RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on 10 April 2025, at Ralston Community Centre

Present: Allan Thompson (Chair), Simon Hall (Secretary), Fergal McCauley (Treasurer), Alison Scott, Rod McLelland, Bill Whyte.

In attendance:, Cllr Neill Graham, Community Police, 1 resident considering joining RCC.

Apologies: Cllr Graeme Clark, Bill Gray, May Fernie, 2 residents considering joining RCC.

Not in attendance: Cllr Jennifer Adam.

Action

Welcome from the Chair: Allan welcomed all to the meeting.

Police Report: In the past month there has been 1 breach of the peace; 2 thefts from motor vehicles, 1 attempted fraud and 4 road traffic incidents. Since the recent incident in Barshaw Park, police have attended each day. There have been some other isolated incidents, which have been dealt with by police. It is not an offence to film someone in public, even a child, but it can be considered a breach of the peace.

Community Wardens: None present.

Councillor's Reports: **Cllr Graham**: Grammar: Council have confirmed that new school will contain single sex toilets for boys and girls, rather than mixed toilets. Barshaw Park: Neil Bibby and Cllr Clark have requested CCTV be installed. Ban on pavement parking: Enforcement has now started. Wardens have been observed in the area where cars are parked on the pavement. Traffic lights at Glasgow/Arkleston roads: Following long waiting times on Glasgow Road, the sequencing is being re-looked at. Improvements to Sports Centre: The Council Budget includes £800k for improvements to land & buildings. Cllr Graham forwarded an email from Rod containing a proposal for improvements to the Sports Centre, particularly repairing the blinds, the toilets and heating. Mark Tokeley from RLL responded advising that the funding could not be used for this purpose, that the heating is operational, that none of the toilets are inoperable, however they will seek to replace the blinds. However RCC have previously been advised the heating was not fully operational, and we are aware that one of the toilets has been inoperable since before Covid. Yellow lines on Gartmore: Allan advised that the Council has considered the proposal and could progress, however due to polarised views, support from residents is advised before progressing. Barshaw Park Play Area: The Play area is currently being upgraded. **Cllr Clark**: Grammar: Carried forward: Members asked: whether the two-mile threshold for transport would be maintained; whether modern systems like heat pumps and solar panels are included; details of whether the traffic management plan and safe routes to school will be in place for the school opening; whether transition visits be available as the school opens.

Cllr Clark

Minutes of the previous meeting: Proposed by Alison, seconded by Rod.

Matters arising from the minutes: Local Development Plan: Allan and Fergal have submitted an application for £10k to help us develop the plan. Community Showcase event: RCC attended the event, which was a great opportunity to network.

Secretary's Report: Since the last meeting, 30 emails had been received, 3 circulated. Emails of note: Garden Waste Permit: Apply now for permits, costing £47. Consultation on Review of Scheme of Establishments of Community Councils: Report on feedback now expected in June. Local Development Plan Consultation: Open until 30 April, you can respond to the consultation here. SEPA Environmental Performance Assessment Scheme: A way of assessing the environmental performance of businesses and reporting issues that cause harm. Consultation open until 30 June.

Treasurer's Report: Fergal advised that since the last meeting there was £1,513.43 expenditure on the main account, resulting in a current balance of £21,608.88. Wellbeing Fund: Income of £85, expenditure of £639.32 leaving balance of £0, account closed. New Wellbeing Fund: Income of £8,850. Total bank balance of £30,458.88. Bill asked where the balance in the main account came from and what it will be used for. Fergal advised that this is from the activity class enrolment fees and is used to pay for the venue hire for classes and to continue classes, should we be unsuccessful in funding applications.

Ralston Activities: Rod advised that the 6th programme has now finished, with great feedback. Simon produced leaflets and posters to promote the next programme, running 23 April – 30 June. The enrolment form went live on Monday and 190 people have enrolled so far, with 2 classes full. Exploring options for 9am classes for after school drop-off, potentially for September programme. Rod thanked Fergal for his support with funding and paying invoices and Simon for developing the booking system.

Local Place Plan: Allan now attending the Council's Local Place Plan meetings, along with some other Community Councils. Funding discussed, as well as area mapping, and an evidence report is being prepared. Allan proposes that a small group be created to work on our Local Place Plan, members to consider and reply to Allan. Had quote of £10-15k for a consultant to help develop a plan for us, depending on what we want. **All**

AOB: Interim Election: Those interested in joining RCC should complete a nomination form, which must be signed by 2 Ralston residents not already RCC members. These should be returned to the Council and they can then join RCC. Ralston ROAR: Bill Whyte advised that ROAR has withdrawn funding for Ralston ROAR club. The club are applying for LAP funding for a year and Bill will take on the administration.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 8 May at 7:30pm, in person at Ralston Community Centre.