

MINUTES OF MEETING OF NEILSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL TUESDAY  
25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 08 AT 7PM IN THE GLEN HALLS, NEILSTON

Present: Kenneth Allan, Claire Boyd, Janis Connery, Anne Marie Convery  
Rita Fox, Betty Hay, Steven Healy, Gordon Hicks, James McCulloch, John Scott,

Apologies: Margaret Pettigrew, Cncllr. Buchanan

Visitors: Gavin Kinnell, John McGuire, R. Little, Cncllr. Green, Cncllr. Gilbert,  
Constable Berry, Inspector Kate Jackson, Lyn Clark ERC.

- 1 Minutes of the previous Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> October were not available due to a family bereavement. They will be made available with the Minutes of this meeting. Apologies from Margaret Pettigrew.
- 2 **Police Report:** Constable Berry informed the meeting that there were 2 serious incidents in Neilston during November; 9<sup>th</sup> an attempted Murder and 14<sup>th</sup> a car set on fire and the police are appealing for Witnesses. There were also general vandalism and traffic incidents. The meeting was informed that the figures were no longer available and People should refer to the Neighbourhood Watch website for information on local incidents. There is a crime update on this page. Inspector Jackson has stopped the report on statistics due to the time involved in officers compiling these figures which include all incidents and are not a true reflection. It is felt that this was not good use of Police time. The meeting was not happy with the new system as not everyone has access to the internet and would prefer information that showed trends in the area. There is a Statistical Dept that compile these figures on an annual basis but not on specific areas, Inspector Jackson agreed to find out if this could be done more frequently. Community officers should be able to give reports on trends locally.
- 3 **Matters arising from previous meeting.**  
Christmas lights. These were found to be too costly at the Area Forum Meeting. They will write to Cncllr. Buchanan regarding this as it was felt that ERC staff did not check the trees properly to confirm that they had proper electrical power. Therefore the tree will be in Pig Square. St. Johns. It was also noted that the wall at had been fixed. Sykes Terrace. The grass has been cut and the youth have moved back to this area.

Cattle on the road. Mr. Little raised this issue again as the hedge had not been repaired despite a letter going to the farmer and East Renfrewshire Council. Mr. Little had spoken to Andrew Tweedie, Property and Technical at ERC, Amanda Robb at ERC, Community Police at Barrhead and Giffnock with no result. Inspector Jackson informed the meeting that this would be a civil matter and suggested the council write to Legal Department to find out who owns the land. It was noted that the owner of the land may not be the owner of the Cattle. Action: Rita

- 4 **Inspector Kate Jackson** – Inspector of Communities Policing Unit  
Inspector Jackson informed the meeting that there were 2 Community Officers in the area when she arrived and that Barrhead alone were allocated 12 officers. There are now 8 across the remaining areas. The 4 School Campus officers are also coming under her unit in the near future. Currently Ronnie Berry is the Community officer in Neilston and it is hoped to increase that to 2 when there will be more appointments from late spring 09.  
Mobile Police office will cover Neilston Uplawmoor and Eaglesham and the current office will close. The model used in Ayrshire has been considered to work well and has 1 main officer in the mobile office and 2 officers on bikes. Councillors and Community Councillors will be invited to view and discuss the mobile office on 17<sup>th</sup> December. Mobile officers will not attend calls, the core officers will do that. A rota covering all areas will be set up. Dedicated Community Police officers can be contacted on 532 6282 when the can be put through to the officers, if present, or a message taken. Or contact through Strathclyde Police Website, [neilston,uplawmoor and north means community policing team@strathclyde.pnn.police.uk](mailto:neilston,uplawmoor and north means community policing team@strathclyde.pnn.police.uk) or Barrhead office answer machine on 532 6213  
It was raised that a shoplifting incident in the afternoon of 14<sup>th</sup> November was reported that the evening but Police did not attend until Monday. Inspector Jackson will check out the delay. Crime Reports taken over the phone by the Call Handling Unit are allocated to officers to follow up.
- 5 Reports –  
**Roads Department 17<sup>th</sup> Nov.** This was a positive meeting with a number of issues discussed. The report on the meeting will be sent out with the Minutes of this meeting. Cncllr. Gilbert will request a programme of road repairs from the Roads section. It was felt that the Council should do more to follow up utility companies whose standards of repair are very poor and contributing to the bad conditions of the roads.

6 **Master Plan for Neilston –**

Phil Prentice, Economic Development Manager gave an input to the meeting. Information locally is coming via the NVRG. We have experts involved looking at a strategic view for a 10 year period covering roads, housing, parking, the Mill. Allan Simpson, Urban Designer, Professor at Glasgow University is involved and he has a great deal of experience in regeneration both here and in America.

Specialist team of designers who will be consulting with the community in 2009. The NVRG is made up of community reps, business people and Councillors. ERC have given all Town Centre funds for 08/09 to Neilston to assist with this regeneration.

Promotion of the initial ideas will be promoted through all possible avenues before Christmas.

January – the team will be looking at village as a whole, identify potential development that can be done quickly, giving their initial impressions. There will be workshops and training sessions open to all the community to attend to see and discuss the possibilities for Neilston.

There will be consultation on views of the village, what development do people want to see e.g. a quiet village where people live or a more thriving village including employment opportunities

**Programme:-**

- PR marketing taking place now
- Exhibition after Christmas
- Project Launch January, showing the initial thoughts of the team
- Town Team – expand membership of NVRG to include young people, local farmers
- Training Sessions in February
- Workshops on the plan so far
- Charter – showing the basic Masterplan, the future of the village
- Implementation Team – elected members of the community
- Great opportunity to plan ahead for Neilston despite the credit crunch

Joint Funding: East Renfrewshire Council £20K  
Barrhead Housing Association £10K  
East Renfrewshire Council £10K  
East Renfrewshire Council £25K for early projects

East Renfrewshire and Barrhead Housing Association will be involved as facilitators in this plan. Barrhead Housing Association has brought a lot of funding in the area. Wider Action Funding from the Government has funded a Community Worker who has carried out a lot of work locally. BHA are keen to develop in the area with the involvement of the community dictating their needs.

