

Minutes of Neilston Community Council 28th June 2016 in the Glen Halls, Neilston at 7pm.

Present, J Scott, J Sheriff, R Mould, R Junner, E Mould, A Walker, S Healy, J. Connery, Cllr Buchanan, PC Nicol ,Police Scotland, PC Crawford, Police Scotland, M Pettigrew ,J Miller UCC

Apologies: Cllr O Kane , Cllr Gilbert

1, Police Report

The Police report for the period 28/5/2016 – 28/6/2016 is as follows
There were 21 crimes reported

Simple Assault	1
Vandalism	5
Road Traffic Offences	4
Other offences	5

There has been a reported incident of assault which took place near Craig Rd.
Enquiries are ongoing.

There have been no reports of drug use or dealing within the area in the last month
One drink driving offence has been reported and detected.

There has been 1 housebreaking incident with entry obtained through a locked rear door.

The 5 reported vandalism acts included damage to property, glass windows smashed as a result of stone throwing and offensive language written in a communal close.

2 thefts of motor vehicles occurred in the Lochlibo Rd area

2 “sneak in thefts” occurred one where gardening work was offered and thief entered property, the other was entry through an unlocked door.

2. Wardens

No wardens present

3. Community Council Issues

Data Protection

Further to previous discussion the Sec intimated that he and the Chair had attended a very informative meeting with a representative of the ICO organised by ERC.

The outcome of that was that it was clear we had to be registered with the ICO, not to do so was UNLAWFUL, and then we needed to comply with the terms of the Act.

The ICO confirmed that he felt the proposal that Neilston Community Council had put to ERC would enable us to comply with the Act.

Elaine Grogan from ERC stated that this document had been passed to her boss for response.

The Sec indicated that he had submitted the registration forms to Alex Hewitson of ERC in 2014 for ERC to register us.

He further confirmed that he had submitted the forms again in May 2016 to the new Community Council Liaison Officer with a request to register Neilston Community Council and confirm this had been done before the AGM to enable us to move forward lawfully.

This was restated to ERC at the meeting with the ICO.

To date we have had no response from any of our 3 requests for registration.

It was unanimously agreed that we write to ERC and ensure they are clear that East Renfrewshire Council are causing Neilston Community Council to act unlawfully and carry on operating since too much time has been taken up with this simple process.

Proposed Park & Ride Charges – Kingston Rd

A paper outlining the issues with the ERC proposal had been circulated and information posted on the Community Council webpages and Facebook.

A summary paper (attached) was circulated to members.

There was a discussion regarding the issues and the Community Council were opposed to the proposals.

Cllr Buchanan stated that the decision by ERC to proceed to introduce the Traffic Regulation Order was only to enable the Council to put the charges in place if they needed to.

It was not a decision to actually introduce charges: that needed to be reviewed at a later, date once the enabling TRO were in place.

The selection and omission of various car parks was discussed as well as costs and charges.

Cllr Buchanan was asked on his views of charging in the Kingston Rd Park & Ride. Cllr Buchanan indicated that he would not be in favour of the charges applying there at present.

A letter from ERC was produced by a member requesting details of the £200,000 p.a. revenue. from Park & Ride car parks. The letter said simply it was a "guestimate". No details or explanation was provided.

Boundary Changes

The proposed changes to the Ward Boundaries and the Councillor Numbers were discussed and it was agreed that the Community Council could not support these. It was agreed that the Community Council would write to the Scottish Government expressing their objection.

Public Representation in Planning

No update has been received from ERC on this, however since the Council are actively supporting the digital age it seems a retrograde step to revert to paper copies in one location.

4. Project updates

Dog Fouling

Work in ongoing to update our proposals but we need to review that with Community Safety and others.in the near future.

Kirkstyle Lane – raised Beds

The grass has been cut by the Parks Dept. and they will look after them in the future and the Community Council should seek local groups to become involved with bulb planting etc.

The notice boards need to be updated and repaired which could involve the local schools and the Parks Department have offered bulbs again which could be planted with school involvement> This does need someone to organise it.

Kingston Park

Trees

Completed but there is some additional damage to trees. There some spare trees in the contractor's nursery which could be installed later. The Entrust auditors will be looking at the project in a visit to NDT in the next few weeks. There are some maintenance funds remaining in the project which might include planting some of the replacement trees and replacing ties.

Skate Park

Work ongoing with CAG, ERC and others.

J Scott is putting together estimates for the project and equipment. A Walker is progressing the WREN application.

Because the land is owned by ERC and not rented to anyone only ERC can submit a WREN application. ERC Environment Dept. has agreed in principle to look at the Council submitting a WREN application in order to potentially secure funds from this source.

We will look at matched funding from other sources such as Whitelee etc.

There was some discussion regarding the structure and management of the project, this potentially being now an ERC project with involvement from NCC and NDT as well as other community organisations.

It was agreed that we should publicise the intention of the project again. The Skate Park was well advertised and consulted upon in the Charrette and SPG as well as separately by ERC Young Persons services, however since we are moving forward into a new phase additional consultation and communication might be appropriate.

5. CAG

The last CAG meeting was focussed on the detail and funding of the Kingston Park Skate Park & Ride Charges

6.. Planning

The issue of bonds for the restoration of land at the end of life of windfarms was raised in particular to the similar situation raised in North Ayrshire.

ERC did not have a consistent policy for this and a number of existing windfarm installations had no restoration bonds never mind adequate ones.

It was not clear which windfarms and single turbines had such a bond.

