill (Glasgow City Council)
PC Gary Rutherford
PC Vicky Shea
Eszter Tarnai (Glasgow Times)

About 6 local residents

1. Election of chair & minutes secretary

In the absence of the chair and vice-chair, Louise acted as chair for the meeting. Merle took minutes.

2. Appointment of associate member

Josh Swiss's appointment was agreed, for help with digital mapping. [**Action: Christine to inform Steven Dowling**]

3. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the 10 January meeting were agreed. Proposer – Alasdair; seconder – Christine.

4. Police report

Crime figures for the last month: housebreaking, 0; misuse of drugs, 1; theft of a motor vehicle, 2 (up on last month); bikes stolen, 2 (same); violent crimes, 2 (within households); theft, 1 (opportunistic, owing to unlocked door); stolen number plates, 1.

The police reminded **bike users** to get their bikes registered and to use proper locks. They will be doing marking events: look out for these.

People acting suspiciously around cars should be reported to the police, as stolen number plates may be used in criminal activity.

Thieves are using special equipment to steal modern cars by 'relay theft'. If you have a contactless car key or fob, when you're at home keep it in a **Faraday bag or pouch** to prevent its signal being picked up by thieves.

If your car is stolen, let the police know if it has a tracking device fitted.

The road signage has been improved around **Dunard Street**. Officers will be attending all this week at school dropping off & picking up times, to educate drivers on the one-way system.

The police have spoken to local business users for parking at the **turning circle for Kelvinside Primary School**. This area is for school drop-off only. The school had preferred not to have a barrier outwith school hours but this may need to be looked at again.

Cllr Andrew said the issue was raised at the Hillhead Area Partnership meeting in January because access in and out of Maryhill Fire Station was being affected by irresponsible parking at the turning circle. A request has been made to Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) to install bollards and double yellow lines as a matter of urgency.

Cllr Wardrop said the turning circle, which has not been marked out for the school, should be adopted by the Council, and is pushing for a Traffic Regulation Order and 'keep clear' signage.

Christine is to write to the Head of Roads on NKCC's behalf in support of the school & will liaise with Cllr Wardrop. **[Action]**

Cllr Andrew reported new graffiti and flyposting on Queen Margaret Bridge and asked police to keep an eye out.

Residents can report graffiti with the [MyGlasgow app](#).

5. Follow-up on actions from previous meeting

(a) Rat infestation in Lyndhurst Gardens Lane

Martin Neill, neighbourhood liaison officer, and Cllr Wardrop attended a site meeting/walkabout with residents on 26 January. Update: the pest control treatment is working and rat activity is down. The situation will continue to be monitored. The bottom part of the lane is still a problem.

The head teacher at St Charles has spoken to pupils about not littering in the lane. The school has an eco committee that Martin is to speak to.

The bins are still out on the street. Once Pest Control/Public Health consider the rat problem is under control, the bins can go back to the back courts.

Residents had agreed to clean the bin shelters after the site visit and most of this has been done or will be done soon. Food waste bins have been removed permanently and blue bins removed temporarily, to stop people putting out rubbish until the problem is solved.

There is an area at the end of Lyndhurst Gardens that is owned by the Council, which has the responsibility to clean it up. Cllr Wardrop had tried to make contact with owners/residents/factors responsible for bin shelters who weren't at the walkabout.

A resident said there were only 7 blue bins on Wilton St and they were being stuffed to overflowing because of only being emptied fortnightly. Rubbish is blowing about the street. Bins are blocking pavements.

People are parking on the lane and this is stopping refuse-lorry access. Traffic warden activity has reportedly increased and tickets have been issued. Residents can [report non-enforcement](#).

Rats had been reported underneath St Charles Church. Mesh has been installed to block all drainage holes and no new rat activity has been noted.

Other bin issues

Martin would investigate who owns the freestanding bins at Oban Court. Rubbish is being blown about because the lids aren't closing properly.

A request was made for more bins on Doune Gardens Lane.

It would be useful for residents to be given more information on the proper usage of blue bins. Perhaps Martin could circulate advice when the bins go back to the back courts.

(b) Street lighting

Attendees noted that some previously reported defective lights had been repaired. Cllr Andrew asked to be emailed about remaining faulty lights and he will follow up with GCC.

Cllr Wardrop suggested NKCC could compile a list of streets where LED lighting was needed.

6. Councillors' reports

Cllrs Andrew and O'Neill reported dealing with City Fibre complaints (item 7).

