MINUTES FOR MEETING OF
NORTH KELVIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
IN GLASGOW ACADEMY, COLEBROOKE ST, GLASGOW G12 8HE
6TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 19.00

In Attendance: Alasdair MacDonald, Christine Alison, Douglas Peacock, Frank Shennan, Trish Grant, Merle Read, Tara Barclay, Roddy Yarr, Rachel Lochtie, Sofie Spatheris, Andrea Fisher, Mark Patrick, Cllr Ken Andrew, Cllr Martha Wardrop, Gavin Halliday (Head of Operations, Glasgow Academy), PCs Bell and Begbley (Police Scotland)

Apologies: Elaine Doherty, Louise MacKenzie, Joyce Khatri, Stuart Wallace

1. ELECTION OF MINUTE SECRETARY FOR THIS MEETING

   Tara Barclay was elected minute secretary.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

   Christine proposed, Douglas seconded.

3. NOTE OF THANKS

   Thanks were recorded once again to Elaine for her hard work in leading the community clean-ups over the last 10 years.

4. POLICE REPORT

   PCs Bell and Begbie attended and reported the following:

   There has been a decrease in crimes of violence in the area.

   An incident involving an imitation firearm is currently going through the courts.

   There have been thefts of keyless vehicles using tools that mimic the key signal.

   Dunard and North Kelvin have both been in touch with the police about car-free zones and emissions from cars. There was discussion of the police teaming up with Parking Enforcement to help monitor car-free zones.

   Police will continue to monitor speeding on Queen Margaret Drive.

5. HEAD OF OPERATIONS, GLASGOW ACADEMY – GAVIN HALLIDAY

   Mr. Halliday of Glasgow Academy joined to address concerns among residents about traffic build ups and illegal parking along Belmont and surrounding streets during school pick-up and drop-off times.
   Several residents in attendance also voiced their concerns about the traffic and impacted safety of other children using Belmont Street to commute to school/nursery.
   Mr Halliday advised the school believes roughly 10% of pupils arrive by car and they do as much as they can to advise parents to drop children further from the doors, depending on their age. All parents are given a map and are asked not to drive on Belmont Street if possible.

   The school has added a bike store, increased the number of buses for children, restructured sports timetables to stagger start times, and encourages parking at the Kelvinbridge subway station where possible.

   Their primary concern is to keep people from parking outside of the parking bays to keep Belmont street as free as possible for traffic flow.

The school tried using yellow cones for a while but was asked by the Council to stop after a complaint. It also asked for red lines on the grounds that the parking is an egress risk/access block for the fire service, but this was refused.

The school is proposing to put up signs along the fence on Belmont Street. Staff also periodically put notices under the windscreen wipers of cars parked illegally.

Cllr Ken Andrew has investigated the installation of a school car-free zone, but Police Scotland does not currently have the manpower to enforce it as it is very labour intensive.

Cllr Martha Wardrop suggested Ruskin Terrace and Buckingham Terrace as alternatives to Belmont Street for drop-offs. Alasdair suggested North Woodside Road.

Trish suggested that the Academy advise parents to use Garriochmill Road as a drop-off and pick-up area. Mr Halliday agreed to add it to the map which the Academy issues to parents regarding parking. Cllr Andrew endorsed this, pointing out that parents could enter and exit North Kelvin from Maryhill Road via Raeberry St, and without entering the Wilton St/Belmont St area.

6. FOLLOW-UP ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Tara has contacted Glasgow City Council to find out more about starting a group and seeking funding for the Triangle Park on Wilton street. In the meantime, she has requested gardening upkeep for the park as a starting point.

7. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Martha Wardrop announced that she will be stepping down at the end of her term, as will Ken Andrew. Words from both departing councillors are to be added to the agenda for the March/April meeting.

Martha is continuing to work with residents' lane groups. She is pushing for parking enforcement, particularly at Stair Street and the North Kelvinside Primary turning circle.

Ken Andrew reported that many neighbours did not receive notification of the planning application for the Wilton Street gap site. The notifications will need to be reissued, which will extend the planning permission period, however KNCC were notified that this application has now been withdrawn.

Street decluttering (phone boxes, ATMs, street furniture): The Environment Committee has removed 15 phone boxes from the city centre and is engaging with BT about the removal or upkeep of others. If the Council does allow any to remain, it will explore ethical advertising, including restricting lumens and distractions to drivers.

