

NORTH KELVIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Monthly Meeting – Tuesday 7th March 2023
MINUTES

<u>Present</u> Douglas Peacock (chair) David Conway Alasdair Macdonald (treasurer) Christine Alison (secretary) Merle Read Louise MacKenzie Stuart Wallace Frank Shennan Rowena Stott Elaine Doherty <u>Apologies</u> Murray Glen Councillor O'Neill	<u>Residents attending</u> Around 20 residents attended <u>Councillors attending</u> Ken Andrew Martha Wardrop <u>Others attending</u> SPT First Bus
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The meeting started at 1830

1.Appointment of Minute Secretary

Louise MacKenzie to do this evening's minutes

2 Minutes of previous meeting 7th February 2023

Approved – proposed by Alasdair Macdonald , seconded Christine Alison

3. Follow up on actions from previous meeting

Rat Infestation and Bin Service Lyndhurst Gardens Lane

Bin service from back lane likely to resume around 15th March. Information on managing rat infestation has been added to the NKCC website.

Some residents were still concerned about the condition of the ground at Melrose Gardens on Lyndhurst Gardens lane, during the site visit with Council officials this had been highlighted as a area of rat infestation. The area is Council owned and significantly over grown, a commitment had been given to improve the ground in the next 6 to 8 weeks.

Councillor Wardrop will ask for an update from Pest Control. David will also contact Martin Neill to establish if there has been any follow up at St Charles School.

City Fibre Complaints

Christine has collated the comments and complaints received. She has forwarded these to City Fibre but not yet received a response. She also contacted neighbouring Community Councils and Dowanhill has reported similar concerns.

4. Police Report

There was no representative present from Police Scotland. Douglas updated the meeting from the report emailed to Community Councillors :

- There had been a housebreaking incident on Maryhill Road
- Increase in vandalism noted
- 3 incidences of motor vehicle theft in the area in the past month, Police continue to recommend the use of Faraday wallets as a security measure for car keys
- Cycle theft continues to be an issue, D locks are recommended.

5. Councillors Reports

Councillor Wardrop advised that the Housing Strategy consultation was ongoing and encouraged people to respond . Rowena had attended a recent Housing Strategy briefing and indicated she could submit a response on behalf of NKCC.

The issue of parking at the school turning circle on Maryhill Road was being monitored .

Councillor Andrew highlighted that Council tax would increase by 5% for 2023/2024. The Council has to set a balanced budget, around 85% of funding comes from the Scottish Government so the Council has quite limited scope to address budget shortfalls. Some residents raised concern about the increases proposed to parking charges and parking permits. In addition there was concern about proposed charges for the Kibble Palace.

6. Transport Update

Representatives from First Bus and SPT attended. SPT develop the Regional Transport Strategy in partnership with local councils. There was a wide ranging discussion and local transport issues and policy. Particular points included

- transport usage is around 85% of pre Covid levels, this creates problems for funding transport
- Bus operators are private companies, First Bus is the largest operator , there are over 40 bus operators in the Strathclyde area. SPT fund gaps in the network where commercial operators won't run services
- Driver shortage is a big challenge for bus operators , this has a direct impact on levels of service
- The reduction in service of the 6/6A service on GWR was noted , previously each ran at a 10 minute frequency , this has been reduced to 15 minute frequency
- Around a third of the First Bus fleet is now electric
- First Bus now has tap on tap off facility; more broadly SPT are reviewing multi modal ticket arrangements (currently Zonocard). Aim would be to introduce these summer 2023 .
- Noted that better urban planning and design could help encourage public transport usage,
- Affordability of public transport remains a concern, free bus passes for young people have been welcomed.

7. Glasgows Strategic Parking Plan

Christine and Merle attended a recent event to discuss the draft plan and will respond to the consultation on behalf of the Community Council. Some residents continue to be concerned about the hours of operation i.e up to 10pm is too restrictive. Agreed that this would be reflected in the NKCC consultation response.

8. Planning Officers Report

Planning permission was refused for the development at Mingarry Street/Kelvin Square. The developer has appealed this. Comments were submitted to the Council on behalf of NKCC asking that the appeal be refused. Effectively the site is landlocked, the developer has no right of access from the street,

9. HMO Licensing Report

There is one current HMO application , this is an existing HMO in Wilton Street. No issues of concern with this. Hillhead Area Partnership have organised a meeting for Community Council reps and council officials to discuss issues relating to HMOs.

10. Communications Report

Maps: Merle attended a webinar about the new mapping tool we are trying out on the website. It looks as though it will have more to offer than Google Maps but we still don't know what the likely annual charge will be after our 1 year free trial is up.

Website: [Maps page](#), [Minutes page](#) and [Parking page](#) all updated. Two new pages added: on [rat control](#) and [recycling](#).

New posts added: on the March clean-up, CityFibre, March meeting, 2 or 3 local non-NKCC events of interest and the [housing consultation](#) for individuals to respond to.

Most visited pages in the last month were Parking (303 views) and CityFibre (153).

Other: various Facebook/Twitter posts; newsletter was issued to nearly 200 subscribers; the noticeboards were updated with various posters advertising our and other local events/info.

11. AOB

The ongoing discussion about the future use of the Kelvin College West End site was noted. It is understood that the college hope that it can be retained for an educational purpose.

After discussion, the Community Council agreed to write to the Council to oppose the proposed charges for the Kibble Palace

The next Community Clean up will take place on Sunday 2nd April. Focus will be Queen Margaret Drive. Meeting point beside the chemist on QMD at 10.30am.