Cllr Wardrop mentioned the GCC [housing strategy consultation](#). There is a forthcoming community council event on housing: **Rowena** offered to attend on behalf of NKCC. **[Action]**

There is a shortage of Co-Wheels spaces in our area. More spaces could help people working from home.

Traffic speed on Queen Margaret Drive is still a concern, especially near the new school. The average speed has been recorded as 28mph, with 20% doing 30+. The head teacher told us that most children enter the school at the back, having come along Maryhill Road by bus or been dropped off at the turning circle.

7. City Fibre environmental problems

We have received complaints from residents about the poor standard of works being carried out by City Fibre. The company was invited to attend the meeting but declined, and sent us an email apology for the disruption.

Complaints included that City Fibre had taken 2 months to clear up rubble left on Doune Gardens; they had blocked pavements; some kerbs were left with no temporary ramp for wheelchairs or prams; Clouston St was left dangerous for pedestrians crossing the road; advance notice wasn't received of where the works would be taking place; detritus was being left behind or, worse, actually swept into drains, thus contributing to flooding in the area; digging work making buildings shudder; poor communication.

Reinstatement work was supposedly done by City Fibre to an acceptable standard according to the Roads Dept, but this was disputed by meeting attendees.

Because it's a national infrastructure project, permission from the City Council isn't required. The works should be finished by March 2023.

Frank suggested we should contact other community councils to make a collective complaint. We should kick up a fuss and embarrass City Fibre.

Merle to put a post on the website inviting residents to send us their concerns/complaints about CF works. Christine to compile a list. **[Action]**

8. Hillhead Area Partnership report

Louise was unable to attend last month's meeting at short notice. Cllr Wardrop reported that the meeting heard an update on conservation work on the Flintmill and replacement fencing on the Kelvin Walkway. The full budget for grant applications has been spent. The police received a grant towards countering bike theft.

9. Planning officer's report

Louise submitted our objection to the [latest Kelbourne Street planning application](#).

10. HMO report

Frank reported the GCC website has not been updated with HMO info since late July. Cllr O'Neill to follow up. **Frank** to email Steven Dowling about this. **[Action]**

11. Community clean-up date & location

Keeping away from the rat infestation and City Fibre works, agreed location was Wilton Island on Sunday 5 March, 10.30am to 12.30pm as usual. Elaine to liaise with GCC & Merle to post on website. **[Action]**

12. NKCC venue for meetings

Following a tour of the new North Kelvinside Primary School and its excellent facilities by 3 NKCC members, it was suggested we might hold meetings there in future. The venue would be more accessible as there is a lift and Wi-Fi, which could allow us to hold hybrid meetings (residents could 'listen in' and ask questions from home or elsewhere). The small room would cost £10 per hour, plus a share with other users of the £23 cost of having the building open after school hours. Bigger rooms are also available. **Alasdair** to look into booking a room with Glasgow Life for the March meeting. **[Action]**

The meeting with the school's head teacher was constructive and we hope to build a relationship with the parent teacher council also.

13. Communications report

Two issues of the newsletter have been sent out & Facebook/Twitter updated.

New posts on the website on the local emission zone/transport webinar; Glasgow Kelvin College engagement events; update on Lyndhurst Gardens Lane; planning application for Kelbourne St.

We are trying out a new [mapping tool on the website](#). Merle and Josh had a meeting about this. **Merle** to attend a webinar on using the tool. **[Action]**

Most visited page on the website is still the Parking page, followed by the Lyndhurst Gardens Lane update and the Glasgow Kelvin College engagement events.

14. Any other business

Two **on-street equipment cabinets** were reported lying open on Fergus Dr/Wilton St (this one to be removed by BT) and on Mingarry St (Cllr O'Neill to follow up).

RPZ: we had asked GCC for a list of the snagging items reported at the January meeting but hadn't heard back by the meeting [response since received].

Glasgow Academy bus parking is causing problems at Great Western Road, as are parents' cars idling nearby at pick-up time. This isn't in the NKCC area but affects people who live here. The GCC Inspector is aware of the problem. A car-free zone would be a possible solution.

There is no sign of investigations at **Queen Margaret Road**. The road surface is deteriorating at Kelvinside Terrace South and Wilton St because of the extra traffic and parking caused by the closure of QM Rd. Cllr Andrew has asked for a report.

The meeting finished at 2030.

Next meeting: Tuesday 7 March 2023.