

**Minutes of the Meeting of Giffnock Community Council****Venue:** Giffnock Library**Date:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016, 19:00

**Present:** Jim Martin (Chair), Maureen Powell (MP), Jack Powell (JP), Caroline Wilkinson (CW), Bill Crawford (BC), James McCann (JMC), Hammad Ishaq Khalid (HK), Douglas Lawson (DL), Edward McGuire (EM)

**In Attendance:** Cllr. Vincent Waters, Cllr. Gordon Wallace, Sergeant Karlyn Sagan (KS), Police Scotland and two Braidbar residents.

**Apologies:** George McGill, Charlie Dexter, Cllr. Jim Fletcher

<b>ITEM ISSUE</b>		<b>ACTION</b>
	<p><b>POLICE REPORT:</b></p> <p>Sergeant Karlyn Sagan attended the meeting and provided a Crime Statistics Report for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016. This was provided prior to the meeting and circulated to all members. A copy can be provided on request to anyone who did not receive this.</p> <p>Sergeant Sagan provided an update of points raised in the previous meeting and this is detailed in the report. She also emphasised that there had been two incidents of housebreaking and asked all present to be vigilant with car keys making sure that they are kept out of sight within the house.</p> <p>Cycling on pavements still seems to be problematic and this will continue to be monitored.</p> <p>Car parking at the Enterprise franchise continues to cause problems and this was reported at the meeting. Sergeant Sagan to investigate further.</p> <p>Parking on pavement on Rouken Glen Road continues to be problematic, where cars have all four wheels on the pavement. This is causing pedestrians problems, in particular mothers with prams who have to walk onto a very busy main road. Sergeant Sagan request that the public report this to the police asap so that it can be investigated timely. In the meantime she will ask all patrols to monitor the situation.</p> <p>Sergeant Sagan stated that all the points raised had been noted and she would investigate further.</p>	
	<p><b>PRESENTATION</b></p> <p><b>ERC – Licensing Service</b></p> <p>A presentation was given by Jacqui McCusker, Senior Solicitor, ERC. Jacqui is a Depute Clerk of the Board and is an experienced licensing lawyer.</p> <p>The Board is required to ensure that its policy promotes the licensing objectives.</p> <p>These are set out in Section 4 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 and are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preventing crime and disorder</li> <li>• Securing public safety</li> <li>• Preventing public nuisance</li> <li>• Protecting and improving public health</li> <li>• Protecting children from harm</li> <li>• Named individuals are obliged to be named on</li> </ul>	

		<p>applications and are required to have the appropriate SQA qualification and the evidence of refresher qualifications, which require to be taken</p> <p>A comprehensive list of Licensing activities in addition to some useful links can be found in <b>Note 1</b> below.</p> <p>A point was raised by the Chair in which it was stated that the Licensing Board were obliged to consult with Community Councils regarding applications that were made. This was not happening and Chair requested that a list of all applications (similar to the Weekly List of Planning Applications issued) were submitted to GCC on a regular basis for their consideration. Mrs McCusker said that she would consider this request to ascertain if this could be achieved.</p> <p>A lively question and answer session ensued where the problems with GHA Rugby Club were presented by local members also by the Braidbar residents in attendance. This covered: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extension of the late license until 01:00</li> <li>• Noise created by patrons leaving the premises late at night</li> <li>• Police units called to the establishment in the early hours</li> <li>• Suspected under-age drinking</li> <li>• The Giffnock Beer Festival</li> </ul> <p>Chair requested that the residents continue to gather evidence of unsocial behaviour that can be submitted to the Licensing Board. He again reiterated that no consultation had taken place with GCC despite having made formal representation to the Licensing Board regarding the extension of the GHA license.</p> <p>Mrs McCusker in reply, stated that the Licensing Standards Officers visited all sites annually to ensure compliance with the relevant Statutory requirements.</p>	<b>J. McCusker</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>CHAIRS OPENING:</b>	Chair opened the meeting promptly at 19:00 and welcomed those in attendance.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Apologies were received from George McGill, Charlie Dexter, Cllr. Jim Fletcher	
<b>3.</b>	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES:</b>	The Minutes were agreed and accepted with no amendments and are to be forwarded for publication on the ERC website. <b>Proposed:</b> DL <b>Seconded:</b> MP	<b>EM</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>CHAIR'S REPORT:</b>	Chair stated that this was the last meeting prior to the Summer Recess period. He requested that in regard to the range of Agenda issues (many ongoing/unresolved) to be addressed that all in attendance (including the Ward Councillors) might reflect initially on the respective background/obstacles presented / obfuscation etc. encountered along the way and consider how things might perhaps be handled differently in order to achieve better outcomes in future for Giffnock residents. He welcomed receiving any relevant positive feedback /	

