

Calton Community Council Notes
13th November 2025
Calton Heritage and Learning Centre

Present:

Tricia Fort (TF), Arthur McJimpsey (AM), Charlie Kleboe-Rogers (CKR), Laura Scott (LS)

Associate Member Derek Pearson

Councillor Cecilia O'Lone, Bailie Linda Pike

Police Scotland, Constable Craig Burns

Members of the Public: 34

Apologies:

Bel Price (BP), Allan Scott (ASc), Mark Taylor (MT), John Mason (MSP)

Chair: Tricia Fort

Minute Taker: Charlie Kleboe-Rogers

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting, welcomed all attendees, outlined the agenda, and introduced representatives from Police Scotland and local councillors. Apologies were noted as above.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes (9 October 2025)

The Chair reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting.

- No matters arising.
- Previous actions are covered throughout this agenda.

3. Football Celebrations

The Chair updated the meeting on ongoing discussions with Glasgow City Council (GCC) and local supporters' clubs.

- The Chair received an invitation from Kaukab Stewart MSP to attend a meeting at Hampden on **5 December** regarding football-related issues.
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4. Refuse Collection Issues (GCC Officer: Méabh Bradley)

4(a) General Update

- MB reported recent missed refuse collections were due to an unusually high level of simultaneous staff sickness. The Refuse Group Manager has been invited to attend the CCC meeting on **8 January**.
- GCC apologises for the disruption caused.

4(b) Refuse Services Improvements

- An online service allowing residents to check collection times is available
- Issues were noted with collections around **Gibson Street** when the Barrowlands Market is active.
- A complaint from Glasgow Cross was raised; LS provided details of the factor. MB will contact them (Spiers Gumley).

4(c) Neighbourhood Teams

- A new three-person Neighbourhoods Team has been active since September and is expanding coverage across the Gallowgate.

4(d) Issues Raised by Members of the Public

- **Leaf build-up:** Significant leaf fall reported on Claythorn Circus.
- **Brown bin costs:** Concern raised; MB confirmed that **green waste can be placed in general waste bins**.
- **Accessibility issue:** A registered blind resident highlighted hazards in the local area.
- **Monteith Court:** Requires cleaning; MB confirmed this area was discussed earlier that day and action will follow in coming weeks.
- **Low-hanging trees:** Along Stevenson Street requiring trimming.
- **Broken paving slabs:** Several broken slabs on the Gallowgate near Morrisons and the Hoops Bar. MB will raise this with GCC.
- **Bin on Stevenson Street** remains incorrectly positioned behind fences.

5. Police Scotland Report

CB provided an update:

5(a) Drug Enforcement

- Significant activity in the area, with plain-clothes operations resulting in multiple interventions involving Class A drug dealing.
- A recent warrant was executed following community intelligence.
- A large cash seizure was made from individuals involved in drug distribution.
- Reports continue of drug users entering closes; residents encouraged to report incidents immediately.

5(b) Retail Crime

- New retail crime team established.
- Increased focus on shoplifting; several individuals identified and charged.
- Ongoing concerns regarding young people being targeted by organised crime groups.

5(c) Road Safety

- Winter road safety campaign launching covering London Road, the Gallowgate, and Abercromby Street.
- Focus on tyre condition, windscreen clarity, and roadside eye tests.

5(d) Glasgow Green (Festive Build)

- Additional central policing support will be available during the festive build period.
- Residents encouraged to report any antisocial behaviour or tagged graffiti immediately.

5(e) Issues Raised by MoP

- Drug consumption around the Thistle facility: CB confirmed the area is being regularly policed and monitored. Police continue to operate under Lord Advocate guidelines but emphasise that general enforcement remains unchanged.
- **Bag theft:** An MoP reported theft of their bag and bank card misuse. They expressed frustration after attempting to report the incident at London Road Police Station. CB explained the challenges with accessing bus company CCTV, which is controlled by operators.
- **Monteith Court bin stores:** Ongoing problems with drug use in bin stores (Thenue Housing). CB will investigate.

6. The Thistle Safe Consumption Facility

The Chair reported attendance at the Thistle community meeting on **4th November**, noting:

- Use of the facility has been increasing.
- Community engagement staff are now undertaking walkabouts, with concerns highlighted particularly around Orr Street and Elcho Gardens.
- Staff are now being asked to include the Necropolis in their walkabouts.

6(a) Questions from MoP

- **Funding:** Cllr O'Loan confirmed funding comes via the Scottish Government in partnership with Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP).
- **Consultation:** Several MoPs expressed concern that there was no consultation with local residents. Councillors agreed that consultation should have been better.
- **Newsletter:** The Thistle is to issue a regular community newsletter to improve transparency.
- **Opening hours:** No plans to move to 24/7 operation. Inhalation services are being considered.
- **Needle uplift costs:** A MoP who is a homeowner stated they are paying for needle uplifts. Cllr O'Loan will raise this with GCC.
- **Sharps bins:** Calls for more sharps bins in the area, and for councils to uplift needles found on private property. Areas mentioned: Millroad Street and St Andrew's Court.

7. Commonwealth Games

Member of the Commonwealth Games team was not present therefore conversation has been postponed till a later date.

8. Local Issues

8(a) “Christmas on Glasgow Green” Event

The Chair noted that GCC announced the event without community consultation.

A petition has been launched requesting structured consultation for decisions affecting the Calton. Key community concerns include:

- Falling property values as a result of excessive use of the green for commercial events, that do not benefit the Calton.
- Loss of green space (including the Avenue site)
- GCC's capacity to deliver events given difficulties with core services such as refuse collection
- Need for improved GCC consultation practices

MoP requested:

- An enforcement officer be deployed to monitor the area until the event is licensed.
- Contact details for the relevant council officer be included on public notification leaflets.
- Clarity on whether the **Environmental Levy** from the Christmas hub will be reinvested locally. Councillors will investigate.

8(b) Parking Issues

- The Chair met with Council staff regarding parking enforcement.
- Discussion covered multiple types of parking regulation breaches that attendants can enforce.

9. Area Partnership Report

No update recorded.

10. Planning Issues

No planning issues raised.

11. Licensing Issues

No licensing matters raised.

12. Treasurer's Report

- Income: £1,333.10

- Expenditure: £54.00
- **Balance:** £1,279.10

13. Elected Member Updates

Councillors and MSPs had no further updates to add.

14. Any Other Competent Business

No AOCB.

15. Date of Next Meeting

8 January 2026

Venue: Many Studios, 3 Ross Street, Glasgow, G1 5AR.

Comments – to clarify changes – not for publication

4a – Refuse Group Manager invited but no confirmation as yet – don't want to get people's hopes up!

4b Uplift dates are currently shown on the GCC website but for us only our green bin is shown, nothing shown for the blue bin

6a I don't know if the Thistle have been asked about consultation for the inhalation space they are looking for so best not to speak for them.