

Neilston Community Council

Notes from the meeting of Tuesday 28 November 2023

In attendance

Janice Connery (Vice Chair), Margaret Pettigrew, Malcolm Briggs, Margaret Currie, Julie Cloherty, Councillor Buchanan, Kenny McKenzie, Raymond Kerr, Gail Squires (minutes)

Visitors: Marie Kane (Headteacher St.Thomas's Primary), Gerard Curley (Headteacher Neilston Primary), Kerry Cameron (ERC Comm Learning & Development), PC Fisher and PC Diamond.

Apologies: Ronnie Junner (Chair), Colin McLeish (Treasurer), Councillor O'Donnell.

1. Welcome

Janice chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2. Parking /Yellow Lines

Around Neilston Primary

- Lines are all in place. Signage is still to be installed.
- There was discussion around the double v single lines, the relative legislation and the advice received from ERC Environment Dept and ERC Community Safety.
- The understanding is that single yellows require a plate to explain the specific restrictions; double yellows need no signage as they indicate no parking at any time. However, local byelaws can differ.
- It was felt that further clarification was required on the enforcement of the restrictions and Cllr Buchanan agreed to liaise with Roads and confirm **(a)** detail of the specific restrictions and **(b)** when the signage would be installed. NCC requested that this be addressed prior to the Christmas holidays if possible. **[Action: Cllr Buchanan]**
- The Headteachers confirmed that the issues are highlighted regularly with parents, such as in their newsletters, and by the presence of the Head or Deputy Head at the NPS gates at the start and end of every school day. This can be problematic and sometimes they suffer abuse as a result, which it was agreed is completely unacceptable behaviour.
- Cllr Buchanan will liaise with Education and Roads to collaborate on a joint letter to parents to highlight the issues. **[Action: Cllr Buchanan]**
- It was highlighted that there are no double yellows opposite Robb's Garage where they are badly needed. Cllr Buchanan agreed to enquire about this. **[Action: Cllr Buchanan]**
- The use of plastic kerbing during the works was discussed as much of it is broken and it can be slippery and dangerous. Cllr Buchanan confirmed that it would be the joint responsibility of the contractor and ERC to reinstate the proper kerbing once the work is completed.
- The damage by parked vehicles to Kirkstyle Lane will also be corrected when the work is completed.
- It was noted that Heron Brothers have been very co-operative when approached by the school and others and have contributed to community projects.

Dundonald Road/Station Road

- The designated parking at these locations is causing a lot of problems with access and visibility. Cllr Buchanan will include this issue when speaking to Roads. **[Action: Cllr Buchanan]**

Pavement Parking Ban

There was discussion about the challenges that will come with imposing the ban. A lot of work will be needed to address traffic flow issues, such as one-way traffic systems etc. Start dates will differ between local authorities.

3. Police Report

- The officers who attended reported that there had been little activity in the area in November.
- They will ensure a copy of this month's report is emailed over and subsequent reports emailed in advance of meetings.
- They requested that any incidents or issues are reported to them on 101
- They confirmed that the CCTV system in Neilston is active
- They would be happy to provide a short presentation on dealing with fraud.

4. **Primary School Headteachers** were in attendance in response to an invitation from NCC to discuss the safety issues in connection with parking during the building work. They informed the meeting:
- The biggest concern is that some parents are pausing in the flow of traffic to drop off children. There has been hostility directed at school staff when asked not to do this and there seems to be little concern with the dangers to their children while it is the major concern for the school.
 - The double yellows have had a significant impact already
 - It had also been observed that the wardens who do attend do not engage with the members of the community, drivers, parents etc at all. Their potential as a deterrent and raising awareness is therefore being squandered. This will be feedback to the ERC Community Safety Coordinator. **[Action: Gail]**
 - There will be parking within the new school grounds but this will solely be for staff and for dropping off children for the nursery.

5. **Kerry Cameron**

Kerry updated on the locality planning events in the summer (Neilston Get Togethers) and provided copies of the community priorities. A steering group has been established and members of NCC are welcome to attend.

As discussed at a previous meeting. NCC confirmed that it was not in a position currently to act as banker for other organisations. Raymond will look into Neilston Men's Club providing this service for the youth club. It was agreed that a list of organisations willing to provide this service would be useful. **[Action: Raymond]**

6. **Matters Arising**

- *The Boys Brigade* have confirmed they will purchase a trophy for the next quiz night.
- *Visiting the new school hub*: the headteachers confirmed information on this will be coming from Education in the next couple of weeks.
- *List of members contact details*: completed
- *Electronic noticeboard*: ERC have indicated that they are not able to re-site the noticeboard just now and that they will look at adjusting the speed the messages rotate at. It was also noted that it is currently blank and Cllr Buchanan volunteered to check this out. **[Action: Cllr Buchanan]**
- *NCC social media*: it was agreed to set up a Facebook page as a first step. Malcom will look into this, and the rules and questions for joining the page will be established at a subsequent meeting. **[Action: Malcom]**
- *Abandoned road signs, specifically those left behind after works have been completed*: there are various instances of this around the village and some are potentially dangerous. Cllr Buchanan will liaise with Roads to remove those that are the responsibility of ERC, however he stated this won't necessarily apply to all abandoned signs. **[Action: Cllr Buchanan]**

7. **Dareduff Quarry**

There is no further information on any of the previously raised issues and Cllr Buchanan is not aware of any payments being made to the councils concerned.

8. **Treasurer's report**

Colin was unable to attend but had reported that there had been no activity this month to date.

9. **AOCB**

- **NCC Email**: agreed to look at a protocol for clearing out old/junk mail at next meeting.
- Margaret Pettigrew and Malcolm met with the NDT Project Manager earlier in the year. Agreed that some forward planning to connect with them more collaboratively was needed. To this end, it was agreed that NDT would be invited to attend a future meeting and give a short presentation on their forward plans. **[Action: Gail]**
- **East Renfrewshire Equalities Forum** had sent an invitation to NCC to attend one of their open meetings. Gail agreed to attend the 2 December meeting at Clarkston Library. **[Action: Gail]**
- **Survey on Play Spaces** – Received from Mark Brand, Development & Planning. It was agreed to complete this on behalf of NCC. **[Action: Margaret Pettigrew]**

10. Local Development Plan

An update on this had been requested and Cllr Buchanan confirmed that this would be a long process and was currently at the very early stages with criteria and expectations still to be agreed.

11. Next meeting: Tuesday 30 January.