

Waterside Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of Tuesday 22 March

Present: J. Herriot (Chair); J. Whyte (Secretary); C. Lilly (Comms. Coordinator);

I. Bowman (Strategy Advisor); M. Todd;

Cllrs. S. MacDonald and J. Jamieson; A. Morrison (Prospective Councillor).

Also present: D. McFadden, C. Notman, C. Willson.

Apologies: E. Carlin, K. Chesney-Bathie (Treasurer), Cllr. S. Murray, D. Paterson.

- (1) Meeting commenced at 7.40pm. Chair thanked those in attendance.
- (2) Alex Morrison introduced himself as a candidate for councillor in the May election. He gave a brief outline of his career in IT consultancy.
- (3) Minutes of previous meeting were read. Proposed by J. Herriot; seconded by M. Todd.
- (4) The person whose hedge cuttings were left on Gray Street had written to explain that a contractor had been paid to take out hedge and remove cuttings. However, he had failed to complete the job despite repeated complaints. She had now additionally paid for EDC uplift.
- (5) **Pothole on corner of Bankhead Road and Cairnview** had had temporary repair.
- (6) **Barrier at Moss Goat Burn still not removed.** Tyres there too now. Cllr. MacDonald chasing up. [Update: Streetscene has since removed it and other objects (as instructed by Thomas McMenemy), though the responsibility in fact lay with the landowner and not the council.]
- (7) **Walkabout update:** J. Herriot still to complete.
- (8) **Welcome packs for new tenants and residents:** M. Todd will help J. Herriot create these.
- (9) **CRT improvement fund:** meeting/new group needed to decide changed priorities.
- (10) **Subgroups** need reconstituting.
- (11) **Dog bin at top of school path** had been replaced.
- (12) **Planters:** money for plants can come from CRT fund. J. Whyte will very kindly continue to pay for ones for the future.
- (13) **One set of defibrillator pads needs replacing** in May (costing £40 minimum) and the other set in September. It was agreed WCC will reimburse Jackie Brown, who is very kindly paying the annual electricity costs (£15) herself. WCC would like to pay that too if she agrees. The defibrillator has been used twice, potentially saving two lives (a very worthwhile piece of equipment [Thanks to Jackie for organizing and CRT for funding]).
- (14) **The Waterside Easter Duck Race** takes place between midday and 4pm on Sunday 17 April (Easter Sunday). Doubts expressed about choice of Easter Sunday rather than Monday. Timing particularly unfortunate because of recently scheduled Old Firm match. Bouncy castles, DJ and public entertainment licence arranged for the Sunday. Permission to put up posters granted. More volunteers needed. Raffle prizes sought. Ducks on sale from Archie's at £2 each – 1st prize £70 (sponsored by McLaughlin & Harvey), 2nd prize £50 (Archie's) and 3rd prize £30 (Luggiewatch). Necessity for large prizes debated. Raffle tickets are £1 a strip from Karen Chesney-Bathie or Archie's. McLaughlin & Harvey are also probably providing 70 chocolate eggs for the orienteering being organized by C. Notman and J. Quigley. WCC will cover other prizes as required and also juice and biscuits for orienteering participants. Up-to-date programme of events sought. The Shed will be open for teas and coffees. Gazebos can be provided by CN/JQ, MT and Luggiewatch.
- (15) **Waterside Charitable Society:** There will be a meeting on Tuesday 29 March in the Broadcroft Hotel (kindly providing room free) for former members of the Waterside Charitable Society (not the club as that has been dissolved) and for those who expressed an interest in being involved in a Miners project. Guest speakers. The Waterside Action Group, which is the driving force behind this, hopes to persuade 16 people to volunteer for

Waterside Miners' Charitable Society committee. (Later there will be a follow-up meeting to elect committee members – if more than 16 applicants – and to elect office bearers.) The goal is to bring the Charitable Society back into governance and take the necessary steps to have a community facility once more (strategy very helpfully advised by Cllr. Murray). The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) is satisfied with this way of proceeding.

- (16) **CALA's planning application for the Duntiblae development** will coincidentally go before the planning board on 29 March. Most of the following was discussed without councillors present: CALA's revised proposal avoids relining the pond and instead leaves it in its natural state but builds a new SuDS pond behind the club. The proposal also includes more hedgerows and trees than previously. It now has the support of EDC's ecology officers and will doubtless pass. In view of the improvements and the zero chance of preventing development since the meadows are already on the Local Development Plan, WCC proposes to withdraw its objections to the proposal and work with CALA instead to mitigate community losses. Hillhead Housing Association has a possible interest (41 social rented units?). J. Herriot asked what community benefits would flow from this. These have never been discussed with WCC but must be. Cllr. MacDonald will mail paperwork to J. Herriot.
- (17) **Location and priorities for future meetings:** it was agreed face-to-face meetings (in the Shed) could be beneficial. Hybrid meetings likely to prove difficult. C. Lilly requested technical help setting up. D. McFadden would discuss with L. Giffen, but he recommended making no promises. Lateral flow tests beforehand would be desirable. Face masks could be worn if desired. Agreed that April's meeting would be on Zoom. However May's should be in person if possible. This would allow police officers to take part. Need to refocus and set priorities – have nothing else on agenda.
- (18) **The underage drinking survey** being run by the police names Lenzie and Kirkintilloch but fails to mention Waterside. They say the survey cannot be changed as it has already started. They hope Waterside residents will still take part.
- (19) **OPAL is looking for volunteers** on Facebook. Training provided.
- (20) **Open Space and Greenspace consultation:** C. Notman asked whether there was any update on the Open Space and Greenspace consultation. No, but the report is not due out till April.
- (21) **Meeting re mitigation in light of ASN school losses (requested since August 2021):**
Cllr. MacDonald will again contact Ann Davie and CEO Gerry Cornes. Question asked about why it takes so long for council officers to get back to councillors. J. Herriot said WCC was being treated with contempt. Willing to meet on Teams or in person.
- (22) **Hattie's garage site:** a notice had been erected regarding a roofing company/garage door showroom. It was suggested this may simply be advertising for a contractor working on site since there has been no planning application for a showroom. However, one for a private dwelling had been withdrawn.
- (23) **Traffic issues related to ASN school:** Jim Brown had put in a freedom of information request about the difficulties to be faced by vehicles turning right at the top of Bankhead Road when the ASN school is built. Duncan Malcolm had raised this issue and related ones at predetermination hearing (as well as before), but a roads officer had dismissed concerns but without giving evidence to support his case. He had not been questioned by councillors.
- (24) D. and J. Carmichael had emailed to thank WCC for lovely send-off at the Shed prior to their departure from Waterside and for the many friends they've made over the years. They wished us well for the future. They are hugely missed.
- (25) As there was no further business or correspondence, the meeting closed at 9.05pm. The chair thanked everyone for their attendance.
- (26) Next meeting: 12 April on Zoom.

