



# Gorgie Dalry Community Council Minutes Monday 3rd June 2019

## Attendees

GDCC:

Angela Astor – AA

Rona Brown – RB

Adrian Herbert – AH

James Hogg – JH

Aaron Peters – AP

Mathew Reilly – MR

Graeme Russell – GR

CEC:

Denis Dixon

Ashley Graczyke

Local residents:

B Lyon

Laura Wise

Jessica Glade

Alex Ortiz

## Welcome

The Chair welcomed members of the public who had not attended previous GDCC.

## Quorum

The meeting was quorum and apologies were read out.

## Previous Minutes

Chair explained that minutes tabled were accurate but full minutes were not available as they had not yet been sent to GDCC by the emergency minute secretary at the last meeting. Tabled minutes were taken from notes gathered from those who had attended. Approved by MR and JP.

## Correspondence

St. Bride's Cavalcade Carnival Social on Sunday was well attended.

## Treasurer Report

Balance is £901.75.

Annual accounts are ready for approval.

Bill has been paid for public liability insurance £170.14.

Income from City of Edinburgh Council due September 2019.

RB suggested again using money for a memorial bench in the community park for a gentleman who fought with others to keep the park when a large shop was planned for the space. Now the last real open space for the community. Also require bins.

RB also mentioned repairs are required to GDCC noticeboard at Gorgie City Farm which is shared with the farm. It urgently requires repairs, which is a joint cost.

### Police Reports

Housebreaking 9 ongoing.

Assaults 16. 8 dealt with so far.

In April, domestic abuse regulations now state controlling behaviour prior to offence is now added to reports and if children are involved in the household then this can be an add on offence (mental torment).

Road safety detection no problems. All dealt with.

Thefts have increased as have shoplifting offences.

2 hate crimes suspected. Detected and investigated.

Constant checks re knives on person, usually drug related.

Drugs increased detection where science increased.

Calls up to 405, 17 of which were nuisance.

GR asked about speed control of 20mph – is it working out with rush hour? JB responded that Police Scotland now have 14 vehicles with Auto Number Plate Recognition (ANPR).

Antisocial behaviour – Westfield Ave reports in EEN. JB + DD said that a few tenants cause problems for many but are being dealt with by eviction etc. RB mentioned EEN reports – incident in Westfield Avenue.

Dunedin/Canmore now under Wheatley Group who pay funding for 2 police officers from Police Scotland. 2 were brought from Glasgow to assist with situation at one point. JB – it was two sergeants and one inspector from Glasgow. RB + GR – EEN article was possible exaggerated, JB + DD had clear details of situation which was very helpful. Drug related individual, Dunedin Canmore can work with police on this, special funded police used for similar in Glasgow and had a good outcome. Dunedin Canmore / Wheatley James Edmonds in Glasgow +1. DD – resident had threatened to report the problems to newspaper. Vulnerable tenants targeted. GR explained very difficult to carry out repossession. BL thanked police as recent bike theft resolved and police assistance was appreciated.

### Planning

#### 1. Scotmid

RB – at last CC meeting, we voted for a public meeting re supporting letter sent by GDCC. We had this on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019, and voted 4-2 to support, but lodge our concerns on the way the developer had carried out various procedures although legal not helpful. Since this meeting the developer withdrew their application. We have to be aware they can and may reapply, so vigilance is required. RB – many of CC's wanted it noted decisions we make are looking at the whole area of Gorgie Dalry, as we have always been known as Gorgie Dalry with no Gorgie town centre. Appreciate it is Gorgie Sighthill ward but Dalry is there too. We do not or try not to involve personal feelings or things that affect us. Resident support was good, looking at wider view was dismayed by Scotmid tactics. JG – wanted a discussion if this reoccurs application 1-1. GR – GDCC is a wide area of Gorgie Dalry. Decision is good at present slightly changed it, but view was done for whole area. 120 student's income

to local economy – there is no blanket view on any part. Decision on all merits to each item. Any individual living anywhere can send in opinions to CEC. GDCC's vote carries no more weight than any other. Criticism from 1 group – we are formally constituted. We do not know about others. AA – We were consulted by developer and consultation with public 2 days and we did meet in November. CC website advert. Reinstated website now. Social media updated and people will do more to promote. AH – developers contact with locals and residents especially should extend further than 25m. Ask for how much info is given to residents. GR – agreed neighbourhood notice radius should be larger or we question their actions. Local residents thought it was GDCC duty to inform – it is the developer who is bound to inform residents or give info. RB – this is the first time there's been an incident like this. JC (resident) – thought this was a good idea. GR – Ashley did local residents notification, but problem for others is lack of time and resources. AP – print posters for display in supermarket etc. RB – ad Xmas light switch on – suggestions. BL – developer should put notices on site early. MS – raise this with council. AP + DD explained applications are in local newspapers. Councillors on planning grounds Scotmid could end up empty shop. RB – we require balance in community. GR – DD's comments are well made on planning grounds immediate environment. Justify grounds – best judgement from officials at the time. AP – stated there was a need for student accommodation. DD – GD is town centre now.

