

RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on 9 May 2019 in Ralston Community Centre

Present – Allan Thompson (AT), Alison Scott (AS), Sandra Reynolds (SR), Fergal McCauley (FM), Hugh Sherry (HS), Simon Hall (SH), David Dougan (DD), Carolyn Ward (CW).

In Attendance – Police Officers Bruce Heron and Laura Sayer. Cllr N Graham (NG), Cllr Jim Sharkey (JS), 1 resident in process of joining RCC. Guest speaker from Ralston Out of School Care.

Apologies – Bill Whyte, Ian Rae, May Fernie, Bill Gray, Rod McLelland, Cllr J Adam-McGregor.

Welcome from the Chair – Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

Police Report - 7 crimes reported since last meeting 3 of which have been detected. Crimes were theft of pedal cycle, road traffic accident on Penilee Road, 1 breach of the peace, 2 breach of bail, 1 theft by housebreaking and 1 theft from motor vehicle. The chairman asked police if they would come to CC games event where they could distribute literature re safety, bogus callers. As advised by police, the secretary will contact police to invite formally.

Councillors Reports – JS was at full Council meeting today which was thinly attended. A 2.8% pay increase for councillors was agreed. NG said the pothole problem in Penilee Road has been resolved i.e. the pothole has been filled in. Re bogus workmen, NG advised that any caller wearing Scottish Power uniforms are bogus, their staff wear uniforms with Iberdrola insignia. NG is dealing with ongoing bin problems. JS confirmed refuse staff carry kit to clear up any mess of they make. Cllrs were asked why refuse collectors don't check to see bins are fully emptied. NG will pursue this with new Head of this Dept. JS reported bogus callers have attempted to deliver gifts such as flowers and chocolates in Ralston and then say there is a charge of £3 to be made on card machine. A CC member said a complaint re bad language by Council staff was passed around various council people despite previous advice of a 1 stop shop. There does not appear to be a policy in place re bad language. The leader of the council, Councillor Nicolson, has asked for a full report on how the Council responds to complaints. It was reported that the noise problem and bad language at St Mirren FC training ground is getting worse and it is felt SMFC can do as they please and the Council don't accept the problem exists.

Minutes of the previous meeting – Proposed by HS and seconded by SH. 2 amendments were noted.

- 1 – The programme including road works will take place in May not Penilee Road in particular.
- 2 – The ring fenced amount of budget is for roads and school estates not roads and social estates.

Matters arising from previous minutes -

It was noted there had been no reply to several e-mails sent to Ken Gray re the ongoing tree problem in Allanton Ave. The local councillors will investigate. Chairman has invited Fraser Carlin to a CC meeting re this, no reply as yet and Chairman will invite him to September meeting.

The meeting was given an update of last Local partnership meeting. As part of this, a Youth Forum was hoped to be up & running soon. It was noted RCC may be asked for some possible heavy involvement. Chairman of RCC plus 2 other RCC members volunteered to provide assistance to Youth Forum. Cllr JS said there are 3 drop-ins arranged for more discussion. Cllr JS said meetings with Macasphalt are ongoing.

RCC agreed the dispute re banners at SMFC training ground continues to be pursued.

Secretary's Report – Secretary advised that all relevant communication received since the last meeting has been circulated. She advised that confirmation has been received that RCC can buy a brick as part of Coates Memorial campaign under heading of “promotional activity”. The cost is £100 and all agreed to proceed with this. Secretary also asked if any views re Short term lets Consultation and Unconventional oil & gas Consultation and no views were received.

Treasurers Report - FM advised a current balance of £2412.96. Nil expenditure since April.

Guest Speakers – Grace Berry of Ralston Out of School Care advised this group is a registered charity established 1985. She advised of the increasing use of this service. They are looking at various ways of extending their site and asked for the support in principle of RCC. This was given unopposed.

AOB - RCC was told that the last clean-up event in April in Barshaw Park was the best attended yet and members are cordially invited to the next event on 2 June at 15.30. The councillors present were asked about chaotic parking within Barshaw Park and Cllr JS will investigate. It appears to be worse since the car park was extended. RCC chairman will contact Roads Dept.

Cllr JS said he will be attending a meeting of Hawkhead CC and will discuss the traffic problems in that area. He advised the empty land site at the station is council owned and there are ongoing drain problems there.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 13 June at 7.30pm in Ralston Community Centre.