



Langside, Battlefield and Camphill Community Council

Meeting on Monday 7th February 2023 @ 7.00pm

From the constitution:

The objectives of the community council shall be to:

- (a) gather and articulate the views of the community which it represents
- (b) express fairly the views, diversity of opinions and outlooks of the community to Glasgow City Council; and other public/private organisations
- (c) act as a voice for their local area on any matters affecting their community's lives, welfare and environment
- (d) liaise with other community groups within their local area
- (e) take any such action in the interests of the community as appears to be practicable
- (f) promote the well-being of the community and to foster community spirit.

1. Note attendance, apologies.

Attendees

Councillors - Claire Conaghan / Russell Ecob/ Christine Jess / Alistair King / Evelyn Silber / Laurence Weir

Apologies – Suzanne Mccheyne / Ola Pawluk

Visitors –

Iain Ross Wallace, Langside Community Heritage
Shane Sheridan, Marjorie Horne, Camphill Avenue residents

GCC Councillor: Susan Aitken.

2. Approve minutes of last meeting

The minute of December meeting had been circulated.

Approved by and seconded by RE.

3. Matters arising from last meeting

Item 3. Further to submission of complaints on the Liveable Neighbourhoods consultation, GCC had replied to note that the points made had been taken on board and procedures were being altered.

Item 6. ES noted that in past years a tracker had been made available by GCC which set out ENV2 contributions and where these had been spent. SA agreed to seek an update.

Item 10. CJ had sent on an objection.

Item 13. CJ noted that planned visit by Ewan MacIntyre had been deferred until March meeting when there would be a hands-on help session.

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Item 14. ES reported that she and Bob Marshall were looking at expanding and updating the content of the booklets.

The All agreed to approve minute of the meeting in November.

4. Community Police report

Community police not present.

The police had been present at that afternoon's Langside Area Partnership meeting and had had been questioned on incident when a bus had been attacked. Police confirmed that two fifteen-year-olds had been arrested.

Community Police had confirmed also their arrangements for Hampden events, deploying around 20 officers around the stadium. Councillors noted that this would be in the Mount Florida area and would not help with issues in surrounding areas.

CJ noted problems with bus parking along Langside Drive during busy football matches. Susan Aitken noted that the police had no authority to control bus parking unless there was a traffic infringement such as obstruction. Day to day control was the responsibility of the Council. There were problems on such occasions as the Recreation Ground was unsuitable for the number. IRW noted that parking controls were not being enforced citing parking along Battlefield Road. Illegal car parking was also often flouted and Susan noted that the statutory £30 fine was often not a sufficient disincentive.

CJ would contact the Mount Florida CC to seek a coordinated response to issues around Hampden events.

5. Councillor's report

Councillors welcomed Susan Aitken who had three points to update.

Waste Collections. GCC were getting back on track with collections following the impact of the holiday period and other issues at Polmadie depot. She asked that any reports of missed collections be passed directly to herself.

Road repairs. Overdale Street had been resurfaced and Cathkin Road had been identified as the next priority in the Langside area for completion by end of March. A list of streets would be published for the following year.

Councillors noted the poor surface condition on Grange Road where a Manhole/drain had sunk. *post meeting note – this was repaired two days following the meeting.*

CJ noted that Camphill Avenue had been targeted for resurfacing, but this had been postponed as cars had not been cleared.

Following comments that more than 50% of road gullies had been choked for some time, Susan noted that this was a high leaf fall area and that gully cleaning should be tackled following the autumn. However, this had been an issue for over two years and gutters remained blocked. The promised focus on the Battlefield area by a 'hit squad' had not happened and community councillors felt let down.

Warm Spaces. Susan confirmed that additional funding had been provided for a warm space at Finn's Place.

Council Budget. Susan noted that despite scare stories in the press, GCC's Council Tax increase would not be excessive – confirmed post meeting to be 5% as average for most councils. This has been a difficult period with large settlement required for the equal pay settlement and Glasgow had more difficulties than other councils due to its low income via the council tax payments. The council had had to arrange mortgages for some major buildings eg. Kelvin Hall, City Chambers, Armadillo and Concert Hall, but SA assured councillors that these had been arranged through City Property and would remain in council's ownership and its responsibility for maintenance.

6. Area Partnership Report

CJ recorded that the LBCCC submission to GCC to note that the Liveable Neighbourhoods consultation had not been in compliance with national standards had been acknowledged and the director had confirmed that the process would be improved for their current target area in East Pollokshields with open evenings being arranged in the Pollokshields Library.

A concept design for the area around the Langside Monument had been circulated. Sustrans will lead this with further engagement to be arranged in due course when a more detailed technical design with traffic management proposals would be clarified. This would be a long process due to large number of consultees etc. An initial £2k had been awarded to improving the Monument area with a further sum allocated to the Balvicar Play area.

