

RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on 10 October 2019 in Ralston Community Centre

Present: Allan Thompson (Chair), Alison Scott (Secretary), Bill Whyte, Sandra Reynolds, Fergal McCauley (Treasurer), Simon Hall (minutes), Bill Gray, May Fernie, Rod McLelland, Catherine Gooding.

In Attendance: Police Officer Shaun Thomson, Cllr J Adam-McGregor, 1 resident.

Apologies: Robert Elliot, Cllr N Graham.

Action

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

Police Report: Advised that there is currently no Community Police specifically for Ralston. Shaun intends to be visible in the area by using local facilities, such as the community centre, as a base to complete paperwork. Since last meeting there have been 11 crimes reported, including 2 housebreakings, 5 small thefts, 2 small vandalisms. 37 incidents were raised, mainly concern for other residents very few related to violence. Housebreakings – 3 boys identified, involved in a number of incidents at care homes, nurseries, dentists, doctors, they look for cash.

Confirmed that vehicles idling unattended is a criminal matter, but not if there is someone in the vehicle, although there could be a local ordinance that the Wardens deal with. Parking and speeding issues on Newtyle Road – it's a police matter where they are obstructing the road or dangerous parking. Would look into if/when speed guns could be used. Confirmed that the best number to call the police on is 101, as the local office is not open 24 hours. If anyone has concerns about local issues, email: shaun.thomson@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Police Officer
Shaun Thomson

Councillors Report: Drainage works at Hawkhead Cemetery almost complete (Mid-Nov). Recycling is up 4.4% in last year, and a further 7.4% since June. Team-up to Clean-up is up for a CoSLA award tonight (won the award). Thanks to Simon for organising the local clean-ups in Barshaw Park. Litter gathered from the main carriageways is being analysed to identify who it came from. Council now has 48 electric vehicles, with 18 more coming, representing 20% of the fleet producing zero emissions. A resident highlighted that Scottish Water have shut the nursery car park for 7 months, while they do sewerage works nearby. Safety concerns were raised about no off-road parking when dropping off young kids. Concern was also raised that the Community Council were not aware of these works beforehand. Cllr J Adam-McGregor agreed to check whether the Council gave consent was given for the car-park closure and whether any nearby roads would be affected.

Cllr J Adam-
McGregor

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Minutes of the previous meeting: Proposed by Alison Scott, seconded by May Fernie.

Matters arising from the minutes: Following a site meeting in April, the Council viewed the access acceptable, however many of the accesses are blocked by manure, and Cllr J Adam-McGregor is seeking legal advice on whether this is acceptable.

Cllr J Adam-McGregor

Following several unsuccessful attempts to meet with our web-developer (due to ill-health), we'll develop the events diary ourselves. Purchase of an application to do this costs \$89/year – this expense was approved.

Bill Gray

Secretary's Report: Secretary advised that all relevant communication since last meeting had been circulated. Some material is not circulated, but is available if anyone is interested. Secretary has been using BCC to prevent revealing others email addresses, Cllr J Adam-McGregor agreed to discuss with Anne McNaughton whether BCC could be used by the Council more.

Cllr J Adam-McGregor

Treasurers Report: Treasurer advised a current balance of £2086.06 and expenditure since last meeting of £82.62. The TSB account is now closed and transferred to Bank of Scotland, awaiting online access.

VE Day 75: 8-10 May 2020 will be an international celebration of the 75th anniversary of VE Day. It was suggested that the Ralston Community Games could be rearranged for that weekend. We need to find out whether the Council has any formal events planned that weekend and whether the Ralston Playing fields are available.

Cllr J Adam-McGregor
Alison Scott

AOB:

1 - CC were advised that the next litter pick in Barshaw Park takes place on Sunday 13 October at 15:30 and all are welcome.

2 – A resident highlighted that a drone was recently seen over the St Mirren training pitches. It was asked whether there any licence/conditions required for using a drone in a built up area?

Cllr J Adam-McGregor

3 – Barshaw Pond – Council investing £100k to sort the weed problem. The silt will be tested to ensure it's not contaminated, it will then be removed. However this likely be next year.

4 – A CC member highlighted new legislation that prevents parking on pavements, raising concern about 2 rubbish vehicles that regularly park on the pavement at xx and often drop rubbish on the ground. Cllr J Adam-McGregor will discuss this with the Wardens.

Cllr J Adam-McGregor

Date of next meeting: Thursday 14 November at 7.30pm in Ralston Community Centre.