Winter resilience: the Council is investing in machinery in expectation of clearing debris from winter storms. Arborists are also inspecting the condition of trees around the city in preparation.

Grit bins: residents are asked to check them and report any that need servicing. Residents are also encouraged to report vegetation in kerbs and culverts.

8. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

The Kibble Palace exhibition will run from 13 to 26 April next year. There was a discussion on whether the NKCC will take part again.

The annual communications report for 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026 was presented:

We continue to communicate with the community via our website, social media and noticeboards, all of which were regularly updated. We took part for the second time in the annual two-week exhibition at the Kibble Palace, with the help of pupils at Dunard Primary School.

Website

Pages were added to the website on the air quality report, the North Kelvin Heritage Group and local history information sources. News items were added on the Kelbourne St building site, our blue plaques on Clouston St, employer-supported volunteering, leaf-clearing, City Council consultations on short-term lets and the Climate Plan, the planning application for the Wilton St gap site, regulation of shops selling vape products, a survey of energy futures and an application for a Firework Control Zone for Firhill Basin.

Our meetings, clean-ups and health walks (as well as other local community events of interest) are advertised on our community calendar. Minutes of meetings are also available on the website.

The website had 9,282 views from within the UK (down on last year: 11,388). Parking remains the most viewed topic. Other popular pages include the community calendar and the page on recycling/bins.

Social media

Figures are for 2025/26, with 2024/25 figures in brackets.

Facebook: 966 followers (858).

Newsletter: 8 issues and 249 subscribers (10 and 245 respectively).

We have a Bluesky account (@northkelvincc.bsky.social) with 38 (30) followers but have yet to make much use of it. As noted previously, the City Council continues to use X and not its Bluesky account, so its messaging is failing to reach individuals and organisations that prefer not to use X. Residents are potentially missing out.

As also noted previously, a more active presence on social media would help increase our community engagement, as demonstrated by the chair's posts on local clean-up activities, which were responsible for a big part of the increase in Facebook followers. Member input, whether sharing posts or creating them, is always welcome.

9. HERITAGE GROUP REPORT

The group is looking to start a website and is working on content for it now. It is also researching content for heritage-themed activities such as walks and talks.

The plaque for Dr. Nora Wattie has been ordered and delivery is expected in approximately 3 to 5 weeks. It will be located at 24 Burbank Gardens. Woodside Community Council has been informed about the plans.

The next meeting of the Heritage Group is on Tuesday 17th November at 5.45pm at the Woodside Inn.

10. PEOPLE'S EMERGENCY BRIEFING FILM UPDATE

    The showing has been formally registered and Glasgow Academy has agreed to host as the venue.

    Action: Alasdair to start planning, including setting a date and invitations.

11. HOUSE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY (HMO) LICENSING REPORT

    There is one new licence application, due to a change of ownership: flat 3/2, 90 Wilton Street, with an occupant capacity of 5.

12. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT – CDP2

    The Wilton Street gap site is labelled as a brownfield site in the new City Development Plan 2. NKCC has previously applied to have it designated as greenspace. There was a discussion about writing a representation asking for the site to be designated as greenspace instead of brownfield.

    Action: Tara, Trish and Christine to research previous planning applications and prepare a statement/representation to submit to GCC.

13. CLEAN-UPS COORDINATION

    There was a discussion about replacing the monthly clean-up with a quarterly community improvement event. This could also include some greenery maintenance. A member of the public present at the meeting is willing to help.

14. GLASGOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL FEDERATION UPDATE

    The Federation of Community Councils has been formally adopted and a majority of Glasgow's community councils have signed up. Meetings will be quarterly.

    It was agreed at the Federation meeting to go forward with a plan to ask that each community council has a named representative at GCC to liaise with, that there is a clear procedure for complaints from community councils, and that communications from community councils are given the same deference as those from city councillors. Frank Plowright (chairperson) will liaise with Gerald Toner at GCC.

15. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL SELF ASSESSMENT

    The self-assessment comes out with the AGM every year.

    Action: Douglas to complete the self-assessment form and submit it.

16. AOB

    Alasdair noted that there is an online consultation on the proposal for cycle lanes, and an in-person drop-in event at Queen's Cross Church on 20th October, 3.30pm to 7.30pm.

NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2026