

# RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of meeting on 8 December, at Ralston Community Centre

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

**In Attendance:** PC Jay Greer, Cllr Neill Graham, Colin Hunter (Renfrewshire Council), Alasdair Morrison (Renfrewshire Council).

**Apologies:** Bill Gray, Cllr Graeme Clark.

**Not in attendance:** Cllr Jennifer Adam.

### Action

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

**Police Report:** PC Greer advised that in the last month there were 4 crime reports: 2 thefts from a motor vehicle (please be vigilant and lock vehicles, as these often increase at this time of year), 1 fraud (please remain vigilant and look after family and neighbours) 1 drug supply (not specifically related to the area, as it was a car passing through Ralston). Speeding on Glasgow Road remains an issue that the police continue to tackle.

**Guest Speaker: St Mirren Lighting:** Colin Hunter, Environmental Health Manager, Renfrewshire Council and Alasdair Morrison, Head of Economy and Development, Renfrewshire Council spoke about their role and the contact they have had with St Mirren over the years to resolve the lighting issue. The Council have written to St Mirren as landlord, instructing them to come up with a solution to the lighting issue by 1 January 2023. If a workable solution is not provided, St Mirren will be told that they cannot use their lights until the issue is resolved. If they don't comply, they could be taken to court or ultimately their lease could be withdrawn. Colin Hunter will keep us updated with any progress.

**Councillor's Reports:** **Cllr Graham:** **Ralston Bowling Club:** The club is struggling and is looking for new members. Would appreciate the community supporting this very worthwhile organisation. **OneRen:** All 3 Councillors met with the OneRen Chief Executive, Victoria Hollows, who has been advised by Cllr Lisa Marie Harkins not to meet with anyone regarding Ralston Sports Centre while the appeal is ongoing. However Victoria Hollows has agreed to meet the Councillors after the ILA decision on the appeal in January. **Hawkhead cemetery:** Cllr Graham has started volunteering to help clear some of the overgrown paths. Seeking to encourage Friends of Hawkhead Cemetery to join in, however they have declined so far. **Glasgow Road/Hawkhead Junction:** A resident suggested a box junction be installed, however as cars cannot wait inside a box junction it would delay traffic passing through it. A filter lane at this junction is currently being considered. **Red Lines on Gartmore:** This is still going through the consultative process. **20mph zones:** Fergal highlighted the recent consultation, confirming that they would be mandatory rather than

advisory, therefore enforceable by the police. He also highlighted that a number of roads around the school weren't included in the consultation. Cllr Graham agreed to look into it. Alison would forward email. **Cllr Clarke:** Ralston Sports Centre Bins: Confirmed that these have now been emptied. Ralston Sports Centre carpark lights: Have raised with OneRen to resolve. Warm Connections: Applications for funding still open. Citizens Advice: Visiting schools in the area to advise people during the crisis.

**Cllr Graham**  
**Alison Scott**

**Cllr Clark**

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** Proposed by Fergal McCauley, seconded by May Fernie.

**Matters arising from the minutes:** Warm Connections: Rod was prepared to submit an application, however the church have something in place. As we have another application for the Mental Health and Wellbeing fund, we chose not to submit at this time. Newsletter: Allan thanked everyone for the articles and Simon for pulling it together. There was a delay in printing the newsletter, but most have been delivered now. Ralston in Bloom: Rod advised that he's still to look at a plaque for the planters. However a design for a sticker or stencil might be helpful. Something like "Provided and maintained by Ralston Community Council, funded by Renfrewshire Council." Brownies: Catherine visited them and talked about the work of the community council, and they really enjoyed the session. Everyone thanked Catherine for doing such a good job.

**Secretary's Report:** Alison advised that since the last meeting, 18 emails had been received, 13 not circulated: 8 for various Council Board meetings, 2 weekly planning lists, 1 recruiting for local action groups (outwith Ralston), 1 New Playparks (outwith Ralston). Community Council Forum: The working group will now be in person in the Council HQ, rather than online, May or Alison will attend. Christmas Card: From Russell Findlay MSP. Newsletter: A resident emailed thanking us for keeping the community well informed of what's happening in the area. Another really liked the newsletter. Ralston in Bloom: Another resident emailed appreciating the planters. Heartstart training: Arranged for 29 January, 2-4pm at St Mark's church, teaching people about basic emergency life support. To be shared on Facebook & Website. Alison will forward details onto the Scouts

**Simon Hall**  
**Bill Gray**  
**Alison Scott**

**Treasurer's Report:** Fergal advised that since the last meeting there has been an expenditure of £147.61, resulting in a current balance of £791.62. Ralston in Bloom funding (FR1140): Expenditure of £193.98, leaving a balance of £886.70.

**Kelburne Hockey Club CAT update:** ILA will decide on the appeal in January. Kelburne can further appeal to the Scottish Government.

**AOB:** New Members: Allan and Alison had a stall at the Ralston Primary School Fayre, and 9 people expressed interest in joining the Community

Council. In the new year we'll arrange a information evening or invite them to a meeting to find out more. Dog Poo: Simon highlighted that there has been an increase in dog poo being left on the streets around the school, Cllr Graham will look into signage and other options. Simon agreed to write to the Head Teacher to highlight the issue.

**Cllr Graham**  
**Simon Hall**

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 12 January 2023 at 7:30pm, in person at Ralston Community Centre.