

Calton Community Council

## **Welcome, Intros, Apologies**

*Present Full Committee*

Chair: Tricia Fort

Treasurer: Laura Scott

Secretary: Belinda Price

Allan Scott

Charlie Kleboe-Rogers

Alasdair Finlayson

Derek Pearson

John Mason MSP

### **Apologies**

- John Grady MP (Gregor McIntyre instead)
- Baillie Linda Pike
- Caitlin Longman

### **Minutes of previous public meeting**

- Mop – At the last meeting Kelda Gafney confirmed that there will be a reliance on illegal drug dealing to supply the users. Residents concerned about this potential influx into the area.
- Proposed LS
- Seconded AS

Actions Arising

Action	Who	Complete?
Raise the need for CCTV covering St Andrews St / St Andrews Square	John Mason	
Question why Glasgow City Council are allowing AirBnbs in residential properties with common entries and garages contrary to the legislation	Mp / MSP	

Question why Glasgow is not designating areas in the city in the same way as Edinburgh	Mp / MSP	
Contact Mt Vernon CC to understand how they have grown their social media following so well	BP	
Contact CFC / RFC supporters assocs to promote the idea of controlled fan zones to stop the chaos at Glasgow Cross / George Square	MP / MSP	
CP to forward the Park presentation and have it loaded to the website	CP / BP	
Find out more about the Morrisons Licensing application	AF	
Find out more about the HMO on Bell St and object if necessary	AF	
Raise our funding with the council – there has been a huge influx of people into the area and there will be no additional funds for us until after the 2032 census	John Mason	
Publicise the different types of accommodation being offered at the new College Gardens Development on the website	BP to put up, CP to provide	
Approach GCC to see if they will put in a grit bin at St Andrew's Square	John Mason	
Apply for funding through the community partnership to provide a wheeled spreader for salt at St Andrews Sq	CKR	

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## Police Scotland

- Nicola Docherty
  - In place of Craig Burns
  - Nationally a campaign against domestic abuse and drug driving
  - There have been a lot of issues with speeding and hit and runs in the area
  - There are a lot of speed guns in the area
  - Action plan – at have seen a higher police presence in the area
  - We are targeting drug users and anti-social behaviour
  - Cars in the whole area including Dennistoun
  - This side is mostly where the issues are
  - We have caught a lot of low level drug dealers
  - We are referring areas where users are congregating
  - We worked with the council to get the rough ground cleared as this is a known area
  - MoP we live in St Andrews Sq – its really bad – drug dealers, users, drug taking, public drug dealing, attempting to break in to house
  - They are coming in through our building, taking drugs, defecating in the building. It's the same users
  - There is an encampment in Barrowland Park
  - St Andrews St, Parnie St, there are drugs and needles
  - Police Scot – we are trying, I know Craig has been involved
  - It's now part of the action plan so Police come as quickly as they can
  - We are trying to target them and it just moves them on to another are
  - They concentrate in our part of the city – why is it all here?
  - Mop = I'm interested in the statistics – we have had the police out a lot in the past few weeks – I stay on the ground floor – we are particularly affected by this
  - We can have blood through the close
  - Since 2007 I have never seen it the way it is now – I live alone and I cannot leave the apartment and walk to Parnie St / Argyle St – without encountering this – its in our block needles, discarded in the square under the trees
  - It's worse than its ever been and its getting worse
  - Needles and drugs are left in the bins at the Square – it's needs to have a very high presence at certain times in the day
  - For us, I don't feel safe living there any more

- Since about May or June, it's just getting terrible
- I want to know the statistics that are happening on a Monday morning at the courts – the judiciary they are not doing anything – why are there not more charges or implementation of charges going on
- Nicola Doherty– this is a problem in the whole of the east end – we are trying but it just moves the problem – needles, blood, defecation, it's the same – dealers find out we are flooding an area – its trying to do that on a larger scale
- At any point if you don't feel safe or you see dealing, you need to contact us – St Andrews Sq – call volume is low
- From the court point of view – people are being charged on a daily basis with possession and dealing – we are trying
- People are being convicted
- How do we get the people above who could be doing something – elected members – the Scottish government etc – how can we influence that – there needs to be a route to get these people into rehab 0 how do we get people into these routes
- There is a dearth of places –
- It is down to the people wanting help
- Mop – have PS noticed that there are more issues or just a transference – it's a transference
- Mop – somewhere else
- PS – we are working with the housing associations and the factors to improve security – we are trying to get the security on the doors better – we are dealing with this
- I can only encourage you to contact us if there is an issue in front of you
- CKR – what's the legality of installing cameras
- Mop – if there is a legitimate reason for installing them – we have to reach an agreement – we send photos and videos – we have an illegal Airbnb and we are sending footage to the Police
- AF – one of the other issues we are asked to make representation on to is short term lets – security is much more of a problem in these blocks – security gets out of control because the people who live there can't control it
- Chair. – we as a council have a policy that if an application for a short term let in a close we oppose it
- Mop = Charlie mentioned something about increasing security – we have 2 basic cameras and it relies on me having to go