## 2. Westfield

RB – Development of over 400 units. GDCC requested an extension granted until 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019. This was a 21 day extension to discuss and write a letter. MR showed a plan of the area. AA attended two days of plans – public display had little info or decisions or awareness of area and not seen anything much since. GR – developers are always looking for sites 450. Private developer, dense development. Is that scale detrimental to area? MS- 25m radius very few residents in that but many just beyond. How many are aware? GR – few residents. MS – work environment. AP – notices in stairs etc. RB – resources are limited to do this. AG – student planning guidance. Many in alternative accommodation social housing. In this area with good transport it is easier. JP – scale is a concern and not in favour of this. MR – scale is an issue. MH – not necessary against, abstain. AP – support application. RB – vote too big. GR – reason for this and parking require more information. MR – excessive concentration of student accommodation. GR – ¼ mile away from another large student residence already on Gorgie Road. AG – special report – support student accommodation. Not defined. DD – 200m town centre Gorgie Dalry. RB asked MH to investigate matter and policy. GR – report to planning. VOTE – 5 against, 2 abstain. JP – agree vote was democratically carried out

## 3. Richmond Terrace

Application is in. DW has put in objection. 38 student units. AG – possibly delayed twice developer considering next step. MR – detail no letter sent 1<sup>st</sup> search not consulted. BL – Dalry Colonies Residents Association (DCRA) local application not a statutory body extended deadline and sensitively, contact with GDCC. MS – DW has objected. BL – advertising. GR – councillors encourage developers to contact GDCC. DD – CEC contact is Julie Ross. GR – ask developer determination day 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and consult community. Student development prolific in area developer. Concern guidance by Scottish Government amplifies development provision and what we expect as residents. DD – invite for presentation. MR – will email J Ross for developer to come to GDCC July meeting. BL – asked about community duplication plus when will next application be. DD – can have a deputation if requested. MR – contact about decision – contact developer to contact GDCC. AA – small development application regulation same as larger proposals. BL – normal pre application has not happened. Question of what is accepted. DD – council refusal up to war, councillors and call for info presentation. AC – development difficult access to site area is listed. Access road is very narrow and causes many problems at present. RB – thank you all for bringing these items to GDCC's notice.

## 4. Murieston site

Student accommodation proposal (Masonic lodge and building site). 122 student units. Local residents are aware there is no local support. 37 against so far. Residents – plethora of accommodation, parking congested at present and significant distortion of community. High density already in area and other parts of Gorgie Dalry. Closing date 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. Local resident in regular contact with GDCC who initially informed her. AG – advised there was an application approved 2016 for this site and will stand for 3 years from date of approval which was 2018. What exactly it is for is not at all clear as no one is aware of this. Therefore, if this latest plan is not approved, they can fall back on previous until possibly 2021. MR – approval 3 years to pass. Park in area

for community use. Questions: 1) height of building 2) nearby railway line bridge etc c) cycle tract move? Approach CC. System is inappropriate. VOTE – 6 for, 1 against. BL – mass of material

#### 5. Haymarket development

21 days for comment. New plan:

- Increase public space
- Money to build available
- No residential on site
- 3 office blocks

GR – will invite developer to GDCC.

#### Councillor Reports

AG: Caledonian Crescent dumped furniture ongoing, always increases at certain times of year. Possibly put notices on lamp posts with CEC phone numbers. Telfer subway large puddles, water gathering Orwell Terrace overflow reported and bins.

DD – Dalry Park clean up good response and a few local residents came to help out. Craig Dunlop to be contacted for plant area tidy up. Pavements – Orwell and Murieston to be repaired. Westfield Road – fly tipping environmental warden. Wall being rebuilt. Westfield Avenue – Hazel Young re anti-social behaviour.

#### Parks

Saughton Park – Princess Royal to open park June 2019, local opening 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019. RB – asked AG re invite to this. Hydro scheme money is now available. Back greens waiting for JG. RB – Community Park clean up local residents and family helped. Said parents and children from Dalry school regularly use park and would possibly be willing to help in future clean up. BL – in Colonies do regular residents clean up. N McDonald Garvald also do clean up. Next clean up possibly Friends of Westfield Park.

#### AOCB

GDCC AGM is possibly going to be in July or August. Elections for CC Sept 2019.

JP - for 11 years 2 benches were onsite on pavement on Dalry Road outside the school, have been removed two weeks ago? Why? Letter to environmental services asking if they are being replaced or just in for refurbishment.

MS – community noticeboards around area e.g. Community Park, Saltyard, St. Bride's, Farm.

#### Date and time of next meeting

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 7pm