

Waterside Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of Tuesday 19 September 2017

Present: B. Lapping (Chair), D. Scott (Vice-Chair), C. Lilly (Website Coordinator)

E. Carlin (Interested Tenant)

Cllrs. J. Jamieson, S. MacDonald, S. Murray; Police Constable S. Kerrigan

L. Campbell, E. Wilson, D. Carmichael, J. Carmichael (subcommittee members)

And 4 others.

Apologies: J. Whyte (Secretary), K. Chesney-Bathie (Fundraiser)

1. Chair opened meeting at 7.35.
2. Previous minutes read and queries and comments made.
3. Prewalkabout village inspection cancelled due to heavy rain. Villagers with Facebook access asked to report issues, comments passed to councillors. Official walkabout Friday 29 Sept, starting at lock-ups on Cairnview at 1pm. Action points to be listed afterwards.
4. EW had consulted Planning Dept about village sign. Planning permission not needed, so sign could be in place by end of month.
5. LC had sourced prices for Christmas tree (live and cut), but liaising with Jackie Gillespie required. JG had recommended Korean pine as not tall. Cllr. MacDonald meeting Gillian Telfer and suggested LC attend. All issues/tree location to be sorted then.
6. Police Officer Stewart Kerrigan introduced himself as point of contact for police issues here. 6 incidents in the last month for Waterside, including assault at Alexander Pl, breach of the peace, traffic offences, use of cannabis in a garden.
7. Concerns about speeding, especially Cairnview. Road used as a rat run despite children playing. While there is road safety guidance at school, not enough. Warning signs a possibility? Branding as a speedwatch village? Councillors or WCC could ask. Could also do road safety leaflet drop and poster competition for local kids – advertise in *Kirkintilloch Herald* and on Facebook. Discussion about enforcement of 20 mph limit. All road safety issues could be raised at Bankhead Rd accident consultation, soon to end.
8. PC Kerrigan will walk around the village getting idea of problems. Will look into speeding on Cairnview and smell of pot. Will check status of banned driver.
9. Gratitude expressed to Cllr. MacDonald for organizing 2 new village benches. DS has affixed plaque commemorating tragic loss of Joseph Lewsley to bench by bridge.
10. Lack of play facilities, particularly swings, for children over 4 raised again. Cllr. MacDonald advised talking to Gillian Telfer. Gordon Strain could be asked. Broken climbing frame part. Discussed chainsaw sculptures for children's area. Talk to JG.
11. Fly-tipping at Miners Club car park. Rubbish may be being left on Hunter land too posing risk for Luggie. Need dummy camera? Cllr. MacDonald to talk to community safety team.
12. The community justice team has been repainting railings on Bankhead Rd and may be going on to work on path at the bottom of Moss Rd. To be confirmed.
13. No further reports from councillors.
14. JK raised ongoing issue of blocked drain at Craig Crescent. Council workers keep looking wrongly at drain on Burnbrae. Cllr. MacDonald looking into this.
15. Cllr. Jamieson commented that the appearance of council properties on Cairnview is better since roughcasting, but council not complacent. There is to be a press release.

16. Area around Cairnview often a mess, with litter everywhere. Cllr. Murray suggested that if council were on top of cutting verges etc, residents might be less likely to dump trash.
17. It was requested that the council keep gardens of empty properties tidy.
18. Problem with overflowing bins/ rats on Cairnview. Officer has been out and letters sent.
19. Queried why council properties remain empty for so long between tenancies. Cllr. MacDonald cited asbestos problem in Artex requiring specialist removers. Properties often in very poor order. Council invested extra £100,000 last year on voids. Relets take on average 77 days, but 3 additional joiners should speed things up.
20. Request made for double-yellow lines on first bend going into village. When there's a car here, others have to overtake blind. Residents have a courtyard so shouldn't need to park on road. Cllr MacDonald to discuss with relevant officers, but consultation could take between a year and 18 months.
21. Tree cutting along Bankhead Rd still hasn't happened.
22. Issue of parking around Cairnview roundabout raised again. Probably not illegal – check with police. Too expensive to reduce roundabout size.
23. LC gave update on Events Subcommittee's plans. Annex not available for use, so some events will take place at Gartconner. Date of family Hallowe'en party to be decided. Christmas Fair and party likely to be 2 Dec. Tree event probably on same date. Nativity play (complete with Roman legionnaire) probably 16 Dec (thanks to DC). A Christmas party could perhaps be on the same day. Auditions for play to start in October.
24. LC has spoken to Mr Manley, Gartconner head, and both favour greater collaboration between WCC and school. Mr Manley would like kids to do citizenship work in village (shopping, gardening, etc.). Could provide silver surfer courses at school with kids' help.
25. Mr Manley to be invited to next WCC meeting. JW to be asked if she will do this.
26. CL gave Waterside Wildflower Group update. At meeting with Jackie Gillespie of the council's Streetscene team, part of Alexander Pl/Moss Rd/Taig Rd circle proposed as next wild flower site. Stalled Spaces grant application being made (for Christmas tree, wild flowers, circle path upgrade, bulbs, new topsoil), but applicant to be a properly incorporated body. Agreed Wildflower group be adopted as a subcommittee of WCC and application be made in the name of WCC. Flowers to be on part of circle not played on.
27. JC gave update on hall subcommittee activities: talks with rep of Coalfields Regeneration Trust; advice to carry out survey and form a Scottish charitable incorporated organization (SCIO); desirability of acquiring property as meeting place/café to demonstrate need for community hall and get things moving. High survey response rate vital. Survey to be simple and quick to fill in and to be carried out door to door.
28. BL proposed delaying AGM/election till Nov rather than Oct. Contacting M Cunningham.
29. Cllr. MacDonald praised WCC for being an active community council, with people wanting to get things done rather than getting bogged down in process.
30. BL delighted to see higher attendance at WCC meetings and more village involvement.
31. Vote of thanks to EW for work acquiring & painting picnic benches; she has also obtained plaques from Kenwil: "Waterside Community Council & Events Team 2017".
32. DS said that picnic benches required slabs underneath to protect feet, provide anchor base, meet H&S standards. To be discussed at meeting with Gillian Telfer.
33. DC and JS repeated offer to cut hedges for those who need help.
34. Meeting ended well after 9pm.
35. Next meeting 17 October.