



Minutes

Crosshill/Govanhill

Community Council Meeting Monday 12 December 2016

Present: K Hawley G Mc Manus A Carberry R Sadiq M Nisbet
A M Millar C McCormick D Tausney I McInnes J

Adair

E Pollok

P.C.J Coleman (Police Scotland) Cllr S Siddique (GCC)

Apologies J Beaver Cllr Hanif (GCC) P McNeil J Lamont
ATompkins

Public

as per the Sign in sheet for 12 December 2016

Police Scotland

Monthly Report

Drug Dealing & Use 12 Reports - 2 for Dealing & 1 Possession/intent to supply

Violent Crime 12 Common Assault , 2 detections, 2 Serious Assaults
1 Robbery

Youth 21 calls regarding Begging and youths congregating

Road Traffic 10 reports for combination of no insurance, careless driving

Increase in Patrols to address Begging on the streets,
children being taken home to parent when caught

begging. Plain clothes officers are working in the local area.

Police Scotland Continued

Monthly Report Continued

A member asked for breakdown in types of drugs being found, such as Cannabis or Heroin **Action: PC Coleman will see if he can provide this information**

House breaking in local area has fallen but increase in the Pollokshields area.

Glasgow List MSP's

The acting chairperson advised the list MSP's that we had a good working relationship with our local Councillor's, MSP and MP but not much engagement with list MSP's over the years and want to change this.

The Community Council want to know the following:

- (i)** How well they understand the issues
- (ii)** What they and their party are doing to address the issues
- (iii)** What they can do to improve dialogue and have the communities voice heard in Holyrood

MSP Anas Sarwar

Advised he previously represented the area and was aware of the issues. He said we need consensus to move things forward on issues.

It is obvious to state impact on Govanhill given the expansion of the EU. Govanhill has always been diverse, open and welcoming. It has specific challenges and we should be honest and upfront about this.

Gang masters, Rogue Landlords operating in area. We need to improve confidence particularly in women and make them feel safe in the area.

Health issues & Education issues and we need to call for a Govanhill Specific Action Area.

MSP Patrick Harvie

Advised he has some familiarity of the area as he lived near where the issues are and he has a good friend living in Govanhill whom he visits frequently and knows of the experiences of the people living in Govanhill.

He was party to the introduction of the Private Landlord Registration (PLR) come into being. He feels the PLR needs to do more so it can be regulated. Some measures are in place re: Letting Agents but resources need to go with the legislation.

Glasgow List MSP's Continued

MSP Patrick Harvie Continued

Cleansing basic service needs to be funded properly. He has worked with local organisations and one in particular in relation to energy transformation.

MSP Annie Wells

Advised that she knows the area really well, ex hubby was from Govanhill and her father-in-law still lives in Govanhill. Has been working with the Govanhill Community Campaign Group.

Issues around Education and Integration, cleansing, won't be fixed over night and they need to work with local councillors and cross parties.

She advised the following:

- (i) They need to speak to community to see what we need
- (ii) Not enough information coming back from agencies to her enquiries
- (iii) Working with the Roma Society Scotland
- (iv) Not putting rubbish in bins there is a need to educate need enforcement on this
- (v) Spoke to Evening Times, Constituency MSP needs to recognise issues and give them attention

The MSP's were asked what they do for our community

MSP A Wells responded:

Raises Govanhill in the Scottish Parliament as often as she can and looks to see what funding is coming in to the area.

Needs back up of 'Hub' and Govanhill Housing Association and feels she is not getting it from them. Freedom of Information Requests she feels she isn't getting anywhere as it's like they don't want to involve anyone out with the area.

She needs to write to agencies/departments etc a couple of times to get things fixed then hits a brick wall

Collectively we need to make it a priority advised she visited properties with no windows in them.

MSP A Sarwar responded:

There should be Freedom of all Scottish Government Funding. There is a need to recognise there is Rouge Landlord issue and abuse of the system. Gang masters

abusing vulnerable individuals and there should be Compulsory Purchase Orders on Rogue Landlord Properties.

The MSP's were asked what they do for our community Continued

MSP Patrick Harvie responded:

Compulsory Purchase Order Management advised with this the Government would need to be bold and radical like what Anas says.

Immense frustrations, Public Services need to be accountable and resourced financially and avoid pulling against each other.

Management Orders - denying rogue landlords of some of their property rights, Private Property owners all of the rights with none of the burden, extract right out if enforced investment back to the property.