A W indicated that the Neilston Community Windfarm had such a bond in place and it had been expensive.

ERC were reported as looking at this and addressing it via SPG.

6. Minutes

The minutes for the May meeting having been circulated were amended with a correction to the name of the Treasurer as Elizabeth Mould from Elizabeth Junner. The amended minutes were proposed by R Junner and seconded by Elizabeth Mould. The minutes were approved.

The minutes from the April meeting, having been omitted from the May meeting were proposed by A Walker and seconded by Elizabeth Mould.

The April minutes were approved.

7. Treasures Report

The Treasurer raised the issue of the problems with the transfer of signatories in regards to the Clydesdale Bank Account.

The NCC accounts for last year have now been signed off and submitted to ERC.

6. AOCB

A. Neilston Parish Church Graveyard

An issue was raised with regards to the maintenance of the grass in the Graveyard at Neilston Parish Church.

This is looked after by ERC in terms of grass cutting.

It was agreed that we would take this up with the Council.

B. Plant material left in Kirkstyle Lane

There was an issue with plant material being left in Kirkstyle Lane.

This was from the members of NCC clearing the beds of weeds and in agreement with ERC it was left for the Council Environment Dept. to pick up on their normal work schedule.

C. Faulty Street Lights

The issue of faulty street lighting in the vicinity of the library car park was raised. This has been reported through the normal channels but no action has been taken.

D. Grounds of empty property in Duncarnnock

The condition of the empty property in Duncarnnock which was raised previously and rectified has been raised again since the condition of the grounds has deteriorated.

E. Litter Bins

There was a general issue of the placement of litter bins in Neilston> it was felt that there should be more in Main St/Kingston Rd since there are none between Station Rd and Glen Shea Rd.

The initial response was perhaps 2 bins in Kingston Rd, one in the vicinity of Craig Rd and perhaps one close to Kingston Park entrance or the Kingston Park & Ride.

Other residents had requested bins before and no action had apparently been taken. It was agreed that the Community Council would look at the situation, canvas option and make a request to East Renfrewshire Council for review and provision.

F. Sykes Terrace.

The issue of the land in the vicinity of Sykes Terrace was raised, after a proposal by residents that they take over the maintenance, improvement and security of the area and in agreement with the Council, under a lease., ERC legal department have finally come back to the residents after nearly 10 months with a new proposed "licence" for 1 year without discussion.

That means that the residents have to undertake a long term improvement plan under a short term lease.

This is commercially unsuitable and show little understanding by the Council of practicalities or residents aspirations or responsibilities.

Cllr Buchan agreed to look into the matter.

Attachment to Minutes

Summary of Park & Ride Charges Issues

There has been a lot of information provided on this subject particularly in relation to the Neilston, Kingston Rd, Park & Ride. This document attempts to summarise the issues

1. We believe there is no issue with congestion in Kingston Rd Park & Ride



2. The selection of Neilston is flawed given the selection process and the process itself is potentially flawed
3. The proposal has not been given careful consideration as per Government, Transport Scotland and other experts recommendations

Summary of balance of effects on Neilston Park & Ride Charges

Potentially approx. £16.5K p.a. Increase in costs for Neilston travellers currently using Kingston Rd Park & Ride

£200,000 p.a. Increased revenue from ALL affected ERC Park & Ride Car Parks

Increased ERC revenue in times of budget cuts

Voted for by democratically elected representatives

This is a summary of the report produced for Neilston Community Council it is not their policy and the summary needs to be read in the context of the report

3 times in ERC proposal for £500 p.a. increase in every users travel cost hardly sufficient justification

- Selection process undefined and likely flawed
- Increased cost to working families & Students in Rural Area
- Not general Scottish Government Policy (Architect: MSP)
- Against ERC stated LTS policy (Minister of Environment)
- Park & Ride access supported in SPT/ERC TOR Report
- Reduction in Public Rail Travel with increase in charges (Transport Scotland)
- Safety of children in School area due to increased displacement parking
- Increased journey times and congestion (ERC Members)
- Increased pollution/Climate Change
- Overall economic benefit unlikely
- Not in line with logic of planning consent
- Increased Displacement Parking
- Potential decrease in usage (Arg.)
- Scotrail car parks Free outside cities
- In Budget first than proposal?
- Does not align with consultants findings (Arg.)

4. The potential revenue £200,000 p.a. has been “guesstimated” – ERC explanation

5. Cost to working families potentially £500 p.a. – potentially £20,000+ p.a. out of Neilston economy

6. If the occupancy and displacement parking issue is considered then the “excess” of revenue over cost may be a deficit

	Projected Revenue				
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	4 year Total
Costs					
Capital	£155,000.00	£116,000.00	£91,000.00	£91,000.00	£453,000.00
Running		£70,000.00	£70,000.00	£70,000.00	£210,000.00
Total	£155,000.00	£186,000.00	£161,000.00	£161,000.00	£663,000.00
Revenue	£0.00	£200,000.00	£200,000.00	£200,000.00	£600,000.00
Excess	-£155,000.00	£14,000.00	£39,000.00	£39,000.00	-£63,000.00
Revenue	£0.00	£170,000.00	£170,000.00	£170,000.00	£510,000.00
Excess	-£155,000.00	-£16,000.00	£9,000.00	£9,000.00	-£153,000.00

7. Will increase displacement parking and congestion in Neilston



This is a summary for all the information please read the full report and visit the Neilston Community Council website and Facebook pages