

Westerwood Community Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 10th January 2019

in the Westerwood Hotel, 1A St Andrews Drive, Cumbernauld

Present

Community Councillors; Tom Law (Chair), Bill Crosson (Vice Chair), Liz Coats (Treasurer), Tony Williams, Willie Kenneth, Grant Wallace, Martin Stone and May Haggerty.

Councillor Alan Masterton.

Police Scotland; Sgt Stephen Shanks, Officer Catriona Blair.

Approximately 36 residents from Westerwood Community.

Welcome

Tom Law welcomed everyone, opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and introduced the Community Councillors, Councillor Masterton and Police Scotland.

Police Scotland

From December 1 to January 10 there have been no reported crimes in the Westerwood area. One instance of bank card fraud was referred to the police in London. Mention was made of an attempted murder in Carbrain for which 4 suspects have been held in custody.

Review of 2018 Activities – Chair, Tom Law

3 planning applications (Ogilvie, Walker and Cala) were rejected by the Scottish Government Reporter. Several Community Councillors have improved footpaths on the old 12th fairway, which has led to an increase in walkers, and dog walkers, using this amenity space. Hopefully the developers will take note and not reapply to build on the sites in the years ahead.

Traffic issues on Dullatur road were reported to Police Scotland and NLC Roads Department which resulted in Police Scotland monitoring the speed of vehicles on 2 separate occasions. New prominent 30mph signs and a road surface roundel were installed at the start of Dullatur Road (just off the Dullatur roundabout) by the Roads Dept. These measures have helped towards reducing the speed of motorists on Dullatur Road.

Following a request from the Community Council for remedial work to be implemented the hotel management cleared a drain near the former 10th fairway and trimmed overhanging branches on trees in Kings Drive.

Due to an increase in dog litter on pavements a new dog litter bin has been provided on Kings Drive and anti-litter notices have been attached to lamp posts.

Additional grit bins have also been promised by the Roads Dept. These will be located at the entrance to Queens Drive and Kings Drive.

Vice Chair Remarks – Bill Crosson

Thanks were extended to all Committee contributors in the past – Anne Clark, Fraser Morrison and Lynne Hunter – as well as the current Community Councillors.

Councillor Alan Masterton, in particular, has been a regular attendee at Community Council meetings offering strong support across a wide range of issues.

Also mentioned were Police Scotland for their help and advice on security, crime updates and road safety measures.

Our appreciation to the Westerwood Hotel, in particular manager Bill Burnett, for the facilities provided to hold the AGM.

Treasurer Report – Liz Coats

To date the funds stand at £670. This includes an initial sum of £109 from NLC as well as recent contributions from 17 residents (4 of which are Community Councillors). We already hold quotes for the supply of materials to replace the fences at Kings Drive. An appeal to add to our funds was made to those attending. A further reminder will be sent to residents on our mailing list.

Outline Plans for 2019

Area Improvements – These include replacement of fences at Kings Drive; maintenance of new pathways; creation of further woodland paths; cleaning of bollards.

Website – Enquiries to continue about setting up a new website.

Amenity Developments – A new planning application has been lodged with NLC in respect of the future development at Westway Retail Park. The plan can be viewed and comments placed on the Planning Department web site. The planning reference number is 18/01750/PPP.

Easter Event – An Easter Egg Hunt has been suggested along the former 10th, 11th and 12th fairways but this would require the commitment of residents to support this venture. Talks are

to take place to discuss the viability, suitable date in April and whether the Westerwood Hotel could be involved.

Opportunity for 'Event Days' such as a Litter Collection Day to improve the local environment was put forward. Potential for this to be raised with Bill Burnett when in talks about an Easter Egg Hunt.

Community Involvement – A number of the projects mentioned would require additional help from residents to assist with the works to be undertaken. A question was raised about securing costs and possible supply of snow clearing equipment.

Croy Station

Councillor Alan Masterton described the current activity related to the forthcoming partial closure of the car park at Croy Station due to resurfacing work, and the thinking concerning future consideration of local public transport provision. A brief discussion ensued with respect to the need for co-ordination between bus and train links.

Meetings Planned for 2019

The following is a list of dates for forthcoming public meetings –

7 February; 7 March; 2 May; 6 June; 5 September; 3 October; 7 November; 5 December.

The next AGM is scheduled for 9th January 2020.

All meetings will commence at 7.30 pm.

Provisional agreement was reached on holding future public meetings throughout 2019 at the Westerwood Hotel, subject to a discussion with the hotel management to secure these dates. The general issue of establishing a co-operative approach to dealings with Westerwood Hotel, where possible, on matters of mutual interest and benefit while maintaining an independent stance for the Community Council, was discussed. The meeting agreed that this was an appropriate stance for the Community Council and will form the basis for further discussion.

Any Other Business

St Andrews Drive - An open discussion was held about the destruction of the woodland area to the east of St Andrews Drive. Ogilvie own the land which is designated as plantation. They obtained a licence from NLC in 2018 to harvest the trees. It is believed conditions pertaining to the licence require Ogilvie to consult with adjoining neighbours (which has not happened) and that they should replant within a 2 year period of felling the trees.

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A question was raised about restriction of operating times as one resident whose home is adjacent to the site was wakened at 5.30 am by the noise of machinery and large bright headlights penetrating his bedroom. Enquiries will ensue to try to discover the person to whom complaints should be registered.

It was stated that a large amount of debris from the trees was now covering the pavement in St Andrews Drive creating a hazard for pedestrians walking downhill to Eastfield Road.

Close

Tom thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.00 pm.