It is hoped that this plan will dovetail into the bigger ERC plan currently ongoing.

**Treasurer's Report :** £1812.65

**Correspondence :-**

ERC Planning Dept. Received acknowledgement of objections on the Station Yard proposals.

New Legislation- Energy Performance Certificate is now required from 1<sup>st</sup> December when selling property. See the website.

Community Council Review - A working group has been set up from representatives from each CC to seek approval of the new scheme due for adoption on 18<sup>th</sup> March. It was suggested that our AGM be put back to April to fall in with this. This was agreed by the meeting

Copies of Councillor Green's letters:

CHCP - The 2 Wardens from Fordyce Court have now been moved to Kirkglebe and have settled in well.

Neilston Cemetery - There are 4 stages to the development and the issues of the wall and gate are felt to be less urgent. Next stage to be approved. Defer to January agenda

Strathclyde Police - letter to Supt. McDougall asking for monitoring of speed on vehicles at Kirktonfield Rd.

Arriva Buses - SSPTTE response to Steven's letter confirming that they were withdrawing. It was noted that United have already put up the fares because they have a monopoly. They need to provide low level buses. United now give an hourly Sunday service

ERC Rent increases - Report going to Cabinet 17<sup>th</sup> December for 5.5%

Capital programme – Sheltered Housing £50K  
Kitchen/Bathroom programme will finish this year

License Applications received for comment. –

Black Horse, Broadlie Road - passed

Co-operative Store - passed

Mains Store - passed with conditions. Partitions to be  
Erected in front of drinks display.

Sunday hours should start at 12 noon

Action: John

Date of next meeting: 7pm on 27<sup>th</sup> January 09 at Glen Halls

MEETING OF NEILSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES WITH  
ROADS DEPARTMENT, EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL, MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup>  
NOVEMBER 08 AT 10.30AM AT SPIERSBRIDGE OFFICE

Present: John Scott (Chairperson), Steven Healy (Vice Chairperson), Charles Armstrong (Roads Department), Lyn Clark, ERC Community Worker, David Little (Roads Department) attend for a short period.

Discussion took place around traffic issues in the Neilston Area as detailed below:

- 1 Car Park at the shops - This area is owned by ERC Housing Section. Charles will approach Andrew Tweedie regarding repair of the car park. Housing will have to sanction the budget for the repair.
- 2 Broadlie Court - It was requested that 'Keep Clear' bar markings be put at the corner in the hope that it will stop parking there. Charles pointed out that this is only advisory. It was also requested that a dropped kerb section be put there for easier access.
- 3 Zebra Crossing - It is felt that the Zebra was 'unseen' because of the busy area at present and it was agreed that it was poorly defined. Charles indicated that an order was in place to redo the white lines along the whole of Main Street and the crossing. It was requested that future consideration be given to moving the crossing further down the street as there were issues, in particular with funerals accessing the chapel.
- 4 Pig Square/Kirktonstyle lane - The Council will arrange to remove the Private Road sign which has appeared there. Residents cannot put up signs, the public have a 'Right of Passage' for access through private roads. Issues with a lorry parking there regularly, ERC can highlight the problem to the company who own the lorry or it can be reported to the Police. HGV regulations state lorries should be parked at the appropriate depot.
- 5 Robbs Garage - The issue of school children having to cross the road to access the pool or library was raised. Charles will consult the plans to confirm where the boundaries are. Charles suggested that perhaps bollards could be put at the back of the property and a guard way at front. Charles will look at this.

The issue of 'council' workers painting lines for Robb's was discussed. Charles clarified that the Council pay a contractor for the length of lines painted and not 'for their working time' so the Council would not be paying for this work. The cost of painting lines was requested which is approx 50p per metre.

- 6 Holehouse Brae - The pavement is unable to be used due to overhanging hedges. Charles will check who owns the ground and arrange for the hedge to be cut either by ERC or write to the owner of the ground regarding this. There are potholes where the road appears to have been dug up and not restored properly. Charles will check this.
- 7 Crofthead Cottages - The situation of the private road was discussed. Charles confirmed that the Council are prepared to adopt the road after it is brought up to Standard, as we are already aware. Charles informed the meeting that the Council will provide Technical assistance regarding specifications required, Scale of apportionment, send out tenders to companies regarding the work etc. All residents who have frontage onto the road need to be included, even if it is a nominal sum. Residents must have a minimum of 70% of the residents in agreement before the Council will consider taking this forward with the residents. Charles was unaware of any funds available to assist the residents with this.
- 8 Sykes Terrace - Traffic calming was discussed in this area. David Little from Roads explained the criteria used in the system using Double Hedges Road as an example. This includes the number of accidents, Including ages of victims, volume of traffic, housing density etc. David agreed to carry out an assessment of Sykes Terrace around late spring/early summer 09. The Council are now using a longer and lower speed bumps on the roads.

Other issues discussed: -

Siting of speed repeater signs. The sign on Neilston Road was felt to be in the wrong place and would be more effective further up the road. David Little agreed but explained that access to a power supply dictated this sight. These signs are now contrary to Regulations and the criteria is now to use new generation cameras that are mobile and can be sited across the authority. These cost approx. £7/8k each.

Windmill/Solar energy signs. These are being used but due to lack of sunshine the Solar signs do not work properly. 2 Windmill have been lost/stolen in the Neilston area.