



**Minutes Crosshill/Govanhill Community Council Meeting
Monday 13 February 2017**

Present: J Beaver C McCormick M Nisbet D Tausney
 G Mc Manus E Pollok J Adair R Sadiq
 R Sadiq A M Millar

Sgt Eadie & PC J Coleman (Police Scotland)
William Pinkney-Baird & Sean (Living Rents)

Apologies K Hawley M Wright I McInnes
 GCC Cllrs Siddique & Hunter

Public

As per the Sign in sheet for 13 February 2017 held by Govanhill Housing Association

Chairperson

Welcomed everyone to the meeting and agreed to hear Police Scotland first so they could attend another Community Council Meeting. Advised that minutes will be available in the Larkfield Centre, Govanhill Library and agenda published on website.

Police Scotland Monthly Report

Drug Dealing & Use 15 Reports

Violent Crime 12 Common Assaults - 4 detected there were no Serious Assaults.

Youth Disorder 12. There were 5 detained under a section 57 (may commit theft)

Road Traffic/driving Offences

42 (No MOT, No Insurance, Careless Driving, police will continue to monitor

Living Rents

Living Rents gave a presentation to the community councillors and will forward a copy of the presentation to the secretary to disseminate to the Community Councillors to look over at their leisure.

They were set up in October 2014 to Campaign re: Housing Bill - For 1.5yrs they campaigned for rent controls and these will be brought in via the new housing bill in December of this year. They have two branches one in Edinburgh and the other in Glasgow, they have a national committee elected from their membership and are also affiliated to ACORN (Association of Community Organisations for Reform Now).

They have carried out door knocking in the local area, Victoria Road and streets off it.

A community councillor asked a question if they were a few people and just a pressure group. They responded by advising they have 150 members from across Scotland.

They see themselves as the 'voice' for Private and Social Renters.

They are about to launch a questionnaire for members and also the wider renters.

They were asked by a community councillor if they were a constituted group and what their membership fees are. They advised the community

Living Rents Continued

council that they are a Company Limited by Guarantee and their membership fees are £5/month standard, £3/month for low-income and £10/month for those earning £20k or above.

They were asked by community councillors how they stored the information they gathered via door knocking, did they comply with the data Protection and if their staff/volunteers were PVG registered. They advised information gathered was kept hard copy they were vague how they stored this and no staff or volunteers were currently PVG registered.

They spoke about a Hardship fund and how they would give assistance to those who were in financial difficulties that have come about issues with renting/eviction. They were asked how they finance this fund and if it were to be means tested. They advised it would be means tested and they don't actually have any funds at the moment and that it was an aspiration. Community councillors raised concerns that people who were not PVG registered would have access to such personal details if Hardship Fund was to be given.

Asked how many members they have in Govanhill and responded 5 members currently and around 30 in Glasgow.

A member of the public raised that it would be good if Landlords only took in tenants who were members of the Living Rents as then their voices would be stronger and Landlords would look after their properties better.

Minutes of 9 January 2017 Meeting were **proposed by D Tausney**
Seconded by J Adair

Action from previous meeting

- ! Draft Newsletter it was **agreed** that this should be sent to the printers after the following amendments: Cllr Hani's email amended and the CC telephone contact number is added **Action: Chairperson**

Action from previous meeting Continued

- ! ALC Event 11 March the Community Council **Agreed** to take a table at this event as it would be an opportunity to promote the community council to the wider community and it was also **agreed** that the draft Newsletter should be sent to the printers along with the community engagement cards so that we can use them at this event as an engagement tool. **Action: Chairperson**

- ! **Number of available places in Local Schools** - Cllr Hanif advised there were no places in local schools and that we were wrongly advised by those we had met with as parents were being encouraged to send their children to schools in other areas.

- ! **Temporary classrooms** - Cllr Hunter emailed advising that she had raised this with education and they were not happy with this suggestion as there were health and safety issues, toilet facility issues but Education & Social Work would be happy to meet with the community council to discuss.

Matters Arising

- ! **Cross Party Forum at Scottish Parliament** - It was **agreed** that the MSPs should go with what was **agreed** at the meeting they attended with us regarding the purpose of the group as we did not have any additional suggestions. Regarding secretariat for the group we need clarification on what they would expect from the person providing this, where would meetings be held etc. It was raised that there were no List MSPs for Glasgow on the List and how would the group ensure it would be cross party after a discussion the community council felt that the local MSP would be part of the forum and **agreed** to contact MSP Sarwar who has been supportive in moving this along invites the local MSP to the meetings also as we need support from all parties to keep the issues of Govanhill at the forefront of the Scottish Parliament. **Action: Secretary to contact MSP Sarwar advising what had been agreed above.**

- ! Chairperson asked if we had any contact since the last meeting from the Roma Society Scotland and was advised we had not.