		suggestions before the close, which might help the Officers to refocus / adjust our strategic forward plan in the interim period prior to our next meeting in September.	
5.	<b>SECRETARY'S REPORT:</b>	Nothing to report	
6.	<b>TREASURER'S REPORT:</b>	<p>JP reported that he had conversations with Elaine Grogan and Linda McLaughlin at ERC regarding the Grant application and this was being progressed. The grant application included provision to help set up a Facebook and Twitter facility to help support preparation for a review stage of the Giffnock Village Hub Proposal</p> <p>There were a few amendments required to the list of authorised signatories for the Bank account, and Chair asked that JP liaise with the Secretary on this.</p>	<b>JP/EM</b>
7.	<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS:</b>	<p><b>Health &amp; Education:</b></p> <p>The keys for the Eastwood Health &amp; Care Centre have been handed over to ERC. It is due to be open and deliver services from Monday 8 August 2016. Some core GCC members may be offered the opportunity of a preview of the facilities prior to the opening.</p> <p>Some local residents have expressed concern about the absence of publicity of the opening and particularly about any provision of public transport links available. However, it was pointed out in a previous presentation that this was to be put in hand.</p> <p><b>Education</b></p> <p>Chair reported that there has been continuation of our Outreach in the Community roll-out and very positive meetings (some repeat) had now been held with the Headteachers of all (5) of the Giffnock Schools. Close ongoing collaboration with GCC was warmly welcomed and the Headteachers Cluster Group has since appointed a dedicated liaison officer from Woodfarm High school to help facilitate close direct links with us.</p> <p>Common issues were discussed / reviewed including vehicle traffic/parking hazards / other road safety hazards etc. also the increasing problem with the prevailing scale of schools placement applications and the resulting overcrowding difficulties.</p> <p>In reply Cllr. Waters replied that there was a serious problem this year, with capacity in the Faith sector in Eastwood and that no placement requests were available in St Ninian's or OLM. Notwithstanding, all local demand had been accommodated. Models used by the Education Department indicate that there is a spike in the birth rate from 12 years ago, but this will ease in the coming years.</p> <p><i>Several joint initiatives are already under close discussion. There was unanimous support of the GCC Giffnock Village Hub Proposal.</i></p> <p><b>Environment, Roads &amp; Planning</b></p>	<b>Ward Councillors</b>

