

Ibrox and Cessnock Community Council

Draft minutes of meeting on **Wednesday March 16th** at 7pm at Kinning Perk

In attendance: Margaret Barclay, Paul Chambers, John Cork, Shona Craven, Stephen Dornan, Jessica Galloway, Iain Henderson, Mark Hughes, John Kane, John McKinstry, Margaret Prunty, Yvonne Reilly, Elaine Sherwood, Bailie Fariha Thomas, Lee Wason

Apologies: James Adams, John Foster, Ray Prunty, Grace Smith

Vice-chairman **Mark Hughes** opened the meeting and took on chairing duties, as chairman John Foster was on holiday. He introduced **Elaine Sherwood** and **Lee Wason** of Police Scotland, who provided an update on recent crime in the area. They reported there had been 20 reported crimes in February, nine of which had been detected. This is down 50% on the same month last year. The crimes included car and home break-ins (the main concern for the local police), misuse of drugs and road traffic offences. Many of the traffic offences recorded in the area are committed on the M74 motorway as opposed to local streets. The housebreakings and car thefts do not appear to follow any pattern and are therefore believed to be opportunistic rather than planned/organised. There is a rise in such offences on match days. As of the date of our meeting nine offences had been recorded for March, with three detected, also reflecting a downward trend.

PC Wason assured residents that the recent alleged murder in Elizabeth Street was an isolated domestic incident and that a suspect had been arrested at the scene and remanded in custody. Therefore there was no risk to the general public. **Shona Craven** sought clarification about the statistics given the low numbers of reported offences and it was clarified that these statistics referred to crimes “reported and established” - therefore would not cover lower-level antisocial offences such as those regularly raised at our meetings (ie public drinking/urination in gardens on match days). The police advised that nine times out of 10 these result in a fixed-penalty notice. Statistics on the number of such offences reported and the number of fines issued was requested, and the officers advised that they would request these.

Mark addressed correspondence received in relation to the DigiCC workshops, the Summer Sessions concert series in Bellahouston Park, Thriving Places and the Subway modernisation. Craigton is the only community council that can formally object to the concerts due to their location, however we can liaise with them to raise concerns. There was discussion around looking at feedback from last year's events in a bid to minimise negative impact on our area. A representative from SPT is due to attend our next meeting to talk about the Subway modernisation.

Fariha Thomas gave an update on the restoration of the Dr Wilson Memorial Fountain. The damage was significant, so it is important for it to be made safe. The community council will be kept up-to-date on progress and liaise with Ibrox Primary, who are planning related project work. There was also a discussion about the city budget and the use of reserves to mitigate against cuts to services.

Treasurer **John McKinstry** provided an update on the process of transferring the community council's bank account, **Iain Henderson** gave his report from the most recent community council discussion forum, and **Mark** advised that Craigton and Drumoyne community councils were up and running, and Govan East was in the process of being re-established. **Mark** is now the community council rep for the South Sector Partnership, with Mary from Craigton as his deputy.

Yvonne Reilly from Glasgow City Council provided an update on Thriving Places, which will link up groups to work together and involve a Community Co-ordinator being in post for three years. Yvonne assured us she would provide regular updates. She also outlined the details of a community budgeting pilot project, which has £10,000 to disburse. There was discussion about whether the

community council was in a position to apply for a grant for any of the projects listed as potential strategic priorities for 2016, however the timescales were very tight. There was to be a meeting on April 5th, the deadline for applications was April 8th and the community voting was to take place on April 18th, a Tuesday afternoon when many residents would be unavailable.

Members discussed inviting our two local MPs to discuss the UK Government's contract with housing agents Orchard & Shipman, who are responsible for providing housing for asylum seekers. It was suggested a one-off meeting could be arranged in conjunction with the other community councils, touching on this and other matters reserved to Westminster.

Mark provided an update on the new Clyde Community Hall (formerly Whitefield Road Hall). The application for SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) status has been successful and the hall is on schedule for a summer opening. There possibility of holding a one-off community council meeting to trial the new space was mentioned.

Updates were provided on the Skene Road and Ibroxholm Oval planning applications. It is hoped both of these will go to the committee stage – five objections to the former were lodged and while only one objection to the latter appeared to have been submitted, resident **Margaret Prunty** advised that she had gathered and submitted seven letters from Whitefield Road residents. The application for a digital poster board was refused because of the impact it would have had on residents directly overlooking it.

Cultural Services Officer **Paul Chambers** gave an update about the Artery project, referencing the “cultural village” model that has been established around the Glad Cafe in Shawlands. An open forum is planned for the end of April/beginning of May to work towards a more defined model. The aim is to bring art and cultural experiences to the corridor stretching from the “Angel to Elephant”, which may involve temporary installations.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm. The next meeting will take place at 7pm on Wednesday April 20th at Kinning Perk Cafe.