

North Kelvin Community Council business meeting  
Tuesday 4 February 2025, Community Central Hall, Maryhill Road

**Present**

Christine Alison  
Louise MacKenzie  
Joyce Khatri  
Patricia Grant  
Elaine Doherty  
Merle Read  
Frank Shennan  
Andrea Fisher

Cllr Marie Garrity  
Cllr Ken Andrew  
Cllr Seonad Hoy  
PC Dornan  
PC Haxton  
Eszter Tárnai  
Tom Rae

**Apologies**

Douglas Peacock  
Rowena Statt  
Stuart Wallace  
Baillie Martha Wardrop

1. Christine elected minute secretary. Cllr Garrity was welcomed to her first NKCC meeting.
2. Approval of minutes of last meeting
3. Police report.
  - Housebreaking via front door by smashing glass (high)
  - Theft of motor vehicle, 5 (high); 3 instances by true key; 2 keys copied
  - Theft of bicycle, 1
  - Crimes of violence, 5 (2 random)
  - Dishonesty, 1 (theft from a motor vehicle)
  - Vandalism, 2 (Queen Margaret Dr shop windows smashed by a man with the purpose of being arrested)
  - Breach of the peace, 0

A suspect has been arrested for housebreaking. Police think properties are being watched for opportunity to break in. [Merle joined the meeting and took up the minuting.]

Police recommend use of Ring doorbell or similar to monitor what's happening at your front door, as these are a real deterrent. Some of them activate a light when motion is detected.

Usual advice: keep doors locked; keep car keys away from front door and use a Faraday pouch to stop car key signal being picked up.

Members reported:

- (1) Irresponsible driving at pick-up/drop-off times yet again near Glasgow Academy. Pedestrians being forced off pavements. Parents don't respond to contact from head teacher.
- (2) A homeless man has been overturning all the bins on Doune Gardens Lane, looking for food. This is happening regularly and leaves residents to clear up rubbish; rats are already a problem in the area.
- (3) Just Eat/Deliveroo and off-road bikes are a regular hazard on the canal path and elsewhere, especially at night as they often have no lights on. Boosters on the bikes are being used, pushing speeds well above the maximum.

Police response: they treat boosted bikes as motor vehicles and can book them for eg having no insurance. Police will be using an action plan to tackle the issue. They have been trained on spotting boosters, which can be as small as a button on the handle bars. They use plain clothes operations at the canal.

Police advice is not to hesitate to use the Contact Us form on the Police Scotland website [<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>], if an urgent response isn't required. It saves being kept on hold if you dial 101 and is a good way of reporting community issues that the police should be aware of. You can make a report anonymously and don't have to give your address. [Police left the meeting.]

4. Follow-up on last meeting. Alasdair had attended Ruchill CC. Members/residents are encouraged to join in the monthly volunteering events in Ruchill park (12 to 3pm, 2nd Sunday of the month).
5. Councillors' reports. Cllr Garrity was only elected in November and is just getting started. She will be holding a joint surgery with Martin Rhodes MP.

Cllr Andrew reported:

- Call for volunteers at the Claypits. They have managed to get Lottery funding.
- He is setting up a meeting with the Council arborist following the damage to trees in the area in the recent storm.
- Constituents have been asking for Colebrooke place to be made a car-free zone at school dropping-off/collection times. Police are less keen because they don't have the resources to properly police existing zones.
- Pavement parking will be looked at.
- 20mph zones are going to be looked at across the city.
- Scottish Water sewage works on Kelvinside Terrace South have been postponed.

- The current RPZ review won't deal with timings, just bays and other practical issues. Deadline: 15 March. Cllr Andrew to resend email on this. We had not received direct notification from the Council.
- He attended a meeting on HMOs, where it was discovered that building warrants are not checked in cases where eg a wall has been taken down – will follow this up.

A member reported fly-tipping on Yarrow Gardens Lane. As this is a private lane the Council is not obliged to deal with it. If residents see fly-tipping in action they are advised to discreetly take a photo of the number plate (but to avoid confrontation), as the Council will pursue offenders. In other instances residents' associations have paid for rubbish to be collected.

Cllr Hoy reported:

- She and Bailie Wardrop have arranged a walkabout on Kelvinside Terrace South with Scottish Water, 10am, 5 March 2025. Members are invited to attend.
  - She and Bailie Wardrop are having a meeting about the RPZ review: many responses for officers to go through.
  - Re the hostel reopening on Wilton St, Council officers have been invited to attend the next NKCC meeting. Ideally the community should have been informed beforehand about the reopening.
6. Glasgow 850. Members were invited to set up a subgroup to see what we can do – some sort of display? Involvement with QMD Festival in June? Rowena has materials. Andrea has been in touch with the primary schools. North Kelvinside Primary School is planning something and the Children's Wood may get involved. Could we help out? Piggy-back on it? The Children's Wood will do something either at their special spring or autumn events. So far volunteers for the group are Alasdair, Trish, Andrea and Rowena.
  7. Communications report. Most popular page on the website is Parking, as usual, followed by Recycling, Planning applications and the Calendar. Merle apologises for the delay in sending out the newsletter and aims to send it later this month. Information on grit bins and other advice for icy weather is now on the website.

We have had a Twitter account for some years but have rarely used it recently. It was useful for quickly circulating Council info and other short-term items of interest, but we agreed to stop using it as it's become a fairly nasty social media space. [Following the meeting a Bluesky account @northkelvincc.bsky.social was set up to replace the Twitter account]

8. Hillhead Area Partnership report. Alasdair had attended in Louise's absence. Cllr Andrew reported on the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Improvement Fund which allocated £1m to each city ward. Our ward allocation has been almost entirely spent (£113,000 left; must be spent by March 2027; most likely to be spent on Woodside, the poorest part of the ward). It

is the 100th birthday of both the Community Central Hall and Woodside Halls this year, so perhaps something will be spent in that area.

9. HMO licensing report. A renewal has come up for a 4 roomed flat, 4 occupants, at 3/1, 47 Wilton St. There is a consultation about gambling policy. Closing date 7 March.
10. Next clean-up on 23 February. Suggestions for location included Ruchill Park, Maryhill Rd near the garden beside Munn's, Oban Drive/Fire Station, Oban Lane. Things are particularly messy following the storm. Elaine will let us know which is chosen for Feb.
11. Planning. The Café Ibiza retrospective application for decking out the back has been refused. They will have to go to the Reporter if they want to appeal. The Planning Committee found no mitigating circumstances and this is now an enforcement issue.
12. AOB. It was noted Glasgow Academy has taken over the church on Belmont St where we used to meet. Our next meeting will be held at the Community Central Hall on Tuesday 4 March 2025.