through the clips – its lots of extra money and we need more support

- The drug consumption room will make things worse
- ND – PS – we are community based and we have a facility to offer vulnerable people cameras and other things for windows etc that we can help with = ND or CB to come out and see if they can offer anything
- None of the city CCTV is running any more – we are a hive and we need further facilities
- John Mason – there are a few points – there is clearly a drugs problem we have more - people dying than anywhere
- I was reluctant about the rooms but most people feel it is worth trying to save lives and also in terms of stuff lying around
- In Paris they have had a positive impact
- The main drug taking is in this area hence the reason why the room is coming here – will this attract more dealer – this system relies on illegal drug which in turn causes more time
- There are different answers for different people – people have to be at a certain stage before they go into rehab
- CCTV – I would have to refer to the council
- LS – we have CCTV in our building – it is mostly useless – the problem is – you can't catch people at the time and when the police arrive they are long gone = this goes hand in hand with the short term lets since people come and go
- I don't know what the solution is – I hope the drug consumption room will do something to help
- CKR – there was an application for funding to install CCTV in St Andrews street but it was rejected by the centre for civic innovation because people had already been out
- MoP - we have one particular person who is a returner and can get in regularly – we called it in and they were there for over an hour after the call was made and they were gone when the police arrived
- ACTION – John Mason to look at this
  - John Mason to feedback on the need for CV on St Andrews Street
  - The rooms – we need to give this 6 months to a year to see the impact
- MoP – I have no confidence in people taking actions and doing anything about the things I am raising
- ACTION – for MSP – I echo what you are saying – I don't think we are taken seriously – what I would like it for them to task the

council to know why all the objections are ignored and everything is granted

- JM - The council is restricted in how they can turn down these places –
- MoP - the council can apply for a control order that designates certain parts of the city so that these applications have to go to full planning permission
- Chair – I hope that Gregor and John can take something away from this

### **Standing Item – Football celebrations**

- I spoke to MCC – they had a meeting with their MSP and CFC supporters and RFC supporters group – Max Shaws opposite number was at the meeting – what we want as has been said – a fan zone to be set up so that people can celebrate a well deserved victory
- ACTION – Gregor & John to take this back and to push the idea of the fan zone and to arrange a meeting either with the clubs or supporters to make sure that something different happens this year

### **Park Areas in Calton**

- Presentation by Chloe P
- ACTION – Chloe to forward on the presentation
- 3 sites – to give focus to the area
  - Barrowland Park - sorry state
  - Claythorn Park – also sorry state
  - Treble Two – derelict since 2022
- Chose these areas because of the issues at the different locations
- Looking to co-design the spaces to design something with out input
- I will be doing design workshops and I have been to the sites multiple times
- Write down actions for each space for what it is now and what it could be
- Will be publicised and want people to get involved

### **Local Issues**

- 2 events – downstairs the AGM of FPPWGGG – group is very knowledgeable- they know what they are doing and what they want
- First speaker was an historian
- 2<sup>nd</sup> were 2 x people that are involved in the renovation

- Peoples Palace and Glass House – they are not acknowledging that it was a winter garden
- Glasgow Life are running the place when it reopens
- We have to wait and see what is happening – it is due to reopen in 2027 but they are still doing surveys
- Saturday morning meetings – they had someone along Raymond Martin works for the British Toilets Assoc
  - TF had raised a petition to the city council for more public toilets because when people were crowding into the green and going to the toilet wherever
  - One of the city councillors is taking forward this – there is a consultation on the city website about public toilets – there is a consultation on the council website about this
  - CP – the consultation is an interesting one because it defines public toilets in such a way that it wouldn't necessarily be correct – they are defining them as toilets that anyone could walk in and use for example in cafes or shops etc
  - Advise people to have a look and respond

### **Area Partnership**

- Notes as per Laura's minutes
- There is a reminder that you can submit application for funding – info available
- New platform – community benefit hub
- CKR – there is a list of priorities for improvements for the area = ACTION - CKR to talk to St Andrews Sq people about getting funding for CCTV and asking
- Area partnership money has to be applied for by the end of March

### **Publicity Update**

- Talked about doing a Mail Drop to every house in the area – most of the people who attend or are on the committee are in the west end
- Q – MoP – Mt Vernon Community Council
- ACTION BP – speak to Mt Vernon to see how they built their following
  - Nobody knows about you
  - Where can we publicise ourselves better

### **Licensing Issues**

- AF – 3 issues – Later catering license for Morrisons to open 7 days a week until midnight – opinions before 24<sup>th</sup> December
- Could be selling food for home delivery?