	<p><b>Woodfarm Playing Fields</b> – A response on the start date of the drainage scheme awaited from Cllr. Fletcher. The area and adjacent water courses are still waterlogged and hazardous.</p> <p>Cllr. Waters responded that the drainage work would start before the end of the year and more likely before the end of the summer.</p> <p>Concerns remain about any long lease let arrangements proposed for Cricket activity. It is proposed to install high fences with commercial advertising boards around the playing area. Currently only some grass cutting taking place around the crease area – maintenance of remaining area has been abandoned with safety hazards increasing as a result, particularly to children, and prevailing over the school holiday period.</p> <p>Cllr. Waters replied that a grant had been provided to the Cricket Club for the erection of a facility to store ground maintenance equipment. Once this had been completed then there were no excuses for the grounds not to be maintained to a high standard.</p> <p>No response had been received from Cllr. Fletcher about the proposal for CCTV cover at the all-weather sports cages tabled at the he last meeting.</p> <p>Cllr. Waters replied that the subject of the CCTV coverage had been raised and he expected this to be resolved soon.</p> <p><b>Swimming Pool</b></p> <p>Local residents expressed concerns regarding the deteriorating level of housekeeping, maintenance, safety management and general condition at the pool/fitness suites, also rumours about imminent closure of the facility.</p> <p>Cllr. Wallace informed the meeting that he had undertaken a tour of the Swimming Pool facility and that he was dismayed with the general upkeep of the premises. He undertook to inform us of the latest strategy regarding same.</p> <p><b>Eastwood Park</b></p> <p>Concerns have been expressed about the condition of the Eastwood Park precincts where there is an urgent requirement for improvements to the landscaping e.g. additional shrubbery and planting to help obscure the car dominated parking and harsh building landscape.</p> <p>Requests have been received for more guidance/support to local Schools Environment Schemes from the Parks Department including the “Green Fingers” gardening/tree planting initiatives, also linking to the Woodland Trust Partnership in respect of helping make local communities a little greener.</p> <p><b>Roads</b></p> <p>Berryhill Avenue Residents Road Condition Campaign – Chair stated that the local residents had expressed disappointment at the continuing absence of any response from Ward Councillors to direct calls, also at the remarks of</p>	<p><b>Cllr. Waters</b></p> <p><b>Cllr. Wallace</b></p> <p><b>Councillors</b></p>
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	<p>Cllr. Fletcher at the last meeting. This situation has now escalated and contact is now being made to Jackson Carlow MSP for his involvement.</p> <p>St. Ninian's HS remain concerned at the absence of any further consideration/response about the Berryhill Road safety hazards to pupils emerging at the rear entrance at the school.</p> <p>Cllr. Waters was asked about replacement road parking signage on Fenwick Road. In reply he stated that the revised traffic enforcement by-laws for Giffnock had been passed unanimously and that these would come into force along with the new signage within the next few weeks.</p> <p>A visual presentation of the new Waiting and Loading restrictions with the new one way system on Orchard Drive was requested. On receipt this will be forwarded to all members.</p> <p><b>Parking Charges</b></p> <p>Cllr. Waters &amp; Cllr. Wallace confirmed that a specific proposal involving vehicle parking charges in Giffnock has been submitted to the Council. This applies to the Council parking areas at the Train Station but not the Network Rail section, also at Merryvale Place.</p> <p><b>Refuse Collection</b></p> <p>Cllr. Waters provided an update on the rollout of the new wheelie bins, scheduled for late August with a 1<sup>st</sup> October implementation. Information packs will be provided to residents at the same time concerning the use of each bin and a new collection schedule which is to be implemented at the same time.</p> <p>A special team has been set up to resolve the problems where residents live in rows of houses which bin lorries cannot easily access. They will visit all areas which may be of concern.</p> <p><b>Planning / Licensing</b></p> <p>The weekly planning applications list is now circulated to all GCC members for consideration.</p> <p>It was noted that there had been an application for outdoor seating at the Catch Fish &amp; Chip shop on Fenwick Road.</p> <p><b>Community Engagement</b></p> <p>Chair reported that the Outreach in the Community roll-out has now been extended to the local Churches, also the several positive meetings held with Giffnock United Reformed Church and a Churches Cluster Group meeting is being organised next month. Similar discussions are also being arranged with Giffnock Synagogue.</p> <p>There has been another meeting held with the BID representatives who have confirmed close collaboration with GCC including in the Car Rally event on 3<sup>rd</sup> September when we will have a table to help promote GCC. The Residents Survey Questionnaire format is now finalised and we are preparing the roll-out campaign. There have been</p>	<p><b>Cllr. Wallace</b></p>
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		offers of assistance from pupils received from local Secondary schools to assist with distribution of the questionnaire at the Car Rally event.	
8.	<b>WORKPLAN:</b>	Following our review of the Citizen's Panel Survey any relevant outcomes have been incorporated in our Questionnaire. The review of the Planning Process Seminar enabled aspects to be tabled for clarity during the recent training seminars which were well attended by GCC core members	
9.	<b>COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROFILE:</b>	Following the positive meeting held with the representatives of Uplawmoor Community Council ( reported last meeting ) the Website Group have proposed that we retain the services of the IT specialist involved on a retainer to help us set up a new GCC website together with administration and training support over the next 3 months. This was agreed. In addition it has been anticipated that the provision in our Grant application ( item 6 refers ) will help provide financial support to enable dedicated Facebook and Twitter accounts to be set up to help promote distribution of the Residents Survey Questionnaire. This will be integrated into the new website.	
10.	<b>STATEMENT/ QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR</b>	Chair stated that some members attending GCC meetings have the perception that the Ward Councillors appear on occasion to be reluctant to become involved in the proceedings. While it was accepted that they were ex-Officio members it was considered that this should not deter some more meaningful input including briefing on ERC issues, local issues raised by residents also counselling and advice for members about wider / local government etc matters. In the subsequent discussion it was agreed that this might be related to some of the background experience of the old community councils involving social media etc. Chair felt that with the advent of the reformed Councils under the new Scheme arrangements, the situation was improving. He stated that in the next session he is committed to sourcing and reading Cabinet /Council papers on a regular basis in order to be able to update / brief GCC members directly. Chair asked if the escalating hazards to children over the holiday period due to the overflowing water courses at the Woodfarm Playing Field could be raised again as a matter of urgency with Scottish Water. It was agreed that the provision of bollards at the pavement at the shops on Orchard Park Avenue would be progressed. JP asked if the Priority List information for road repairs could be made available. It has been reported that the Cosgrove Centre is experiencing real difficulties in caring for the disabled due to ERC budget cuts and help was urgently required as crucial cover / service is now being substantially reduced.	<b>Cllr. Waters</b>  <b>Cllr Waters</b>  <b>Cllr. Wallace</b>  <b>Councillors</b>
11.	<b>AOCB:</b>	Several members attended a Data Protection seminar. It	<b>Chair</b>

		appears that GCC may have some responsibilities under this Act and this will have to be reviewed.	
<b>12.</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 19:00, Giffnock Library	

<p><b>Note 1.</b></p>	<p><b>ERC Licensing</b></p> <p>This includes the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taxi and private hire licensing</li> <li>• Liquor and gambling</li> <li>• Civic and other business including tattooist, skin piercing, street traders, window cleaners, entertainment, catering and more</li> <li>• Animal licensing</li> <li>• Houses in multiple occupation</li> <li>• Skip Permit licence</li> </ul> <p>A comprehensive list is provide on the ERC website and can be found here: -  <a href="http://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/licensing">http://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/licensing</a></p> <p>Licensing applications can be found here: -  <a href="http://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/article/2073/Current-licensing-applications">http://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/article/2073/Current-licensing-applications</a></p> <p>A PDF of the Licensing policy will be circulated to all members for their perusal.</p>
<p><b>Note 2.</b></p>	<p>Police Scotland useful links: -</p> <p>Police Scotland Facebook:  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/policescotland">https://www.facebook.com/policescotland</a></p> <p>Police Scotland Twitter:  @policescotland</p> <p>East Renfrewshire Police:  @Eastrenpolice</p>