

Calton Community Council Public Meeting  
13th June 19:00  
Calton Heritage and Learning Centre

In attendance:

Community Council members: Tricia Fort (Chair) (TF), Charlie Kleboe-Rogers (CKR), Caitlin Longman (CL), Chloe Pimblett (CP), Laura Scott (Treasurer) (LS), Alasdair Finlayson (AF)  
Associate member: Derek Pearson (DP)

Police Scotland: Bob Anderson (Operations Planning Inspector) (BA), Craig Burns (PC), Nigel Thacker (Chief Inspector), ,

Elected Members: John Mason (MSP) (JM) Paul Sweeney (MSP) (PS),

Apologies: Bel Price (Secretary), Allan Scott (Community Councillor), John Paul Taylor (Celtic FC)

Members of the Public: 6 Members of the public (MOP) were in attendance.

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chair started the meeting and welcomed the room and those in attendance.

2. Notes of the last public Meeting April 11th

The Chair introduced and invited comment from the previous meeting's notes. CL Proposed the notes and George Rawlinson (MoP) Seconded.

3. Police Report

CB Provided an update to the CC.

- Summer Events in and around Glasgow Green, involved in planning. The Chair shared a TRNSMT leaflet to the room. CP noted there is an info event for TRNSMT locally.
- Other issues covers drugs issues, number of people arrested for such, crime prevention survey with a local factor Dyers Lane
- Small spate of building and vehicle thefts. Male has been charged with series of these.
- CC is encouraged to report suspicious persons.
- Uptake in youth disorder surrounding Glasgow Green; there has been increase patrols in this area as a result.
- Local resident raised on TRNSMT is going to be 4 nights, which is more than last year. This is due to a second concert being scheduled. It was confirmed that TRNSMT hasn't got more days scheduled this year from last.
- CL raised an issue on Bellgrove street last week with emergency services were in attendance.
- CKR raised the death of an individual at the bottom of Little Dovehill- unable to disclose the circumstances but the death is non suspicious.
- The chair raised an incident on the 6th of April with mass police in attendance. The PC stated that this was a police operation to deal with football fans causing distress in the area. There were no serious incidents at the time but some Fixed penalty notices were issued.

4. Football Celebrations

The Chair introduced this topic to the group and noted the mass coverage in the press, it was noted that JM MSP had raised this issue in Parliament and Alison Thewliss MP had raised the issue with various senior members of Police Scotland.

The chair furthered that Paul Sweeney MSP had placed an article in the Herald about the solution to the fans on the 18th of May.

The CCC noted their unresolved communication with GCC as there seems to be limited contact with them on this issue.

The chair noted that other cities in the UK take a proactive approach to football celebrations, remarking on Manchester and Liverpool's solution of an open top bus.

Nigel Thacker from PS introduced himself and his colleague BA who works in operations for events in the Calton Area. NT spoke of the planning that went into organising the presence of the PS at the events on the 18th of May. NT spoke to the event that had taken place for the fans of Celtic FC winning the League/Cup. Of the 25,000 attendants the vast majority of attendants behaved in an appropriate manner however there were small pockets of disorder specifically with pyrotechnics.

PS coordinated with the Scottish Fire and Rescue and the Ambulance Service to ensure cohesive planning, they also worked with the local police team to interact with businesses to assuage the issues they would face with the disruption on the day. PS also issues media statements to ensure people knew of the potential disruption to foot and vehicle traffic in the area.

There were 19 arrests on the day and they are investigating further. 4 of these were issued with Fixed Penalty Notices and the rest are working on progressing with Procurator Fiscal.

GCC had taken proactive measures to protect historic buildings. This looked like protective barriers on the doors on the tower at the Mercat Building and the Trongate Tower.

NT noted it is difficult to police that number of people at unofficial events. So the best they could do to create good police response was to work with other emergency services to coordinate response.

BA mentioned that PS are good at policing events but are not owners of the planning of events. Due to these celebrations being an informal arranged event there are no owners or coordinators of the event reducing the accountability

The chair noted that this is a repeat of last year and the notes provided by PS are essentially just a repeat of the notes from last year. The chair noted that there was disorder to unacceptable levels. The chair noted their disappointment in the apparent lack of progress in policing these events.

MSP JM noted that there could be a fan zone put in place but this is hard to manage as the winners are not usually certain until close to the celebration event.

PS Noted that there was a bus previously but it was deemed unsafe for the bus to progress through the public.

CP asks why the planning for the formal planning can't be undertaken, citing that this would reduce stress on local businesses and give the fans a dedicated place to celebrate, improving their experience of the event and enhancing the fans' experience while reducing public unease.

A MOP noted that the public know that the celebrations will be happening well in advance, as this has happened for the last 4 years. They also noted the disruption to local businesses and residents.

The chair asked for what actions can be taken to get things organised for the future.

MSP JM noted that the council made a statement that the GCC are keen to get formal planning off the ground but the two teams aren't able to come to the table to organise these events.

LS noted that there is a lot of underground planning involved in running these events and wonders why the requests of the residents from last year were not met. There was no police attendance until 13:30pm when the fans started to gather. Though the event was widely acknowledged to be happening on that date. CB from PS noted there was going to be a planning meeting that the GCC was going to form a planning group that never happened. LS mentioned that they feel that the views of the CCC were not listened to last year and is not being listened to now. LS noted that they don't feel safe in their flats and asked if there would be more proactive approach to the planning of these events. LS noted that they had phoned 999 because there was fireworks going off on their windows and the police were phoned and didn't attend.

