



# Gorgie Dalry Community Council Minutes 7th December 2020

## Attendees

GDCC: Angela Astor - AA, Joan Gordon - JG(Chair), Moira MacKirby - MM, Alex McKendrick - AM(Treasurer), Laura Wise - LW(Communications Officer)

CEC: Denis Dixon

## Local Residents:

Nancy Bryson - NB, Nancy McDonald - NM(Garvald), David MacLennon - DM(GDS Church), Chris Myerscough - CM(Secretary of Duff Street Res Assoc), Craig Smail - CS, Amanda Proud - AP, Fiona - F.

## Welcome

JG opened the meeting, welcoming everyone and facilitating introductions.

## Quorum and Apologies

Apologies were received from Rona Brown (Vice Chair), Susanne Muller (Gorgie Collective), Alex Ortiz (GDCC), Matthew Reilly (Engagement Officer)

The meeting was quorate.

## Previous Minute and Matters Arising

DD had put in an objection about his report in the previous minute. After a discussion it was agreed to approve the minute with the exception of DD's report and approved it in February with his part rewritten. This was to allow the meeting to continue. Thus DM proposed and AA seconded the minute.

The actions were reviewed and the open matters arising detailed as follows:

### March

- 06: RB to see if any paperwork left from Planning Workshop (needs access to St. Brides)
- 09: RB to investigate options for storing paper records (currently at St. Brides)

### November

- 03: Flytipping - action from GDCC pending.
- 07: LW to investigate potential switch to Teams.
- 08: SM to enquire about materials and potential cost to repaint Telfer Subway.

### December

- 01: JG to check with Governance to enable us to proceed correctly.
- 02: School posters - winners chosen, 6 prize vouchers requested and sweets for the 3 classes to be purchased and handed out.
- 03: Fly tipping - GDCC was quoted in the Edinburgh Evening News and Edinburgh Reporter. MR was interviewed on film by a student journalist re - flytipping. Many more local people are reporting the problem and being directed to the correct site by GDCC,
- 04: MM to make a FOI request to find out scale of the flytipping problem both city wide and street by street in the GDCC area.
- 05: The Public Space Consultation finishes on January 12th. Everyone encouraged to participate. "How public space will be changing"
- 06: AM to contact police to request a police presence or report at the next meeting.
- 07: AM will contact Edinburgh Association of Community Councils to see if other CC's are getting Police reports

### Correspondence

- 01 There is an opportunity to restore a site next to Balgreen Primary School back to allotments, working with other CC's.
- 02 Duff Street - problems with antisocial behaviour.
- 03 Public Spaces consultation - ends mid January.
- 04 Network Rail sent notification about works which will cause the roadway under the bridge at Robertson to be narrowed. LW asked for an information event. They couldn't have an in person event and were asked for an online one.

### Planning

There was an amendment to the Westfield Student Accommodation Windows. A technical detail.

### Teams or Zoom

Discussion on merits of both. Zoom - we are all familiar with this but are aware that Councillors, Police etc can't attend unless using their own personal devices. At present we are using MM's personal ac.

Teams - Justin as easy to use. The CC's mobile phone can still be used. There is close captioning to enable hearing impaired people to join in. Councillors can join in.

The cost of each was investigated and found to be similar - approx £15 to £20 per month. LW would help people to sign on to Teams as required.

All were in favour of changing to teams.

### Flytipping

Great concern that this is getting worse. LW indicated that many more residents are reporting directly to the Council as the CC is circulating details of where to report. The council will always lift reported flytipped items.

DD suggested that he be sent photos of waste and he would pass it on through his "hotline" DD also suggested he would ask someone from the waste management team to attend the next meeting. We can ask him on how we can reduce Flytipping

NB asked if people are still paying to have bulky items removed correctly. She suggested we contact Zero Waste Scotland to talk to us for ideas.

If we are getting waste uplifted eg. garden waste we should ask to see the contractors permit to dispose of waste correctly.

There was a suggestion to have a notice to raise awareness of the problem and how to report to be added to the Council Tax notification.

DD thought the Police were investigating the videoed incident of fly-tippers in the car park behind the Co-op on Dalry Road. DD has also been in touch with the new police inspector, Trisha Clark, who is being very responsive to us. DD is sure that she will supply a written report for the area. The council budget for policing has been cut to almost nothing.

### Duff Street

Chris Myerscough - secretary of the Duff Street Residents Association - spoke about antisocial behaviour and thefts in her area. She understood that the Council had been granted new money for CCTV cameras and wondered if the Council would support cameras being put into residential streets. This might also help with the fly-tipping problem. Hers is a very mixed area from deprivation to wealth.

DD told us that the money was mainly to upgrade the ancient CCTV control room in the City Chambers. He was sympathetic with Chris's position but stated that many people also object to cameras.

### Place Making Survey

LW suggested the CC conduct such a survey - what is it like living in the area? What are your views and perceptions? Problems in the area? Have a section on antisocial behaviour. Gorgie Collective had done one a few years ago.

### Youth Engagement

NB asked what is there for young people to do? She is starting a youth club at Broomhouse. DD told the police had put forward and had been involved with many initiatives with young people at Saughton Park. The new CCTV cameras there were vandal proof. Both Council and Police resources were now very limited.

### Engagement and Communication

The Christmas Windows and Christmas Posters had been put up on the Facebook page and all looked very festive.

GDCC and Cllr Fullerton had asked Cllr McInnes why our suggestions had had not been included in the Spaces for People review. The October letter will be resubmitted and we will be included in the December review. If there is no reply by December LW will contact the Council to get the decision. Thanks to Cllr Fullerton for her support.

### Councillors' Reports

November Minute - DD had reported the graffiti for the Council to attend to. He also reports all flytipping matters that are sent to him and which he sees on his walkabouts. The November minute should be changed to show this.

He would submit a written report in future.

LW asked permission to publish his - unedited - report on the website. She would send examples of what other CC's do regarding Councillors reports.

### Parks

AM and RB had planted bulbs in the Community Park in Dalry.  
AM is waiting for the invoice for the memorial bench.

Sauchiebank Wood there had been objections about losing so many trees. Most were self seeded. The CC had passed the plans for the cycle path with the caveat that the number of trees to be cut would be reviewed. The area would be replanted. Jacob Arranson had been invited to write a blog about Dalry Cemetry.

#### Christmas Events.

RB and MR were judging the Christmas Windows.

#### AOCB

Homing, Housing, Homeless and Fair Work Committee Fund had a project for the enhancement of the Public Realm of Gorgie Dalry. The fund stood at 2 million and 500 pounds. We were asked for input by January 15th.

The TSB Bank is closing on March 15th. Letters had been written and Joanna Cherry had acknowledged this. DD and Cllr. Fullerton had campaigned about other bank closures but they didn't listen. DM stated there would be only 3 TSB banks left - our nearest being Hanmer Street.

NB suggested perhaps a Credit Union could provide a banking service.

Christmas Food and donation. DM would send AM details of the Bethnal Christian Trust who are running the homeless hub at Haymarket. AM to check the funds and send a donation of £100 direct.

NB brought up about speeding cars in Murieston. DD to check.

#### DONM

1st February 2021.

JG thanked everyone and wished us all a Merry Christmas