



# Gorgie Dalry Community Council Meeting Minutes Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2018

## Present

Angela Astor, GDCC (AA)  
Euan Chancellor, Police Scotland (EC)  
Laura Baird, GDCC (LB)  
Aaron Peters, GDCC (AP)  
Nancy MacDonald, Garvald (NM)  
Rev Gooljary, St Martins Church (YG)  
Sonia Squires, St Martin's Church (SS)  
Cllr Denis Dixon, CEC. (DD)  
Jim Park, GDCC (JP)  
Matthew Reilly, local resident (MR)  
Rona Brown, GDCC (RB)  
Joan Gordon, local resident (JG)  
Adrian Herbert, GDS Church (AH)  
Major Mark Gilden, The Salvation Army (MG)  
Michael McMullin, GDS Church (MM)

## Apologies

Cllr Ashley Graczyk, CEC, (AG)  
Cllr Donald Wilson, CEC. (DW)  
Joanna Cherry, MP (JC)  
Kathy Fulerton, CEC (KF)

## November Minutes

JP approved and AA seconded.

## Correspondence

A local resident complained about us putting in a letter of support for the Co-op development.

## Police Report

PC Euan Chancellor spoke on behalf of the local police officers. Kirsty has moved to a different area.

Housebreakings: November saw 6 incidents, 1 detection so far.

Assault: November saw a stark decrease in assaults, 10 reports with 7 detections.

Road Safety/Initiatives: 6 incidents reported, mainly leaving the scene of an accident and failing to report.

Theft: November saw a slight decrease from previous months, 31 reports, 7 detections. Again mainly bike thefts.

Hate Crime: 2 incidents reported, on both occasions store security guards were racially abused by youths.

ASP/ NPS/ Incidents of Note:

A party flat had all noise making equipment seized under legislation: occupant was arrested and put to Court: noise making equipment will remain with Police for 28 days.

Online fraud is on the increase.

Two police officers were assaulted during an arrest.

One male was found in the street with a knife, put to Court.

Operation Aftermath has been put in place to address drug use and supply in the SW of the city. Should anyone have any information regarding this I would suggest phoning Crime Stoppers to report this, a big intelligence picture allows us to take action.

To date several individuals have been charged and a large quantity of drugs recovered.

November saw a total of 441 calls, 31 of which relate to public nuisance calls.

A total of 106 crime reports were raised, 50 detected so far.

Good news:

Increased number of drug recoveries.

Male charged with 62 bike thefts – many stolen from Gorgie/Dalry.

You can contact the local police as follows:

Email: [EdinburghCPTSighthillGorgie@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:EdinburghCPTSighthillGorgie@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

Phone (non-emergency): 101

Follow on twitter at: @PoliceScotland or @EdinburghPolice

Discussion:

AP – knife crime seems to be common? Yes, tends to be younger men. The courts are hard on knife carrying.

JG phoned the police about a dumped bike in back green. Police encourage people to phone in to report bikes that have been dumped.

YG – notes hate crime against polish family in last report. What's the process? A- A PC will be allocated to the victim and do their best to resolve it. Hate crimes are a force priority. There is an adult concern form that would trigger support from health, social service, etc as appropriate.

RB – People coming and going at back of a church converted into flats – possibly drug dealing. Jamie has been made aware of this. PC suggested phoning 101 to report.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Bills paid since last meeting: £93.38 to food bank.

Donation to church for Homeless support: £150 to Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Church.

Gorgie Dalry Business Association gave us £655.49

Our bank balance is £2167.15

### **Welcome**

Rona asked everyone to introduce themselves for the benefit of our visitor – Mark Gilson Salvation Army.

Mark is from the west coast of America, helps lead the local Salvation Army on Gorgie Road.

YG: The Bethany Shelter run homeless shelters every night. Would be good if the locations (different every night) were advertised in the community.

### **Planning, HMOs, Licencing**

Nothing to report.

### **DD councillor report**

Listened to police report – there is more going on. Jordana Emmerson reported for the South West area. DD will give us more info in the next meeting. Anti-social behaviour at Westfield Avenue is ongoing. Block 22 Dunedin Canmore housing has had a lot of issues, which has made it difficult for local residents. The Wheatley group from Glasgow run the area and have brought in Glasgow police to manage the situation. DD encourages us to let him know if bothered by anti-social behaviour.

The Scotmid development was refused planning permission. DD tried to get it through, but the committee was unsupportive. Design and massing were given as the reasons. The design had been greatly altered in response to previous comments from the planning department. Vote was 2 vs 9 against (Joanna Mowatt abstained). The letter from us at the GDCC was disregarded, but DD's not sure on what grounds. The developers will have a chance to appeal. JG pointed out the design had improved to overlook nearby flats less.

