

Community Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 12 March

Location: MANY Studios, 3 Ross Street, Glasgow

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed attendees, including newly appointed Community Police Officer, Constable Smith.

Apologies received: Bel Price; Councillor George Redmond

Attendees: Tricia Fort (TF) (Chair), Laura Scott, Catherine Kerr (CK), Charlie Kleboe-Rogers (CKR), Mark Taylor (MT), Arthur McJimpsey (AM)
Community Police Officer, Constable Burns
15 Members of the Public

2. Previous Minutes (12 February) – Approval, Matters Arising & Actions

The minutes were presented for approval.

- An amendment was noted regarding the environmental levy, clarifying that it was not applied due to the event being delivered by Glasgow Life.
- Subject to this amendment, the minutes were approved (proposed by CKR, seconded by AM).
- Outstanding actions relating to Bailie Pike will be sent to her by the Chair via email.

3. Police Scotland Report and Q&A

Constable Burns from London Road Police Station provided an update:

- Limited updates due to annual leave during the past month.
- Five new probationary officers have joined, primarily supporting response duties.
- A new Operations Superintendent has been appointed, covering city-wide activity.
- Summer planning is underway, including preparation for events such as TRNSMT.
- Police are preparing for potential disruption related to football fixtures and requested that any planned “celebrations” be reported anonymously via Crimestoppers.

Local activity and concerns:

- Recent plain-clothes operations led to arrests linked to drug activity, particularly around St. Andrew’s Square.
- Ongoing investigations are being informed by community intelligence.

Community intelligence raised:

- Reports of suspicious vehicle activity around Bridgeton Cross.
- Concerns about drug dealing in the local area.
- Concerns raised regarding vulnerable women at the London Road taxi rank, including potential links to human trafficking.

Police confirmed:

- A coordinated UK-wide approach to human trafficking is in place.
- There is currently no evidence of organised grooming gangs in Glasgow.
- Community members are encouraged to report detailed intelligence (locations, vehicle registrations, descriptions).

Additional points:

- Thanks were extended to Police Scotland for addressing antisocial behaviour in Dyers Lane and Turnbull Street.
- Queries regarding anti-corruption reporting were directed to Crimestoppers.

4. Feedback – Thistle Community Forum

- The Thistle newsletter is now in circulation.
- Land at Tobago Street is being cleared and will be maintained, with no current development plans.
- The sharps bin at Elcho Street has been removed due to development works by Thenuue Housing.

5. Local Issues (Neighbourhoods, Regeneration & Sustainability)

- Ongoing reports of faulty street lighting. Members were reminded to include lamp post numbers when reporting faults.
- Street lighting at The Heilan Jessie remains unresolved.

Action: Linda Pike to follow up on this issue (from February meeting).

6. Licensing Issues

HMO Applications (Parsonage Square):

- An application for a new HMO was approved despite objections relating to property size and local housing pressures.

- A neighbouring property has submitted a renewal application, expected to proceed.
- Concerns were raised about limited community notification (lamppost notices only).

Other Licensing Matters:

- Stevenson Street HMO application has not yet been heard.
- Concerns raised regarding an unlicensed short-term let (Airbnb).

TRNSMT Temporary Licence:

- Application to extend hours to 1am (Scotland vs Morocco match) pending decision.
- Community members encouraged to submit views to local councillors.

Additional applications:

- Short-term let on Orr Street.
- Indigo Sun – renewal of public entertainment licence (previous noise concerns noted).

7. Glasgow Green Issues

- A working group has been established to address concerns about the commercialisation of Glasgow Green.
- Engagement ongoing with Glasgow City Council committees.
- A two-year contract confirms continuation of events until at least 2027.

FOI requests submitted regarding:

- Noise complaints and council response
- Financial aspects and revenue generated
- Environmental levy arrangements

Key concerns raised:

- Impact of noise on residents, particularly those working from home
- Potential devaluation of surrounding properties
- Restrictions on use of the Green
- Transparency of public consultation processes

8. Treasurer's Report

- Opening balance: £1,810.75

- Expenditure: £100.64 (£30.64 general, £70 venue)
- Closing balance: £1,710.11

Upcoming cost: approximately £130 for webmail services.

9. Area Partnership Report

- Updates from the Area Partnership meeting at the City Chambers included:
 - Governance updates and register of interests
 - Community safety updates from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
 - Increase in retail-related violence and drug-related incidents
 - Increased patrols and enforcement activity
 - Rise in public order offences linked to major events
- Funding allocations for 2025/26 have been agreed, supporting various local projects.

Action: Catherine to invite the Area Partnership Chair to present at a future meeting.

10. Planning Issues

- No objections to chimney stack removals.
- Refusal upheld for change of use at 182 Abercromby Street (proposed hot food premises).
- Charlotte Street development (65 flats):
 - Concerns raised regarding density and building height
 - Pre-determination hearing scheduled for 24 March
 - Formal objection submitted to Glasgow City Council, along with objections from local residents

11. Elected Members' Reports

- No elected members were present.

12. Any Other Competent Business

- Concerns raised regarding lack of progress at a development site on Turnbull Street.

Action: MT to investigate progress.

- Meeting noted regarding discussions with the Lord Advocate and Procurator Fiscal on drug-related issues in Calton; an impact statement on The Thistle was requested.

13. Date of Next Meeting

12 March

MANY Studios, 3 Ross Street, Glasgow

Guest speaker: Paul Shaw (Get Glasgow Moving)