ES noted that Sanctuary HA had mentioned arranging a crossing at top of site to the park entrance and asked whether this remained a proposal.

7. Treasurer's report

There was nothing further on Treasurer's Report.

ES had sent through final set of accounts for Library Garden project as part of separating this from the CC and this should now be concluded.

8. Planning report

The application for development at 32 Mansionhouse Road had been recommended for approval but the planning committee had not approved but asked instead for a site visit. It was likely that this would be followed by a special session at which the case could be put for and against the proposals. There was likelihood that local neighbour representation might be invited to speak against with developer putting the case for.

Shane Sheridan and Marjory Horne were affected neighbours from Camphill Avenue and Shane outlined the local view as agreed at a series of local meetings with his neighbours. Amongst other issues was overshadowing/loss of daylight for affected properties; the loss of an historic stone building in contravention to council policy; potential loss of trees and affect the retaining structure above Iser Lane. The existing building is in good condition and its removal would further erode the context for important listed buildings and this historic area of the city.

SA noted that planning policy was driven by national policies and there was often little that could be done in the longer term. Older buildings needed an economic use otherwise they will become redundant and will not survive affecting the

amenity of the local area in the process. Conversion for housing needed investment and this building would not attract the larger national agencies such as Sanctuary or the Home Group. This had been vehicle for the successful conversion of Holmlea School. CJ questioned whether the Wheatley Group might be interested in smaller projects.

ES noted that the argument put forward for demolition that they cannot make a profit from retaining the villa was not a criterion for permitting demolition contrary to local and national planning priorities. The point had been made that the existing building was in very good condition and policies advised retention.

IRW read a notice of objection on behalf of Langside Community Heritage – see copy attached to this minute.

SS had noted that this would be a good example for retrofitting, possibly a local exemplar to encourage residents to upgrade their properties. It was not clear whether currently there were resources or grant assistance for this although Scottish Government and Historic Environment Scotland were known to be actively looking at this.

AK reflected on the large number of older buildings that were under threat and the challenge of their reuse given the demands for higher thermal insulation standards. Local assembly buildings such as the listed Admin Building at the Victoria development were under threat unless there could be a sustainable use found. Grants were available for redevelopment but there needed to be a sustainable business case for operational costs. The lack of investment in these buildings meant that many would be lost and it might need communities to take matters into their own hands to put forward sustainable uses for the buildings. Capital funding might be available for such projects, but any use needed to have a business plan to show it was self-financing when operational.

The trial project for upgrading of tenements in Niddrie Street had been very useful but showed that bringing Glasgow's pre-1919 buildings including extensive stock of tenement flats up to scratch would be a huge task and would require an enormous injection of public funding.

9. Licensing report

There were no further licensing applications and no further news on the application from French Monkey on Sinclair Drive for extended hours.

10. Library garden project update

The Library Garden Project had now been established and independent of Community Council. The consultation process for the gable mural at the garden had still to be arranged.

11. Queens Park Working group

Updates are being forwarded by QPWG with Bob Marshall continuing to be involved. The group was concentrating on applications for grants for a development plan seeking these through the Area Partnership.

12. CC items / Website

Ewan MacIntyre's visit had been deferred to the March meeting when the CC would have more time to look at final updates on the interactive map prototype and website. Members were asked to bring along laptops, i-pads, etc. and to have tried to access the website and come armed with any questions.

A concerted effort was needed to increase postings on social media. IRW had attended on behalf of Langside Community Heritage and had kindly offered to help and would be included on future circulation. Claire Russell and Laurence confirmed they would confer to increase postings on the Facebook page. RE needed first to join Facebook. AK had uploaded past minutes of CC meetings within the documents section as this was where he had been directed by Ewan.

Alistair had offered to update the poster and would look to doing this for the 2023 meetings.

13. AOCB

Evelyn noted that a hands-on help session would be arranged in March for the updates to the Langside Heritage Trail and Battle of Langside booklets.

Alistair had indicated that due to work and family pressures he had been struggling to find time for secretarial duties. Christine has commenced a search for a minutes secretary, utilising CC allowances and will draft an advert for a replacement.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting to be held on **Tuesday 7th March 2023 at Finn's Place at 7.00pm.**

Councillor rota: The rota for GCC councillors:

Tuesday March 7th Meeting – Cllr Paul Leinster

April - Cllr Stephen Docherty - *note meeting TBC due to unavailability of venue*

Tuesday May 2nd Meeting – Cllr Holly Bruce

Tuesday June 6th Meeting – Cllr Susan Aitken