

RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on 13 October, at Ralston Community Centre

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

In Attendance: Police Officer Tommy McFedries, Cllr Neill Graham, Cllr Graham Clark.

Not in attendance: Cllr Jennifer Adam.

Action

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

Police Report: Officer McFedries advised that there were 4 crime reports in the last month, 2 speeding offences, 1 breach of the peace in the street, 1 suspect attempting entry to a property (CCTV and forensics investigated).

Councillor's Reports: Cllr Clark: Cost of living crisis: affecting people across our communities. Introduced the Winter Connections programme to provide warm places for people to go, get warm, take part in activities and combat loneliness. Grants of up to £2,000 are now available to run events that will bring people into warm spaces. Details on who can apply for grants will be published shortly. Trees: Cllr Clark and Cllr Graham have been arranging for a number of trees in the area to be surveyed and trimmed, however there is a 4-6 week delay on this work at the moment. Any residents who wish to add trees to those already being surveyed should contact Cllr Clark or Cllr Graham with details. In addition the trees along Allanton Avenue were due to be removed and the pavement and road repaired, however the cost of bitumen has increased significantly due to the war in Ukraine, so this work is on hold. Weeds: Cllr Graham has reported the weeds growing at the edges of some roads and pavements in Ralston, these will be dealt with before the end of the year. Red Lines on 3 roads surrounding Gartmore: Cllr Graham advised that a consultation with affected residents needs to take place, and they would like to include the Community Council's view on these as part of the consultation. Alison will send a note of our support to Stephen Kerrigan. Access only signs: Bill Gray asked about an update on these signs, Cllr Graham will get an update. Burst pipe on Tylney: Alison was pleased that a recent burst pipe was repaired very quickly. Flooding on Tylney: Bill Gray highlighted that during heavy rain his garage floods with sewer water. Scottish Water not returning Bill's calls about this. Cllr Clark offered to help. Grass cuttings not lifted: May asked why grass cuttings are not lifted. Cllr Clark confirmed that this is a cost saving, however this issue is currently under review.

Alison Scott

Cllr Graham

Cllr Graham

Cllr Clark

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

Matters arising from the minutes: Gully's on Roffey Park: not sure if these have been cleared since the last meeting. No Gritting Sign at Ralston Community Centre: A no-gritting sign is visible at the front of the community centre, but not at the rear car park. This facility is used by both young and old, and no gritting make this dangerous. Cllr Clark will find out the gritting policy. St Mirren Lighting: St Mirren had until the end of September to make adjustments, but none have been made. Rod will follow up with the Council. Ralston in Bloom: Rod advised that a number of the existing planters need bulbs put in. New planters can be purchased, however will need help in putting them in place and filling them with compost. It was suggested that Scouts and BB could possibly help. In addition the school/nursery could adopt a planter to look after. Local shops could look after the planters in their locations too. We'll include an article on this in the Christmas Newsletter.

Cllr Clark

Rod McLelland

Secretary's Report: Alison advised that since the last meeting, 35 emails had been received, 22 not circulated: 6 for various Council Board meetings, 4 weekly planning lists, 1 Floral tributes for the Queen, 1 Three Sisters Theatre company, 1 Tesco's grant application (outwith Ralston), 1 Application for street trader, 2 National Power of Attorney Day, 1 Invite to attend Johnstone CC (same dates as Ralston CC), 1 Railings brochure, 2 ASBO consultation, 2 about Councillors attending CC meetings (net relevant for RCC). A further 58 emails were received in error from Renfrewshire Council about various Council meetings.

The Brownies have asked if someone from RCC could visit on 15 November to talk about RCC and their relationship to the Community and the Council. Catherine will do this if she's not working.

Catherine Gooding

Treasurer's Report: Fergal advised that since the last meeting there has been an expenditure of £112.57, resulting in a current balance of £389.46. Ralston in Bloom funding (FR1140): No expenditure, leaving a balance of £2091. Ralston Playpark funding (FR1141) £0, fund closed. Games Funding 2019 (FR1075) has a balance of £1,581.99. Games Funding 2022 (FR1038) Had an opening balance of £1,788.09, an income of £2,192.56 and expenditure of £620.65, leaving a balance of £3,360.

Fergal confirmed that RCC can have a debit card, and pay via Bacs.

Kelburne Hockey Club CAT update: Kelburne have submitted their appeal, we have 10 working days to submit further representations. Only those who have already submitted representations can submit a new one, and these must contain new arguments against the CAT. These should be submitted in writing by 27 October to catreview@renfrewshire.gov.uk. The review will be heard by 5 Councillors on the ILA Board. Cllr Clark confirmed that funding for upgrading the hockey pitch at Linwood is still available, the pitch has not been surveyed yet so it's not clear what this might cost. This

work will not progress until the appeal process has been concluded. We agreed that information about the appeal should be published on the RCC Facebook and webpage and a leaflet to be printed and distributed. Allan circulated an article from Paisley Daily Express about the CAT application process being reviewed by the Council.

AOB: Defibrillator Training: Bill Whyte will investigate potential to run training in how to use the defibrillator. He highlighted that some defibrillators were recalled due to a software error incorrectly monitoring battery usage. Ours were checked and they are fine. Cllr Clark confirmed that St Mirren Cathedral are also installing a defibrillator. **Funding application:** On behalf of RCC, Rod has prepared a application for the Mental Health and Wellbeing fund for £16k to organise a series of events and classes in Ralston between February and Christmas 2023. **McGill's Buses:** It was highlighted that very few buses are currently operating due to the driver shortage, yet the timetables have not been updated. **Thanks to Alison Scott:** Everyone offered special thanks to Alison Scott for all her hard work as RCC Secretary.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 10 November 2022 at 7.30pm, in person at Ralston Community Centre.