

KILDRUM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of Open Meeting held on Wednesday 30th October 2013 at 7pm.

1. PRESENT

Committee Members:- Bill Dempsey (Chair), John Millar (Vice Chair), Hugh Johnston (Treasurer), Josephine Lewis (Acting Secretary), Elizabeth Whitelaw, Joan Findlay, Steven Carlaw, Linda O'Halloran.

Guest:- Mr. Adrian Waddell, Senior Factoring Manager, Sanctuary.

Police:- Constable Steven Murray.

Councillor:- Tom Johnston

Members of the Public:- As attendance sheet.

2. Apologies:- Gerry Docherty, Adam Smith and Mary McArthur.

3. Minutes of Meeting of 25th September 2013:

These were read and agreed. Proposed – Joan Findlay.

Seconded – Linda O'Halloran.

4. Welcome:-

Chair welcomed everybody.

Mr Waddell had agreed to be present to explain, first hand, the position regarding removal of nuisance play areas. Other matters and ongoing concerns will be discussed as A.O.C.B. (item 10).

5. Play Areas:-

Recap of problem:- 3 No. of play areas had been provided within the new housing area at Clouden/Lochlea Roads. These areas had become the focus for the congregation of badly behaved youths whose actions has caused much misery to the residents in immediately adjacent houses. After much consideration and complaint, the agreed solution would be the removal of these play areas. Petitions were made to Sanctuary who had agreed that removal would be the effective solution.

No action seems to have been taken – Mr Waddell has come to this meeting to clarify the situation..

Bill Dempsey recorded that Kildrum Community realises that there is a desire for safe play areas and that appropriate provision should be made. The community appreciates that some people use these areas legitimately and properly for their young toddlers. Existing residents have no difficulty with this. However:-

- a) The existing areas are too near some houses.
- b) They attract congregations of indisciplined youths.

- c) These youths are offensive, cheeky, loud, and they swear, expose themselves, drink etc.
- d) This situation makes life miserable for neighbouring residents (the majority of whom are senior citizens).
- e) The situation and annoyance is aggravated by the fact that residents have to pay for the upkeep of these areas – this was a 'take it or leave' condition of getting a new home. Outsiders can use the facilities but do not have to pay.
- f) N.L.C. have been asked to assist in the removal but so far refused to help.
- g) There are 41 owner occupiers and 10 'Sanctuary' residents.

Police have been called many times and agree with the above description of the problem.

The meeting put questions to Mr. Waddell who confirmed the following:-

- a) Sanctuary is committed to the removal of these areas.
- b) This commitment will not change, even if residents, new to the area, petition to keep the equipment.
- c) Funding alone is the only problem that prevents action.
- d) £19,000 is the estimated cost of removal. This includes removal of surrounding walls and fences and making good of the area with landscape planting, edging etc.
- e) He confirmed that there is ongoing dialogue with N.L.C. regarding re-use of equipment elsewhere. Mr Tom Johnston suggested that the equipment could be suitable for use in a variety of leisure locations if N.L.C. was consulted.
- f) There is ongoing consideration for use of the money adjustment from developers in lieu of play area provision in the latest redevelopment of Ainslie/Maclehose area. This sum is £27,000. Mr, Waddell agreed to ascertain who in N.L.C. is responsible for allocation of this money.

General discussion ensued with questions from the floor and explanations and observations from Mr, Waddell.

The possibility of equipment being made available for private procurement, for sale or for scrap, might present difficulties with safety measures and insurances when fixtures are being removed. Residents organising removal might meet similar difficulties.

Although Sanctuary is a large concern, the sum of £19,000 is prohibitive unless met by all residents; cost to each of approximately £370. A show of hands (from affected residents only) showed this to be unacceptable.

Chair was anxious that something must be done and suggested that a 'first step' of equipment remove only, should be considered. Mr Waddell estimated (very approximately) that this operation would cost each resident around £97. This was much more acceptable to the affected residents present. He would consider this possibility further.

The possibility of the play area near the Medical Centre being used for parking to alleviate congestion problems was raised. Mr. Waddell said this would probably entail changing 51 title deeds – a prohibitively expensive exercise. Perhaps this area shown as 'play area' on the title deeds could remain as shown but commonly used as car parking as a play area activity???

The question of maintenance , of all these areas was voiced from the floor. Mr Waddell said the areas were regularly inspected, daily inspection was planned.

It was evident that further meetings – of affected residents only – would be necessary. Mr. Waddell agreed to consider all suggestions and pledged his best efforts for resolution.

Chair thanked the meeting and Mr. Waddell for a meaningful discussion. Everyone looked forward to some beginnings of solutions.