Freedom of Information should be introduced for Housing Associations and Private Landlords.

MSP Anas Sarwar resounded:

Compulsory Management Orders worth exploration. Where property repairs value is higher than value of property it should be seized. He will explore this further with Patrick.

Local Budgets being reduced, was a bit surprised that the BREXIT discussion hadn't come up as it will have an impact on Govanhill and it will be indicative of how we resource it.

Keep Govanhill on the National Agenda, people high-jacking it.

Discussion to be had to establish a Forum

Have community visit Parliament and tell them how it is living in Govanhill.

'Hub' Should be a shop front and all services available and it should be transparent as good work will be getting done but is being lost in process.

Poverty needs to be tackled as he knows of mothers feeding babies on sugar and water as they cannot afford baby milk.

everyone is entitled to a warm and secure home, access to education, access to health service, meaningful employment, this should be the pathway for the future and he is committed to doing this.

The chairperson advised that we were running out of time and asked if we thought we should extend this item on the agenda until 8.35p this was **agreed** by the members of the community council.

Member of the Public was invited to speak and they advised the top table had good points to make, apologised that the Chairperson of the Roma Scotland Society couldn't be here. Stated first we need Govan, Gorbals, Govanhill needs regeneration. Highlighted there were no SNP present and was advised that there were no List MSP's for Glasgow and that the SNP Councillor had given their apologies for the meeting.

It was **agreed** by the List MSP's that a Group will be set up early in the New Year and A Sarwar suggested core objective areas to explore

(i) Transformative Plan

(ii) Unique Status of Govanhill

(iii) Legislation for Housing, look to see how others City's have used this and transformed

(iv) What organisations are funded to do and their outcomes

(v) Secretariat of the group. A member of the Community Council advised they could make contact with Work, work Scotland who have links to thriving places

(vi) Action & Impact base: **Action: List MSP's to set up group re:Govanhill as per suggested core objectives in December 2016 Minute**

Community Councillor raised Platform BREXIT - Attack on the vulnerable and MSP's must ensure this does not happen as people are being lined up for it to become effective in 2018. Pay rent for over occupation.

The Chairperson thanked the MSP's for attending and we look forward to update early in the new year as agreed.

**Minutes of Meeting November meeting were proposed by G McManus
Seconded by Cheryl McCormick**

Matters Arising

Newsletter

Action: E Pollok will email members

Meeting with education and Social Work

Members met with both Education and Social Work Anne Marie McGovern and Sean McKendrick and were advised that there were 4 additional teachers in the local schools.

Advised there were places available for 5yr, 6yr, 7yr & 8yr olds but older than these ages there was an overspill and places were available in Gorbals but families were reluctant to access.

Social Work advised there was no great increase on doctors surgeries and it seems to have ironed out.

Meeting with education and Social Work Continued

Advised there was discussions around the need of a new school in the local area.

Thirty pupils had been registered for school in the last month mostly in primary schools and not secondary schools.

A discussion around a school enrolment campaign awareness was raised and if there was anything in place to easy pupils into school so that teachers were not overwhelmed with numbers in classrooms not able to speak the language. It was **agreed** that the local councillor in attendance S Siddique would chase this up and advise Community Council at next meeting. **Action: Cllr Siddique**

R Sidiq: gave an update to the issue raised at last month's meeting regarding police. Lady still a bit traumatised but has had a visit from C I McInarlin and advised if she wishes to raise formal complaint how she would go about this.

Community Engagement Cards

As the chairperson was dealing with this and had taken the work to the printers there was no update in his absence. **Action: Update to be given at the next meeting.**

Treasurer Report

The treasurer advised we had £2,148.38 in the bank and an Invoice for Photocopying of minutes, Mail In and Out, Police Freedom of Information Report, Actions from Meetings & Agenda's was handed to the treasurer and a cheque for the sum of £9.26 was issued to the Larkfield Centre.

Councillor Report

Councillor Siddique advised she had set up a Govanhill Regeneration Group for partners to come around the table increase and improve partnership working on the Govanhill Action Plan.

Spoke about the work of the acquisition and the enhanced enforcement area and education.

AOCB

One of the Community Councillor's invited the List MSP's and Councillor and the Community Council to participate in an Event 11 March 2017 they will email the secretary over the details. **Action: R Sadiq**

**Date of Next Meeting 9 January 2017 at 7pm
Samaritan House, Coplaw Street**