Matters arising Continued

Asda Planning application: Chairperson advised he attended the meeting of the Mount Florida Community Council with two other members of the community council and they all **agreed** that those present for the Planning Development was not helpful at all and felt the application would go ahead regardless.

- ! **Meeting with Leader of GCC** - Notes of the meeting were circulated to all community councillors before the meeting and no amendments were raised. The meeting with the Leader of GCC went well and it was **agreed** at this meeting that the community council will be given a place at the table of the recently formed Govanhill Regeneration Group after a discussion it was **agreed** that M Nisbet represents the Community Council at this meeting to be held on 22 February in committee room 3 at the City Chambers. We raised with him concerns about cuts to Council Services in this financial climate and asked if he would protect the additional resources that Govanhill currently has and also protect the support teaching staff in our local schools. It was also **agreed** that once the notes were circulated to Community Councillors and agreed we would write to the leader of GCC, MSP, List MSP & MP regarding protection of additional resources in our local area. **Action: Secretary to write as agreed above.**

Secretary Report

List of Mail In and Mail Out were distributed ore meeting and there were a few actions arising from them:

- ! **Email from CCRC** advising appropriate use of funds to take table at the ALC Event **Action: Agreed to take table at the ALC event**
- ! **Email MSP Sarwar re: Cross Party** Forum and also secretariat support for it **Action: as per matters arising**
- ! **Email plus telephone call from J Grays Office** (democratic services) re: Representation on the Govanhill Regeneration Group **Action: Agreed M Nisbet to attend February Meeting**
- ! **Notes from Meeting with GCC Leader Cllr F McAveety** had been circulated to community councillors before the meeting and

Secretary Report Continued

members advised as per bullet point three above. As no amendments came forward it was **agreed** that the note should now be sent to Cllr McAveety **Action: Secretary to send to Cllr Mc Aveety**

Administration

The secretary raised that it would make life easier for her if she could photocopy community council minutes, agendas etc for distribution at meetings at the Larkfield Centre who offer printing services to groups who use the centre and as the community council use the venue on occasions there wouldn't be an issue getting it done there. The centre would on a monthly basis send a detailed Invoice for printing used by the Community Council for payment. After a discussion it was **agreed** by the Community Council to use this method for printing required to do the secretary's job.

Treasurer Report

The treasurer advised the meeting that we have **£2,619.11** in the bank. There was one Invoice this evening for payment from Larkfield Centre for printing of minutes, agendas, mail in/out lists, list of actions from meetings, CCRC briefings etc for £12.88

The treasurer advised we have also received the Grant from GCC for administration of the community Council for the sum of £554.51 and 28p interest.

Councillor Report

Cllr Hanif apologised for missing previous meeting as he was on annual leave and out of the country.

He also spoke with education and advised that they legally have to have places available for primary school pupils within 1.7 miles from home to school and 3 miles for secondary schools. Regarding temporary classrooms they say there would be issues around health and safety and toilet facilities and additional teaching staff.

Councillor Report Continued

The councillor also raised there has been an increase in complaints for dog fouling Dixon rd, Allison Street, Cathcart Road and that he is having a walk-about with LES and asked if we have any issues of concern could we take pictures and send I'm the details for pot holes, dog fouling, broken pavements etc.

AOCB

Govanhill Community Development (GCDT) Trust Shop Front

A community councillor raised this and concerns about what the shop was about and how it was not very disabled friendly for people in wheelchairs. After a discussion it was **agreed** that the secretary writes to GCDT to ask what the aims and objectives of the shop, why is there nothing on the shop front to advise the community what it does and also ask how it is funded. **Action: Secretary to write to GCDT as above**

Drug Offences

A community councillor raised concerns about the drug stats in Govanhill and especially that people are being stopped with less than £10 of cannabis/hash on them and felt the figures given by police were not accurate this was agreed by a second community councillor who has heard also that many are being stopped for less than £10 of cannabis/hash on them. They spoke about FOI to see what percentage was for cannabis/hash or heroin etc

There was a difference of opinion and a community councillor felt that drugs are illegal regardless of the weight/monetary value of them. After a discussion it was **agreed** that as a Community Council we **would not** request a FOI regarding this matter as we as a community council did not know what we wanted to do with this information and that it would possibly take resources from the street to pull this information together. Community Councillors were advised that anyone can ask for a FOI.

**Date of Next Meeting 13 March 2017 at 7pm
Samaritan House, Coplaw Street**