- Might be couriers
- AS – will this be a base for the drug dealers etc to hang about and be a magnet for this audience
- Mop – they are always outside Morrisons at the moment anyway
- Currently opened until 10pm
- Q – does the issues of antisocial behaviour still ongoing
- LS – does this come with security – could we put a note in as long as there is security?
- ACTION – AF to find out more information
- HMO – 125 Bell St for 4 occupants
- Deadline 27<sup>th</sup> December
- ACTION – AF to find out further details and object on the basis that it is a 2 bedroom flat

### **Treasurers Report**

- We have spent 23.44 on webmail
- We have 646.97 from GCC for annual fee
- Raised with GCC if this includes the local new flats
- Won't go up until after the next census
- ACTION – John Mason to raise this with the council
- 2102.38 closing balance

### **Planning Issues**

- 331 Bell St – pram centre car park – want to renew for another 5 years
- College St Goods yard next to Parsonage Sq – the planning application has been submitted – comments by 27<sup>th</sup> December
- Mixed residential and other uses
- We have given views – if we want to make representations we need to do this again – same objections as before as it doesn't seem to include any parking – this will put parking
- JM. – their argument is that they want to have people with no cars, or they will use the multi stories on Duke St – this is a problem area at night for the use of drugs – this is true of any time of the day
- GCC security refuse to go into the carpark on Duke St at night
- TF – sent in a personal objection – no car – but there are no buses that run up the High St at all, High St station is not being upgraded so there is no disable access, the height of the buildings is also a question, there is still talk about the Glasgow metro with the two railway lines being linked –



- JM = this has been given up = the curve – the council and SPT has been given up
- CKR – a resident did say that she was going to reach out – and they said there was going to be a communal response
- CP – does everyone understand what each of the uses of the building actually mean?
- ACTION – CP to send to BP the meaning of the different uses for publication on the website
- LS – the architects and planners spent a lot of time talking about north south travel through the site, but now the High St bridge is not being put in because of the changes, the developers need to be putting this in because this is the main benefit of this
- AF – I think the overall sentiment is that we are glad something is being done with the site but we object to the details – broad agreement that development is good but details are bad

### **Councillor, MSP, MP report**

- JM – now an independent MSP.
- Budget – a lot of this is high level – there will be more capital spending – councils will be freed up to charge what they want for council tax
- Glasgow Life – charity because they don't pay business rates,
- Tenements working group – not maintained properly – there is a cross party group to try and push for regular inspection of tenements =
  - MOP – the issue of short term lets is very important here = these are tearing tenements communities apart
- John Grady – can find his info online, and encourage you to raise issues with them

### **AOCB**

- Salt spreader – the minute it is wet it is like a skating rink – we need a bin and we need white salt
- In some other authorities they are distributing wheeled things for salt
- We can be trapped – is this happening
- JM – the council will put in a bin
- ACTION - JM – to check if GCC will put in a bin – there needs to be a spreader – wheeled spreader
- It's a civic space and a conservation space
- The council prioritises routes to hospitals
- GCC doesn't do that – it will give you yellow bins and red coarse road salt

- CKR – could apply to the area partnership for funding for this – although I think that they would push back as we would need to store it and maintain it – ACTION - CKR To apply
- MoP – the drug consumption facility will need to be evaluated at some point –
  - TF - the CC should ask to be part of that and it should be an agenda point going forward
  - The CC was going to attend a meeting that they were invited on but the meeting was cancelled
  - LS – we were clear with them that evaluation and monitoring is vital to this
  - Q – JM is this something that you can keep an eye on
  - JM – we need to ask for a review in 6 months
  - Alan Casey (CLLR) has agreed that once it is up and running to come back and talk to the community council
  - Mop – we are part of an experiment

### **Date of next meeting and close**

- Next meeting is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb – from then on we do intend to meet monthly
- If people are interested in joining we can co-opt people
- Last business meeting on Weds 15<sup>th</sup> Jan