

MINUTES OF MEETING OF NORTH KELVIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

5 NOVEMBER 2024, 6.30 pm, COMMUNITY CENTRAL HALL

In attendance Christine Alison (CA), Elaine Doherty (ED), Rowena Statt (RS), Patricia Grant, Louise MacKenzie, Frank Shennan (FS), Merle Read (MR), Andrea Fisher (AF, associate)

Councillors Ken Andrew (KA) and Martha Wardrop (MW)

Residents T. Rae, J. Shephard, A. Fairfull, C. McEleney, M. Small

Apologies – Alasdair MacDonald (AM), David Conway, Douglas Peacock, Joyce Khatri, Stuart Wallace, Cllr Seona Hoy (SH), Police Scotland

1. ELECTION OF MINUTE SECRETARY FOR THIS MEETING

MR elected. The importance of the minutes was noted, as our grant depends in part on their being submitted to GCC.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Correction to a surname noted.

3. POLICE REPORT

The police were unable to attend as the meeting coincided with Bonfire Night. They apologised for not sending the monthly report [see Appendix] in time for the meeting.

4. FOLLOW-UP ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed increased parking permit charges: our objection was submitted. **MR to put it on the website.** The responses to the consultation will now be analysed. KA reported less interest in the increase in some nearby areas. Feeling running higher in NK possibly because the RPZ most recently introduced here. No date has yet been agreed. It is expected that the uneven operating hours of RPZs will be harmonised throughout the city (to match the 7 day operation in NK).

Points raised in the discussion included:

- concerns about the inadequacy of the GCC report justifying the charges – what is the evidence that increasing the charges will result in improved air quality?
- is this greenwashing?
- the LEZ has been effective in improving air quality – should it be extended?
- we lack infrastructure for electric vehicle charging
- more transparency from GCC would help us ‘buy in’ to Council policies

MW noted the consultation is part of the Traffic Regulation Order. The increases were agreed as part of the 2022/3 budget [<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/budget>] and had been intended to be introduced in Jan 2023. The proposals are in line with the city’s transport strategy. A report on the consultation will go to committee. Budget decisions are not usually consulted on.

A consultation on bringing in an RPZ to Kirklee is expected.

Air quality is poor on Yarrow Gardens due to vehicles revving at the top of the hill: how can we get air quality monitoring? Some residents are buying air purifiers. A traffic survey could be carried out (ideally not on a holiday!). Engine idling is a big problem. Police reinforcement would help.

We should revisit the rat run left open on Belmont St, but this would need to wait until the overdue RPZ review, for which we still have no date. A car-free zone around Glasgow Academy might help.

5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

The election is due to David Conway's resignation. We now have 2 vacancies. Because some community councillors were absent, a decision on the new vice chair was postponed to the January meeting.

David was thanked in his absence for his helpful and constructive commitment to NKCC over the years. He will be missed!

6. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

KA: following the Hillhead Area Partnership meeting, hopeful that QM Road will be opened up to traffic possibly by the end of the year, after Scottish Water works finished. New gullies at Kelvinside Terrace South to prevent flooding. Planters on QM Rd. The opening up is a temporary year-long pilot.

RS to follow up with Alex Gavin re drainage.

MW thanked everyone for their persistence. An example of community engagement and what can be achieved if NKCC/residents/councillors/Council work together.

KA will check with Scottish Water about their plans for resident access during the works.

MW: it would be worth agreeing how the outcome of the project will be measured and what constitutes a success for the different groups involved.

Other issues:

- Urgent repairs to the Sixty Steps retaining wall were expected to be announced in the October budget. **RS to follow up with Sinclair Smith.**
- A resident had reported to us that a bin at the old Boots corner on QMD was blocking drivers' line of sight coming out Fergus Drive [councillors took this up and the bin has now been moved].
- Dangerous speeds noted (again) on QMDr and Maryhill Rd. Could we have a banner on the railings reminding drivers to slow down in a residential area? Or a radar speed sign with a smiley face?
- Long-term the plan is to have a cycle lane on QMD, but not expected before Byres Rd is finished.
- Request for Doune Gardens/Quad to be cleared of leaves. **MW to pursue leaf clearing at foot of Sixty Steps**
- Follow-up on digital support: MW and SH had had a meeting with the Council, focusing on help with Universal Credit and dealing with Ringo. A report will go to the Well-being Committee.
- KA thanked for persevering with street lighting at Kelvinbridge

SH unable to attend but reported having asked to see an Equality Impact Assessment of the proposal to raise parking charges. She has received a number of concerns about GlasGLOW, particularly around parking enforcement, and has passed these to Council officers.

