

RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on 8 September, at Ralston Community Centre

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

In Attendance: Police Officer Bruce Heron, Police Officer Louise Sung, Cllr Neill Graham, Cllr Graham Clark, two members of the public.

Apologies: Rod McLelland

Not in attendance: Catherine Gooding, Cllr Jennifer Adam.

Action

Welcome from the Chair: Chair welcomed all to the meeting following the summer break. We recognise that the Queen has passed and send condolences to the royal family.

Police Report: Officer Sung advised that over the summer they have been focussing on issues of antisocial behaviour in Barshaw Park. In addition the shop on Glasgow Road was broken into while being renovated. RCC advised that speeding remains a concern in the area, particularly on Penilee Road and surrounding roads. Officer Heron advised that they have used Quad bikes to tackle the illegal use of motorbikes and quadbikes, seizing a number of bikes and quantities of alcohol. There is a 'contact us' form on the police website, residents can use this to alert police of where and when issues occur, and police can target those areas. Cllr Clark advised police that that young people were are stealing items from the shops on Arkleston Road and Greggs on Glasgow Road. In addition the Sun newspaper listed Barshaw Park as a location for 'dogging', people taking part in outdoor sex acts. Finally several cases of cost of living fraud were occurring, highlighting the need to be careful and vigilant.

Councillor's Reports: Cllr Graham: Following the Queen's passing, flags will be at half-mast on public buildings, a book of condolence will be available at the Council building on Cotton Street, Tweedie Halls, Renfrew Town Hall and Johnstone Town Hall. The official condolence book will be shared online when available. No impact on Council services until the day of funeral. Provost has made a statement on behalf of the Council. Traffic lights on Penilee Road: Signage has now gone up before the Penilee bridge, the speed limit signage will be renewed. Initially there was an issue with length of time the green man was on, however this has now been resolved. Cllr Graham and Cllr Clark still believes it could have been sited further down the road, and that the school crossing patroller should remain. Cllr Clark advised that a non-slip surface will be applied to the road, however this has been delayed due to supply issues. Trees: Cllr Graham has arranged for 3 trees on Auchmannoch/Dalfoil Court to be trimmed. Cllr Graham had a number of complaints about trees on non-adopted roads, causing trip

hazards. Allan advised that before Covid we'd been talking to Ken Grey about trees along Allanton Avenue which needed to be removed and residents were being asked whether they wanted them reinstated – would be good to revisit this as it's to be rolled out around Ralston. Photos of locations where trees are an issue can be emailed to Cllr Graham (copy in admin@ralstoncommunitycouncil.org). Cllr Graham will discuss progress with Ken Gray. Weeds: Allan highlighted that the edges of some roads and pavements in Ralston were becoming very overgrown with weeds. Cllr Graham will find out what the plan for this is. Gully's on Roffey Park: Cllr Graham advised that these will be cleaned in the next few weeks. Red Lines on 3 roads surrounding Gartmore: Cllr Graham had no update on this. No Gritting Sign at Ralston Nursery: Gritting routes don't include any schools or nurseries, however Soft FM (facilities management) do this for safe routes to school. Fairground in Barshaw Park: Cllr Clark received several complaints from residents who were disturbed by the noise, lighting and parking from the fair. Council has agreed in future that the fair will be shorter and monitor to ensure dismantling won't occur past midnight.

Cllr Graham

Cllr Graham

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Minutes of the previous meeting: Proposed by Simon Hall, seconded by Allan Thompson.

Matters arising from the minutes: Community Notice Board: Jock has done a great job fixing and refurbishing the noticeboard. St Mirren Lighting: Though no adjustments have been made yet, St Mirren have until end of September to make necessary adjustments to lighting. Ralston in Bloom: Planters have looked great over the summer. In October Rod will change them to winter plants and plant spring bulbs. We agreed that as we have the funds, we should buy additional planters, having 2 at each bus stop between Barshaw Park and the Glasgow boundary. Rod will pursue the idea of children from Ralston Primary 'adopting' planters to look after them. Website Calendar: This has now been updated to include all events in the community. Let Rod know if any other events should be added.

All

Secretary's Report: Alison advised that since the last meeting, 46 emails had been received, 31 not circulated: 17 for various Council Board meetings, 6 weekly planning lists, 2 Cross Party Sounding Board, 1 Application for Grants from Tesco (Renfrew), 1 New housing application (Leverndale, not Ralston), 1 Scottish Water AGM, 1 Cycling Fund (funds available for projects which encourage using bikes for short journeys), 1 National Power of Attorney Campaign (highlighting benefits of it and what can happen if it's not in place), 1 You Decide campaign (voting on shortlisted projects opens 30 September until 30 October).

Draft Strategic Housing Investment Plan: Renfrewshire Council inviting comments and feedback by 23 September.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer advised that since the last meeting there has been an income of £115, an expenditure of £423.08, resulting in a current

balance of £502.03. Ralston in Bloom funding (FR1140): No expenditure, leaving a balance of £2091. Ralston Playpark funding (FR1141) £0, fund closed.

Renfrewshire Council have agreed that RCC can now hold a debit card, and pay for things via Bacs.

Kelburne Hockey Club CAT update:

Cllr Graham highlighted that the work that RCC did to get so many of the community involved, which resulted in so many letters being written to the Council about the CAT application, had a huge impact. Full Council on 29 September will debate the process that should be followed for future CAT applications. Cllr Clark and Cllr Graham have agreed to meet Kelburne separately, to see how they can help them secure access to a hockey pitch in Renfrewshire.

The people of the community of Ralston must now come together to discuss and work with OneRen find ways to increase usage of Ralston Community Sports Centre. Allan has emailed OneRen Chief Executive twice to continue discussions, with no response. Cllr Graham will provide email addresses for the Councillors on the OneRen board, to try and move this forward.

Cllr Graham

AOB: Disabled transport: A resident gave an update on their efforts to get local bus companies to allow mobility scooters onboard. First Bus have no problem with this, however McGills have banned them. RCC thanked the resident for the update and shared their disappointment for not getting the outcome they were looking for. **Honeybog Hill:** Bill Gray highlighted that access from Tylney Road has now been opened, but Barshaw Place is still difficult. Might be time to revisit discussions with the farmer regarding access. **Tylney resurfacing:** Alison confirmed that the resurfacing works have now been completed (although Renfrewshire Council forgot to inform us that the works were happening).

Date of next meeting: Thursday 13 October 2022 at 7.30pm, in person at Ralston Community Centre.