

Ibrox and Cessnock Community Council

Minutes of meeting on **Wednesday July 20th** 2016 at 7pm at Kinning Perk

In attendance: Bill Copleton, John Cork, Shona Craven, John Foster, Chris Fyfe, Iain Henderson, Archie and Anne Henderson, Mark Hughes, David Jones, John Kane, Martyn McIntyre (advisor to MSP Adam Tomkins), John McKinstry, Margaret Prunty, Grace Smith, Bailie Fariha Thomas

Apologies: James Adams, Stephen Dornan

Chairman **John Foster** opened the meeting and the previous month's minutes were approved with minor corrections.

Retiring member **Bill Copleton** was formerly thanked for his contribution during many years of dedicated service to the community council and presented with a card and thank-you gift.

John provided an update on the Summer Sessions in Bellahouston Park. A meeting of consultation was due to take place at the Palace of Arts on Tuesday, July 26th at 6pm. **Chris Fyfe** and **Grace Smith** indicated they would try to attend.

The Stalled Spaces project was discussed. The deadline is August 1st but it was suggested the community council could try to identify suitable spaces for the next round of founding. A stalled space is a “gap” site, generally private land, where development work has stalled, ie due to the recession. The possibility was raised that a large, tiered flower planter (as seen in the area during the Commonwealth Games) could fill a gap site such as a gable end at Merrick Gardens/Edmiston Drive. Bailie Thomas advised there was one of these remaining but transport would need to be arranged.

It was reported that Dr Wilson's state at Edmiston Drive had been reinstated after repairs. It was noted that there are a number of “Pokestops” in the area and that this may provide an opportunity to increase awareness of local heritage sites.

There was discussion of possible event-day parking measures being introduced, similar to the systems in operation at Hampden and Scotstoun. Residents would have permits that only became essential on match days. However, there would be enforcement costs and football clubs are required to “buy in” to make such schemes work. The possibility of marked parking bays was raised but it was pointed out that there is scope for fewer cars to park where these are in operation.

Correspondence was received from The Rangers Foundation, who are seeking to learn more about what we do and how they can provide support. It was noted the foundation has recently expanded its remit, and has strong links with other local organisations and businesses. It is currently running a football summer school for the holidays.

An update was provided on some of the crumbling tenement buildings in the area including at the corner of Langshot Street and Paisley Road West and on Ibrox and Elizabeth Streets. Bailie Thomas advised that a deadline was approaching regarding the first of these and that there would need to be a decision soon, ie the building coming down or compulsory purchase. Due to the corner location of the damaged flats demolition would not be a good option. Glasgow City Council is working on the Ibrox Street property after owners failed to co-operate to organise their own repairs. Regarding the building flagged up last month as presenting a security risk, it transpired there had still been a family living there. However, they have now been rehoused and it has been boarded up.

There was discussion about the need for factors for tenement buildings that are currently without them. Housing associations are keen to become factors for buildings where they have flats, however a vote is required and the majority needed varies depending on what the title deeds say.

It was reported that the Subway modernisation work was running to schedule albeit with concerns raised by residents of Walmer Crescent and some problems with the replacement bus service (including services not running every 10 minutes and some drivers seeming confused about their routes).

Margaret Prunty raised concerns about the area's rat problem, and **Bailie Thomas** and **John Kane** outlined some of the problems in tackling this and explained the need for long-term, co-ordinated action involving both cleansing and environmental health. Environmental health will reported persist problems with landlord-owned properties – however, it was noted the council has limited powers over private landlords. Bailie bins have been placed at the front of tenements on Paisley Road West to avoid dumping at the rear while the rat problem is tackled. However, as predicted the bailie bins have attracted further dumping at the front. Bailie Thomas suggested the forthcoming introduction of food recycling bins could potentially help reduce the rat problem if the bins are used correctly.

Deputy chairman **Mark Hughes** provided an update on the new Clyde Community Hall, advising that it was likely to open in September after hand-over of the keys in August. It is hoped that a tour of the venue will be possible following next month's meeting. The hall committee may appeal to local residents in the coming weeks for help with gardening/weeding work.

There were no updates on the Ibroxholm or Skene Road planning applications as the planning committee was in recess. The new ATM on Paisley Road West has received approval. There have been developments at the site of the new guest house, including the erection of a wooden fence at the rear. It was noted that the conditions of planning permission for this business were fairly detailed and therefore any possible breaches may be reported.

Resident **Archie Henderson** raised the matter of riverside access at Springfield Quay. There are two issues here – access to the core path alongside Mavisbank Gardens, and the collapsed quay wall, which is unsafe. There are longstanding disagreements about whether the path constitutes part of the private gardens of Mavisbank residents or a public thoroughfare, but for now it is not possible to walk all the way along due to the collapsed section.

The meeting closed at 9pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 17 at Kinning Perk Cafe.