7. UPDATE ON CLOSURE OF KELVINSIDE TERRACE SOUTH/QUEEN MARGARET ROAD

Included under point 6.

8. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

No new information. Parking is still by far the most visited page of the website.

9. HOUSE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY (HMO) LICENSING REPORT

Two renewals of existing licences. One on Clouston St was 10 occupants for 6 rooms.

We rely on residents making objections if there are issues. **FS to draw up a guide to making representations.** There is a feeling our concerns aren't listened to. If the HMO is deemed to be operating safely there won't be grounds for withdrawal of a licence. There is a code of conduct for landlords re leaks, repairs, ensuring neighbours have contact no. Maximum fine for a landlord is £1500. There is a fire safety audit done for renewals.

It was suggested we could have a meeting with the HMO unit. **MW to try to get more info.**

10. COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP – DATE AND LOCATION

Our next is on 24th Nov. Meet at the noticeboard on QMD at 10.30 for leaf-clearing on QM Rd etc.

ED was thanked for her perseverance with the clean-ups despite occasionally disappointing turn-out.

Recent FORK clean-up produced 25 bags of rubbish. Doune Gardens Residents Association clean-up on 9 Nov.

11. SCHOOL ACTIVITIES – BULB PLANTING

AF reported 3 successful walks to the Botanics with pupils from Dunard, St Charles & NK primary schools.

We have a list of bulbs to be bought. Planting will take place post-GlasGLOW on 27 Nov, 4 Dec, and 11 Dec with pupils from Dunard, St Charles & NK primary schools, respectively.

Volunteers should meet at 1pm at the school on the day.

12. PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT

The decking at Cafe Ibiza is still under consideration. A planning application has been made to turn the hostel on QMD back into flats.

13. AOB

1. We are considering changing bank account because of forthcoming introduction of charges to existing Bank of Scotland account. Royal Bank of Scotland was raised as a possibility for free banking. A Virgin Media account would be free for the first 26 months. Credit unions are not suitable.

2. Christmas night out proposed for 4 December. **MR to circulate email** with the venue options and to seek numbers interested.
3. Next meeting to be held online.
4. The fire path and election of Hillhead Area Partnership substitute representative to be added to the next meeting agenda. CA & AM had submitted plans for the fire path as part of the City Development Plan consultation.
5. Clarification that the role of the community council isn't to challenge councillors, who are not required to attend our meetings. Our role is to seek community views and relay them to the Council. [GCC: "The general purpose of a Community Council is to ascertain, co-ordinate and express the wider views of the entire community within its agreed boundaries."]

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 7 JANUARY 2024

[Appendix: Police report for 02/10/2024 – 05/11/2024](#)

Recorded crime has increased on what was recorded last month.

Housebreaking crimes – No crimes recorded this month - Decrease on last month.

Theft of Motor vehicle – Decrease on last month.

Theft of M/v - Hotspur Street – Ford Fiesta stolen by unknown means.

Theft of M/v– Botanic Crescent – Jaguar Motor vehicle stolen by unknown means. Vehicle has keyless entry – possibly 'Relay theft'

Theft pedal cycle – No crimes recorded this month – Second month in a row.

Misuse Drugs Act crimes – Decrease on last month.

(Possession charges)

Road Traffic Crimes – Increase on last month.

(Offences included Fail to stop / report after an accident, Drive with no insurance, No MOT, Red light offences, Fail to comply with no left turn, Drive with provisional licence, Drive in bus lane, Careless driving and park on the controlled area of pedestrian crossing).

Crimes of Violence - Increase on last month.

(Assaults)

Crimes of Dishonesty (Theft / Fraud /Forgery) - Increase on last month.

(Offences included Theft by Shoplifting, Attempted Extortion, Fraud, Theft from a motor vehicle, Attempt theft by opening lockfast place, Theft and intended theft)

Vandalism – Increase on last month.

(Damage to garden furniture, rear passenger window of M/v, Damage to front door of dwelling and damage to a M/v – panels scratched by key or similar)

Breach of the Peace - Increase on last month.

Crimes of Note

Increase in the number of offences involving offensive weapons.

Trends

None identified.