

RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on 13 January 2022, online via Microsoft Teams

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

In Attendance: Cllr Jim Sharkey, Cllr Neill Graham, Police Officer Gail Fitzpatrick

Apologies: Alison Scott (Secretary), Catherine Gooding, Sandra Reynolds, Cllr Jennifer Adam-McGregor.

Action

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

Police Report: Between 1-31 December there were 42 incidents and 7 crime reports, all fairly minor. 1 theft of a bin, some domestic related incidents, 1 fraud where someone's card was used to pay for a transaction and 1 noise complaint about the work at Ralston Primary. Police are experiencing high levels of absence at the moment, to assist officers have been redeployed from elsewhere plus 250 probationary officers have been redeployed. As a result no particular initiatives are planned at the moment, however these will restart in due time. Allan asked about a House Breaking on Roffey Park Road, though this may have been in January, PO Fitzpatrick will investigate and get back to us.

PO Fitzpatrick

Councillor's Reports: Cllr Sharkey asked anyone who had experienced delays in receiving mail to let him know details, as he is raising an enquiry with Royal Mail. Cllr Sharkey also asked anyone who has experienced ill effects from the work at Smithhills Bridge to let him know details, as he is discussing these issues with them. Cllr Graham highlighted that if residents take photo ID to Underwood Road, Royal Mail will check if there is any post waiting for them there. He advised that the Ralston in Bloom planters had been moved into place and were looking great, although they were smaller than expected. Following recent accidents at the junction of Hawkhead Road and Glasgow Road, Cllr Graham had tried to get crash barriers put in place to protect pedestrians, traffic lights with a filter and a red light camera, however these were voted down at Council. Reasons given were that the barriers wouldn't protect pedestrians and would make it more difficult to remove someone from a vehicle. An assessment has been done of the junction, and officers believe a filter light is not required, and the police do not feel a red light camera is required at that junction.

Minutes of the previous meeting: Proposed by Fergal McCauley, seconded by Bill Gray.

Matters arising from the minutes: Potholes on Tylney Rd: Alison checked on 10 January, and emailed Cllr Adam-McGregor advising of pothole problems at that date. Yellow lines on Gartmore: Alison will follow this up with Cllr Adam-McGregor on 1 Feb. Tree Planting from the Woodland Trust: Alison circulated email regarding this on 9 Dec. Planters: Rod advised that the planters are now in place, with bulbs planted in them all. We have received positive feedback about them, Rod will contact the Council to see if additional planters could be placed. St Mirren Lights: No update since last meeting. Rod will follow up before next meeting. Street Lighting: Bill Gray met with Cllr Graham and Facilities Technical Supervisor, Mark Johnston, who advised that the lights go on at different times because some are controlled by times, others by photocells on a panel and others by photocells on the lamp. The light times are changed twice a year (Spring & Autumn), and so must be set for the darkest points of those periods. Due to limited resources, these cannot be changed more frequently. Photocells on each light would resolve this issue, however there are cost implications. It was suggested that we follow this up with the Council, due to the implications for climate change when electricity for lighting is being used unnecessarily during the brighter months. Funding for tackling loneliness: Engage Renfrewshire's Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund is no longer available, however other potential sources of funding have been identified. If anyone is interested in helping to complete the funding application, please contact Allan. Ralston Day Centre: No update on reopening – Carried forward to next meeting. Access Only sign for Tylney: Alison emailed the Council about this on 12 Dec, which is being forwarded onto someone else, Alison has asked for their contact details. Cllr Graham advised that the more residents highlight the issue, the more likely it is that something will happen. It was suggested that leaflets could be sent to nearby residents, asking them to write to the Council about this. Litter from Refuse trucks: Carried forward to next meeting for Cllr Adam-McGregor to give update.

Rod McLelland

Rod McLelland

All

Secretary's Report: Secretary advised that since the last meeting, 14 emails had been received, 7 were not circulated: 5 for various Council Board meetings, 1 weekly planning list and 1 road closure outwith our area.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer advised that since the last meeting there has been expenditure of £31.88, resulting in a current balance of £606.53. The admin allowance of £743 has yet to be paid, Fergal will follow this up with the Council. Ralston in Bloom funding (FR1140): Expenditure of £210.04, balance of £4,064.96. Ralston Playpark funding (FR1141) £1,275. Allan will contact Graham Ternent from Renfrewshire Council, who had identified rubber mats that could be fitted around the play equipment. Allan will contact Cllr Adam-McGregor will find out whether budgets could be combined or transferred to cover the increased cost of the mats.

Fergal

McCauley

Allan Thompson

Allan Thompson

Kelburne Hockey Club CAT update: No further progress has been made in application. Kelburne has now achieved charitable status, Allan has been asked to request a copy of the constitution Kelburne submitted to OSCR.

Allan Thompson

Allan, Fergal and Bill met with Fiona Watson and Alan Cunningham from RLL to discuss we can support and promote the Sports Centre. When asked about usage levels, they highlighted in the past 2 weeks 160 slots were available in the gym, in the first week only 19 were filled and in the second only 17 were filled. They highlighted the range of membership options available, and we suggested a local membership for access to only that gym, which they are considering. Vitality and easy exercise classes are available, and these can now be self-referrable, although doctor's surgeries still need to be aware of the vitality classes at Ralston. In addition, walking groups have been successful elsewhere. May agreed to discuss this with a member of the local walking group and pass their details to Allan. Other classes are run by self-employed instructors, so once we know what residents would be interested in, these can be arranged. It was suggested that we develop a questionnaire to understand what residents want, which could be promoted through Facebook, website posters etc. Rod highlighted that a mailshot to residents may also help with this.

**May Fernie/
Allan Thompson**

Tree planting: May agreed to look into this in more detail and report back to the next meeting.

AOB: No winter gritting at Community Centre Car Park: May highlighted that a public notice had been put up saying that the car park would not be gritted. Cllr Sharkey agreed to follow this up. **Community Activities:** Rod highlighted that activities are starting up again, so he will update the information previously gathered. This could then be promoted to residents through the website, Facebook and local notice boards.

Cllr Sharkey

Date of next meeting: Thursday 10 February 2022 at 7.30pm.