

NEWLANDS & AULDHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Thursday 02 September 2021 19:00 (using online conference medium)

PRESENT

Jade Graham (Chairperson), Jules Murphy, Sandy Walls, John Duthie, Colette McAlpine, Councillor Stephen Curran

APOLOGIES

Jim Dryburgh, Alison Mitchell,

POLICE REPORT

Police Constable Ross McGregor introduced himself, via Teams into Zoom. He and PC Liam Hunter are the policemen who have been appointed to cover the local area.

CMcA requested that, with the start of term and an influx of new parents perhaps unfamiliar with the parking difficulties in the immediate area of the Tinto Primary School, a frequent police presence at drop off and pick up times would underline the importance of parental good behaviour in this regard. PC McGregor replied that he and PC Hunter had discussed the matter with the school and that the following Tuesday would be the next opportunity for him to attend to this. CMcA added that the ultimate objective was the creation of a car free zone next to the school.

JG requested that it would be helpful for future monthly police reports to include a note of crimes committed in the area, and of any trends of which the Council should be aware. PC McGregor responded that there was no significant crime to report, and that there had been incidents with two garages involving youngsters and that the thief of a stolen vehicle had been detected. JG thanked PC McGregor for his attendance.

FRIENDS OF NEWLANDS PARK UPDATE

Julia Radcliffe was present and she gave the Council a report of the activities of the Friends of Newlands Park group, which she and others had formed in late 2019. The association's constitution had been drawn up in January 2020 and its social media presences established.

Gardening: a work party meets weekly for two hours on a Wednesday, attended by 22 volunteers, some of whom return also on evenings and at weekends. This effort equates to that of a full time gardener. Prior to his recent retirement, the City Council's resident gardener's

duties were shared among the three local parks. Other City Council gardening staff were assigned to cleansing duties during the current global pandemic.

The Friends group has identified a number of projects. The tennis courts have been recommissioned. The intention ultimately is for an all-weather surface to be installed. Research is underway to identify and re-establish historic planting schemes. An event is to be organised in the park, with which it is hoped to involve the neighbouring Auldhouse Park.

Funding has been obtained in the amount of 4,000GBP. This will be augmented with donations.

The Friends value the importance of cooperation with Auldhouse Park and, eventually, with Maxwell Park.

The discussion following included:

Playground facilities in the city for disabled children comprised a swing at Rouken Glen Park and another in a park in the East End. The intention is to install one in Newlands Park. The Mushroom Trust exists to support such ventures.

The Local Area Partnership is to be approached to enquire what support there may be for the provision of older children's play areas and accessible play facilities.

The classroom block of the former Calderwood School has been demolished and town houses are to be constructed on the site. It is in the gift of the City Planning Department, rather than the site developers, as to what Section 75 funds are available as a result for local amenity projects.

COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Councillor Curran discussed the following:

1. Funds available for open spaces are likely to accrue from further potential building developments locally.
The Area Partnership has £60,000. The City Council has put forward £400,000. There are £10,000 for wild meadow planting. These funds are to be used by March 2022.
It is recognised that routine maintenance of parks has been neglected.
2. Traffic problems around Tinto Primary School persist.
Signage supply problems have been experienced.
3. Access to City Councillors is set to remain for the time being as either on-line or by telephone, rather than by meeting in person.
4. Issues raised by constituents are focused on matters such as:
Bin collection failures and problems with the larger, communal bins; and
Road surface problems

The condition of the railings around Glasgow Housing Association properties is poor, for example at Mamore Street. There seems to be doubt as to whether the maintenance of these is the responsibility of the GHA or the City Council.

CMcA reported problems in Auldhouse with fly tipping, since the introduction by the City Council of a fee for collections. Tenants of private lets seem mainly to be responsible for doing this.

FINANCE REPORT

Again there has been no change since last time, and the bank balance remains at £4,838.06.

PLANNING

In the period since the last meeting a considerable number of planning applications have been processed. Rather than read through them at the meeting it was proposed that the committee members be sent a list of the applications.

The one item of interest concerned a change of use from care home to nursery school for 83 Langside Drive, formerly known as The Beeches. The property is on the city's Buildings at Risk list. The City Council gave a loan to the owner to cover fire damage which occurred after the care home had been given up. It is understood that this loan has been repaid. The similar, previous application from Dec 2019 has been modified. Concerns regarding eg vehicle access from a busy road remain. The closing date set for comments was 20 Sep 2021.

PREVIOUS MINUTES (03 June 2021)

These were adopted, having been proposed by JG and seconded by SW.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In the absence of a representative to address the proposed one way traffic system for Lochlea Rd, Mamore St, Glen Spean St area, it was reported that: despite the local residents in general being in favour of the plan there had been an objection lodged by the Auldhouse Tenants and Residents Association. Prior to the pandemic there had been two crashes involving speeding at school drop off time, one resulting in the destruction of a post box.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Events

JG and Julia are to discuss the proposal that an event at Newlands and/or Auldhouse Park be held in late March/early April. The Community Council Annual Fete will return in early September 2022. When asked if the Scouts would be available to host the latter, SW replied that the organisation would. However, he told the meeting that the Scout Group has a shortage of leaders, which is restricting its activities and it is experiencing difficulty in meeting the demands of a sizeable number of its 250 youngsters. Julia responded that the now consirable social media following of the Friends group at Newlands Park may be a useful device for letting this be known locally.

The Phone Box

JG was delighted to announce that the Community Council's application to adopt the Phone Box at the intersection of Auldhouse Road and Lochlea Road had been approved. Their followed a reprise of the possible uses for it.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 07 October 2021 at 19.00.