

RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on 13 February 2020 in Ralston Community Centre

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

In Attendance: Cllr J Adam-McGregor, Cllr J Sharkey, Fraser Carlin (Head of Planning & Housing), 4 residents.

Apologies: Catherine Gooding, Robert Elliot.

Action

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

Police Report: None present.

Councillor's Report: Cllr J Adam-McGregor advised that the Capital Roads project is nearing completion, with 36 pathways remaining. Councillors are visiting the Clyde Valley Waste Project shortly, which turns household waste into energy. Recycling figures are now up to 57%. Applications for Green Spaces and Local Partnership Funding are now open. A recent petition for a crossing at Kelburn Oval/Glasgow Road was successful. Therefore it's worth petitioning the Council when seeing a way forward. St Mirren meet with Environmental Protection on Tuesday, after establishing that there is 'cause for concern' regarding the lighting. After the meeting St Mirren will be given opportunity to resolve the issue. Some residents are also being visited regarding the issue, Cllr J Adam-McGregor agreed to speak to Chris Dalrymple regarding the timing of these visits. Colin Hunter (Environmental Protection) could be invited to the next meeting to discuss this further.

Cllr J Adam-McGregor
Alison

A resident advised that they were woken at 12:05am by someone noisily unloading a van into St Mirren's facilities after a game. The level of noise is unacceptable at that time of night.

Minutes of the previous meeting: Proposed by Fergal McCauley, seconded by Sandra Reynolds.

Matters arising from the minutes: Forward email to Bill Whyte regarding sources of funding for Defibrillator training. Alison advised that St Andrews do training, but it's very expensive. However there is a YouTube video that shows how to use them. Bill offered to speak to his daughter-in-law regarding someone who did this training in the past for free.

Fergal

Bill Whyte

ScotWays replied to our letter regarding Honeybog hill, stating that it seems that Part 1b, section 14 has been contravened through the locking or failing to unlock the gate. The advised 3 options:

- 1) Raise the issue with the Ombudsman, who will look into the process by which the decision has been made.
- 2) Raise action in the Sheriff Court, which would be inflammatory and expensive.
- 3) Seek formal mediation. It was agreed that options 1 and 3 were preferable ways of proceeding.

It was agreed that Robert would continue to seek legal advice on this matter. Cllr J Adam-McGregor offered to discuss further with the landowner and offer that the CC arranges for the barbed wire to be cut back and a step fitted.

Robert
Cllr J Adam-
McGregor

Cllr J Sharkey has written to the relevant department regarding litter around Honeybog hill. Members confirmed that litter is still an issue.

Trees on Allanton Avenue: Ken Gray confirmed this will not be resolved this financial year. If there is an update on this, he will come to our March meeting. We'll follow up with him 5 days prior to our meeting.

Alison

Website: Ralston Community Games has been added to the events calendar. Contact Susan regarding information about Active Communities.

Rod

Secretary's Report: Secretary advised that since the last meeting, 21 emails had been received, 5 of which had been circulated. Particularly highlighted emails regarding school allocations and placing requests, another regarding the National Planning Framework session in Foxbar and a 'Democracy Matters Conversation' newsletter. Those not circulated, 4 weekly planning lists, 3 for various Council Board meetings, 2 about Fair Trade Renfrewshire meetings, 1 about VE Day (content of which was the same as previously circulated), 1 regarding the single point of contact for CC's, 1 regarding a charity race night for 'I am me Scotland', 1 from Ken Gray advising that fallen leaves would be mechanically swept up between 14-16 January.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer advised that since the last meeting there has been expenditure of £34.80 and a current balance of £2740.36.

Hawkhead & Dykebar Hospital housing developments: Fraser Carlin, Head of Planning & Housing, Renfrewshire Council gave an overview of the Planning System in Scotland, which includes an independent reporter to review plans and objections. In Renfrewshire, most developments are on brownfield sites.

Fraser showed a map of Paisley indicating the Hawkhead development and where Cala, Barratt and Bellway have lodged an early planning application for the grounds of Dykebar. They propose to keep all but one of the older

buildings and build new houses on the remaining land. The developer has been asked to demonstrate their plans for education provision etc. The site to the west of Dykebar is not in the plan and remains greenbelt.

Comparing this plan to the those at Hawkhead, during the planning stage it was identified that there was a shortfall in the school provision and the developer built three classrooms at St. John Ogilvie school, additionally they needed to put traffic measures in place.

A resident highlighted the increased number of cars parking in the streets around Hawkhead station, and asked about the vacant land next to the station. Fraser advised that the drain along Seedhill Road is at capacity, turning the vacant land into parking would cause flooding along Seedhill. Options are being considered to overcome this, however these are very expensive.

The impact of increased traffic was also discussed, Fraser advised that Traffic Assessments are given by the developer and proposals to adjust the road infrastructure made, in the case of the Hawkhead development, an underpass and bridge are being constructed near St John Ogilvie school and 3 Toucan crossings installed on Hawkhead Road (at Newtyle Road, Scotts Road and near the cemetery – these will be completed between 24 Feb and end Apr). Members indicated that these measures were not working, as the traffic along Hawkhead Road is very busy and will only get worse as the Hawkhead houses are built. Cllr J Sharkey suggested another solution would be to prevent heavy goods vehicles using this route. A pilot between Police Scotland and Houston CC provides a speed-gun to residents (without enforcement powers) to try and reduce speed in the area.

A resident asked about the provision of other facilities, such as GP surgeries. Fraser stated that the NHS is advised of any new housing developments, they then decide on GP provision in the area.

A resident asked about the relocation of Paisley Grammar, Fraser advised that Education are consulting on this at the moment, it's not at the planning stage yet.

AOB: Carbon Reduction Strategy Working group has been created, it's understood that the Lochwinnoch CC has been invited to be involved, other CC's may also be interested, Cllr J Adam-McGregor agreed to find out about this. All board reports now have a section which considers the Climate Impact of decisions being made.

Cllr J Adam-McGregor

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12 March 2020 at 7.30pm in Ralston Community Centre.