- 6. Treasurer:-** Hugh Johnston Reported:-
Balance - £2840.32p - Petty Cash - £163.46p.

Communication leaflet was being arranged.

Computer equipment and stationery will be bought when suitable items become available,

7. Correspondence:-

Letters have been received which include:-

- (i) Letter from N.L.C. re street signs and house numbers.
- (ii) Letter from N.L.C. re blocked drain – saying Water Board are responsible.
- (iii) Letter from NHS re Flu Jab – everybody encouraged to get treatment.
- (iv) Notice regarding closure or reduced public opening times of Police Stations.
- (v) Advert for play equipment,
- (vi) Letter and appeal regarding War Memorial Trust.
- (vii) Letter from politician.
- (viii) Letter from N.L.C.. Housing and Social Work Services – they hope to come to meeting of 27th November.

All correspondence can be consulted at any time and personal replies made by any resident. Committee will reply as appropriate.

8. Police:- P.C. Steven Murray reported:

The police had 'followed up' all concerns voiced at the last meeting.

- a) Parking problems are noted and fears/frustrations understood. Some incidents are deemed Anti Social Behaviour and are dealt with immediately on reporting by Public.
- b) Bad parking, especially in front of private garage, lock-ups should be reported as this constitutes an offence.
- c) Palacerigg tree burning and graffiti at bridges were investigated.
- d) 188 incidents were reported.
 - 47 crimes reported (26 detected).
 - 1 serious assault (stabbing) committed.
 - 3 common assaults.
 - 17 thefts (2 detected).
- e) Some old people had been targeted in their homes.
- f) Speed traps are employed where required to combat Anti Social Traffic violations.

The constable gave sound advice regarding many other concerns and dangers.

Doors should be kept locked at all times as passing by 'opportunist' thefts were evident. Would be thieves walk round 'trying' doors.

Some observations were voiced from the floor.

9. Councillor Tom Johnston:-

Mr. Johnston made personal inspections and observations and was pursuing many concerns with notification to appropriate authorities.

- a) Some A.S.B. Issues.
- b) Rail and slope at Maclehose Road footpath needs attention.
- c) Dry stane dyke at Afton Road needs rebuilding.
- d) New houses to have BT and Broadband.
- e) Winter gritting programme had been issued.
- f) Severe bend at Maclehose needs inspection by NLC.
- g) It was noted that road calming bumps were to be provided at Ainslie Road – why not at old Lochlea Road?

Chair thanked Mr Johnston for his continued service and sound advice.

10. A.O.C.B.

- 1) **TRAFFIC & PARKING at LOCHLEA ROAD.**
Chair has arranged for an 'on-site' discussion with N.L.C. traffic engineer/planner/manager. Concerned residents of Lochlea Road will also be present to voice worries, make suggestions and hopefully receive N.L.C. solutions.
- 2) No progress on development of OLD NURSERY SITE – Chair is in regular discussion with planners.
- 3) Still no details regarding Cottage Theatre extension proposals.
- 4) Other traffic concerns – parking, barriers, etc., are subject of an ongoing discussion with N.L.C.
- 5) 'First Bus' are to leave Cumbernauld – further details required.
- 6) **CARE & REPAIR**, service is available in Cumbernauld where 'odd jobs' can be carried out by professionals at minimal cost to over 65's. Phone 0800 048 2882. More leaflets will be procured to detail further.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Chair thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th November 2013 @ 7.00pm. (Committee meets at 6.30pm.).

**KILDRUM COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MEETING on 30th OCTOBER 2013
'Y' CENTRE ROOM, AFTON ROAD, KILDRUM.**

COMMITTEE MEETING – 6.30pm.

- A. Eight Committee Members met to consider concerns to be discussed at following open meeting.
- B. Bill Dempsey (Chair) reported :-
- i. Mr Adrian Waddell of Sanctuary will be present at the following open meeting to explain the situation regarding nuisance play areas.
 - ii. John Ashcroft, NLC road engineer, will meet with B. Dempsey and Mrs Mulholland, on site at Lochlea Road, to further consider traffic dangers, road features and parking provision . Other interested residents will be present.
- C. Committee members will consider wording of a communication leaflet to be printed and distributed.
Adam Smith, Hugh Johnston and Bill Dempsey had met to buy a new laptop computer, tablet organiser, and other items of stationery as necessity required. The supplier had still to contact Adam Smith regarding availability of chosen items.
- D. Correspondence: Several items had been received – to be discussed and answered as appropriate.
- E. Treasurer: Balance £2,840.32p.
Petty Cash £163.46.
- F. Date of next meeting was agreed for 27th November 2013.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL	
CORPORATE SERVICE	
27 NOV 2013	
CR	HR