

# RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of meeting on 8 September 2020, online via Microsoft Teams

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

**In Attendance:** Maurice Corry (MSP)

**Apologies:** Robert Elliot.

### Action

**Welcome from the Chair:** Chair welcomed all to this first online meeting of the Community Council. Advised that Robert Elliot has resigned from the Community Council and thanked him for his support. Noted that the Police had not been invited to this meeting.

**Councillor's Report:** No councillors present.

**Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting:** St Mirren Lighting: CC members confirmed this is still an issue. Jennifer Gray in the Council is contacting St Mirren to see what action they have taken so far. She has also been asked whether there are any regulations concerning the use of floodlights.

Defibrillator training: We agreed to carry this forward to a future meeting.

Allanton Avenue Trees: No response from Ken Gray regarding an update, Alan will contact him and consider inviting him to our November meeting.

**Allan**

Vitality classes at Sports Centre: Awaiting clarification from RLL about whether these are closing or not.

**Secretary's Report:** Secretary advised that since the last meeting, 68 emails had been received. 47 were not circulated: 17 weekly planning lists, 19 regarding various council board meetings, 2 Fair trade lecture, 2 Renfrewshire Fund, and 1 each of the following: Home Energy, Draft allotment consultation, Scottish Water future plan, Scottish gov renewable energy scheme, consultation on changes to planning process, Coats buy a brick and Covid-19 survey.

Renfrewshire Fund: £150k fund available to 12-25 year olds, or groups that work with them. Applications close on 13 September.

Coats buy a brick: We received acknowledgement and thanks for buying a brick, in the future we'll be able to book a time to see our brick in situ.

Biodiversity survey: In addition to the proposed location on Penilee Road (the sloping bank and the grassy area between the hedge and the footpath), an area at Strathmore Avenue and the front and rear of the community centre may also be suitable. It was agreed that Allan and Bill would consider options before completing survey (before 13 September).

Community Games: Applied for £5,300 for the Community Games in 2021. 2020 funds have not been used due to cancellation of this year's games.

Planning system during Covid-19: Planning Aid Scotland have issued a survey to understand peoples experiences of the planning system during Covid-19. Any feedback, send on to Chair.

All

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer advised that since the last meeting there was expenditure of £167.79, resulting in a current balance of £2593.55.

**Honeybog Hill:** Access is still limited. Prior to mediation, Allan agreed to discuss with Cllr J Adam-McGregor what avenues we could pursue within the Council.

Allan

**AGM:** Our next meeting incorporates our AGM, which will start at 7pm. We will begin with discussions about the proposed relocation of Paisley Grammar, and representative from the Council is attending. Members of the public are able to attend, however all questions or input must be submitted to the Secretary by 22 September. Concerns were raised about the number of take-aways on-route to the new school, would like to ask what other catering facilities will be in the area?

All

**AOB: Drones:** A resident complained about the St Mirren drone hovering over their garden. This was raised with Cllr J Adam-McGregor and St Mirren and has now been resolved.

**Cyclists on pavement:** A resident has complained regarding the number of cyclists on pavements rather than the road. The police weren't able to do anything, this has been raised with Cllr J Adam-McGregor.

**Events Calendar:** This was removed from the website during lockdown. Events organisers will be contacted to check if they have restarted again.

**Update from Maurice Corry (MSP):** Scottish Parliament are now meeting 3 days a week, through a blend of physical and virtual attendance. The effects of Covid continue to be a big focus. Also the Hate Crime Bill is being discussed, where there are concerns around freedom of speech. Mental Health issues will also be a key issue as we emerge from Covid, as well as the impacts on business and the economy. In particular, Glasgow Airport are struggling due to very few people passing through, however they are committed to remaining open. Scottish Government and UK Government are working with Rolls-Royce to try and protect jobs. Special thanks were given to those in Community Councils, for the work done to support the community at this time.

Cllr J Adam-McGregor  
Bill Gray & Rod McLelland

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 8 October, 7pm (online).