JP said that although we generally supported the plan, it would be good to have a vote on such issues. RB said we usually come to a consensus. JP says it's important to demonstrate our support with a vote. It would have given our letter of support more legitimacy.

Mathew asked if it was important to give our reasons for supporting a planning decision but DD said more important if objecting, but not necessary when supporting.

JG was going to write to Scottish Water about the traffic flow at Ardmillan Terrace while they did roadworks. The traffic lights went out when the

roadworks were going on. It was hours before the police directed traffic, or the lights were fixed.

YG says there's a lot going on in the area and suggested a community newsletter would be good. Maybe 3 times a year to let everyone know what's going on. Recently there was an A5 leaflet put out once. Could we cost up writing a community newsletter? Arron suggested having a community notice board and website. YG thinks it would be good to have it to collect at community centres and churches. YG will cost up the cost of printing it.

LB doesn't have an intercom in her stair – 5 owners and 3 council tenants. People are coming in and using drugs. DD invited LB to email him again. DD said it should be a common repair from the stair committee, but LB said landlords are not interested in paying. MR said he got a leaflet through the door from the council about common repairs. MR will send the info on for LB.

### Planning

MR noticed an application for giving planning permission for a shop to convert to a flat. MR wrote detailed objection letter and Kathy Fulerton supported. MR will read planning applications and report. There's a meeting at Westfield Road on Wednesday about a furniture shop near Wickes with a pre-planning application for student flats

YG's neighbour at 14 Ardmillan Terrace is applying for planning permission to replace a hedge full of sparrows with parking instead of the garden. It will destroy the look of the terrace, and remove an on road parking space.

NM is fundraised for a lift for Garvald. Planning permission has been requested for an extension for a lift for accessibility.

### Parks

Gorgie Dalry community park - we'd like to do something about it next year. We could have a memorial for the person who died there. We are going to do more with the park. It needs more bins. DD says it's better lit now, and better used now that it's used as student access. The students would like picnic benches. JG suggested the Coop as a local funding source we could apply to. DD asked if the rare wasps were still there.

### Events

We had the Christmas lights switch on. Thanks to MR and JG for judging. Gift Island won the best-dressed shop window competition. It was a very nice event, with the school choir, YG's address, the Tynecastle School pipe band and Santa. We will discuss meeting in White Park for the next Christmas switch on. YG suggested a better microphone to pick up the children and people less used to speaking. A gazebo to keep the speakers dry would be good. AP suggested applying for lottery funding. The noise from the bus stop at Gorgie Farm is distracting. White Park would be quieter. DD suggested speaking to White Park residents association. The pipe band were great. We have emailed the pipe major about a donation we'd like to make to the pipe band.

YG – the SA play lovely music and maybe they would like to join us. Might move the lights switch on to the Thursday. AP – maybe not good to have on the same day as the big light switch on.

YG – what about the Gala in Murieston? Ashley is looking into a Gorgie Dalry festival, which would be nice to have. YG would like to be involved in organising it.

The Jazz festival got funding to come to the Gorgie Dalry community. They will be holding the Jazz Festival in St Brides and around the area. There will be a carnival, the jazz and blues festivals, Mardi Gras in Dalry, North American storytellers, and champion ballroom dancers resident in Gorgie Dalry for 3 months.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec there will be mince pies and carols from 2-3pm at St Martins' community centre.

The Garvald Christmas day went very well. Music was great, and people had fun.

### **AOCB**

RB asked MR and JG to join the community council. They would both like to. RB nominated JG, AH Seconded. AA nominated MR, RB seconded.

JP performed in a food bank play. There was an article in The National on it and it was performed in Parliament and in Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Hearts were collecting for a food bank.

MM– homeless centre will open on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Temporary shelter in GDS church just now. Got some Christmas decorations and beds. The building is still being built. 70-80 people can be accommodated. Demand is extremely high at the moment. Universal Credit is making the problem much worse. JP says that people wait 5 weeks with nothing. RB says to put pressure on Scottish Parliament to mitigate this Westminster policy. JP says the food bank play was really listened to by the MSPs. The community council condemns the impoverishment of local people.

The Salvation Army has provided 600 kids and 200 families with presents and food at Christmas.

Free family cinema at St Brides on the 14<sup>th</sup> Dec at 12 noon, showing Father Christmas and The Snowman. There is a lovely family atmosphere at the St Brides cinema events.

### **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Feb at 6.30pm, Gorgie Dalry Parish Church, 190 Gorgie Road, EH11 2NX.