The chair asked for a promise from elected members and the police and emergency services to work together to be proactive in their approach to the planning of the next year's event.

CL asked what the cost to the council was for the clean up in the event and asked for them to respective clubs to foot the bill to the clean up.

A MOP brought up the idea of the fanzones and organising them with the council. This could be a proactive solution to the current celebrations, and make it family friendly.

A MOP suggested that the CCC could keep a standard agenda item for the planning of this event throughout the year so that there can be some cohesion to the planning of the fans whoever wins the football.

MSP Paul Sweeney (PS) noted that there was a large scale title party for a football team during covid and this has become an annual event. PS has called for more orchestration of these events and will work to do with this partners in the future. David McEwan has been consulted and noted that the council would not take the lead to manage or organise that.

**Action:** CCC to add the standard agenda item to the agenda for public meetings going forward.

**Action:** JM MSP to write to Rangers FC and Celtic FC to try to work with the fans group.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer shared the financial situation of the CCC. Things to note Expenditure: £90 on Social Media Advertising, £50 for CHLC, £27.60 Mail, balance is at £1337.13.

## 6. Planning Issues

2 Planning applications in progress:

\* Currently Ongoing: Turnbull Street window replacements

\* Today: Application for the restoration and maintenance of the meat market sheds.

MOP brought up the old district court to the CCC. CP noted the planning application has been withdrawn since. The MOP noted the building has been sold to someone but the CCC has no update on that.

A MOP noted that the owner had sold the building and that someone on St. Andrews Street had noted they heard that Page & Park had bought it but CP noted they've not heard anything. AF noted that on the council website there are pending planning applications since November 2023.

**Action:** CCC to write to the buildings at risk group at GCC.

## 7. Area Partnership

CL noted that there was a large consultation in the Calton area to better understand how the £1M could be spent to better improve the Calton Area. The CCC were not happy with the output as it was unclear how well they collaborated with the local area.

CL noted that they have met with CKR and CP to comb through the applications for the money to see what applications could be improved with the CCC's help to try to get investment. They noted they have gone round the local area to look at areas for potential investment.

## 8. Publicity

CP noted they were visiting the Alexandra Parade Summer School Fair and they would have stall to try engage the local community to attend the CC.

CP asked the public for how to we could better reach the Calton population.

DP noted some progress on improving the noticeboards on Glasgow Green?

MOP suggested that we could gather ideas from the local area using a ballot box style submission.

## 9. Licensing Issues

\* Application for short term lets 8 of them

\* Licenses for pubs

LS noted that they had submitted a rejection and attended in person. LS noted there had been multiple communications on when the case would be heard. They had to attend from 9:30 to sit at GCC for the whole day. LS noted that they didn't feel listened to for show term lets.

MOP Asked if the CCC could ask someone from the Licensing Committee to come and speak to the CC to understand the process.

**Action:** CCC to request a member of the Licensing Committee to come speak to the CC.

AF noted that the CCC could prepare notes for a member to use to represent the CCC views on an objection.

**Action:** CCC to ask the Community Council (CC) Liaison officers to plan a planning and licensing training event for CCs across Glasgow.

Alcohol Licensing:

Chrystal Bell is being considered on the 14th of June. There are 4 applications that have objections. There are 22 in total for the 14th so it's unclear what time the one for the Chrystal Bell will be considered.

## 10. Local Issues

The TRNSMT leaflets have been circulated.

There is a walk round on the 8th of July- Cycle access through the green and cycle-commuters being cut off access are areas of concern for CCC. AF noted that there is data driven evidence that counts the number of cyclists so we can have data to back up a need for this access to be respected.

Public toilets was raised by the chair and Cllr Holly Bruce noted the council would be providing public toilets in parks. £50,000 has been awarded to Glasgow Green however this money has now been seconded to the regeneration works being undertaken at the Peoples Palace.

**Action:** CCC to contact the Friends of Glasgow Green to capture their opinion on this.

## 11. Elected Members' Reports

JM noted that people had to register to vote by 18th June and postal vote by 19th and vote by proxy by 26th. Voters must bring ID and voter ID can be applied for until the 26th of June.

There was a statement in parliament on the low emissions zone.

MSP PS noted there is a housing bill being introduced in parliament and he had been having cross party discussions with the housing minister to enhance protections for community housing associations. This related to community asset transfer. PS is looking to amend to bring the Tenant threshold up to 2/3rd threshold to be in line with the shareholder threshold.

Met with Lar Housing Trust to have bought the Inn on the Green Building and are looking to renovate the building.

Also noted there is a structural question on the steeple of the tollbooth building. There is a section of bells in the steeple that could be preserved. There is also architectural lighting that could be reinstated. Good point of contact is Shona Simpson for members of the public to contact for questions.

**Action:** JM to contact the council about this preservation.

## 12. AOCB

A MOP mentioned the the fund for Peoples Palace could be coming from the UK Parliament Levelling up fund.

A MOP noted there was a group being set up to help preserve Barrowlands Park. The MOP heard from Cllr Carol. The MOP noted they will find out the name and relay it to CCC.

A MOP noted there is a hustings for the North East for the MP held in the Drygate Brewery on the Monday the 24th of June.

### 13. Date of Next Meeting.

The date and time of the next meeting is August 8th 19:00 at the Calton Heritage and Learning Centre.

APPROVED