

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAINS ESTATE RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

Held on Wednesday 18 FEBRUARY 2009 in Clober Primary School at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Mr I Petrie, Mrs E Gibson, Mrs R Hooper, Mr N Weir, Ms J Horn, Mrs S Longrigg & Cllr Gotts

Apologies

None

Chairperson's Opening Remarks

Ian Petrie welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that he had accepted the resignation of Joan Docherty.

Minutes of Meeting on 14 January 2009

These were proposed by Neil Weir and seconded by Elizabeth Gibson

Matters Arising

The committee were grateful for the super turn out by residents and Milngavie Boys Club for the park clean-up. It was a very successful day. Our thank you letter was published in last week's M & B Herald.

We were pleased to note that the Water Works car parking planning application was rejected. Neil and Rona had attended the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The current balance of the account is £1,962.13.

Ceilidh

Ticket sales are slow. However, it was decided to wait until next weekend (which will be the end of the month) and then consider sending out a reminder and placing an advert in the Milngavie & Bearsden Herald. Rona confirmed with the janitor at Douglas Academy that we can go in at 4 p.m. and set out the tables for the ceilidh. We can put paper tablecloths on, possibly balloons and paper bowls for the nibbles etc.

Park Update

As mentioned earlier the clean up was a great success and we were extremely grateful for all the help and support. It was also decided to make a funding application to Milngavie Community Council to see if they would support this cause.

AOCB

Cllr Gotts advised that the Water Works application had been rejected. He also informed us that he along with 2 MSPs, our MP and Local Members had attended the new build schools at Douglas Academy and Bearsden Academy. Douglas Academy is progressing well and should, hopefully, be ready for the Summer and pupils returning after their summer holidays should be able to get to the new building. With regard to Hunter Road the compulsory purchase route is still being followed, albeit slowly. The difficulty is that parking bays cannot be placed at the T junction with Castlemains Road and therefore a traffic order would require to be obtained in order to clear that area of vehicles. Parking bays would require to be where the grass verge areas are.

Council are working on the new Local Plan.

The Town Centre Steering Group met, along with members from the Civic Trust, Community Council & Traders Assoc., representatives from Tesco. It would appear Tesco are listening to suggestions and have not yet submitted their planning application.

First Bus have withdrawn the express service into and from Glasgow under the "X" number. Cllr Gotts has made numerous representations to them. They have now shown a willingness to meet and MERA have indicated we would support any meeting that could be arranged. The poor state of the buses has been highlighted together with the fact that in order for people to trust the service it must stay relatively the same and must be reliable. There have been reported incidents of drivers not picking people up and not stopping when passengers have put their hands out etc. The poor state of the roads is also making journeys difficult. It is understood that First Bus should provide a team of "dust busters" to regularly clean the vehicles at strategic points.

It was also raised, and supported by members, that dog fouling in Mains Estate and Milngavie as a whole is becoming a major issue. We shall therefore write to EDC and our Councillors highlighting this issue. A common feeling is that those policing this should work out with 9-5. It is under cover of darkness or early morning before going to work that people are not picking up the dog poo. It was re-iterated that there are many good responsible dog owners who are being let down by an irresponsible section of the community. It has also been noted that children are taking dogs out and parents may be unaware that they are not picking up. A recent Citizens Panel Survey has just been completed and this is one of the issues highlighted in this survey. It also highlights that East Dunbartonshire has a relatively low crime statistic, however as dog fouling is an issue that concerns people this should be tackled by police, community support officers and the dog/litter warden. All these bodies have a responsibility to enforce responsible dog ownership.

This winter representations have also been made to our committee regarding the gritting and the clearance of leaves. We have agreed to write regarding these matters in order that the estate can be programmed correctly into the maintenance for next year.

Sarah has also confirmed that she is still progressing with the possibility of setting up our own website which we are all supportive of

Correspondence

We were contacted by a fitness instructor named Scott e-mail diffusionpt@yahoo.co.uk . He has indicated that he would be willing to participate in any future events that we hold in the park. It was felt that we could not sustain an event solely for this purpose, but should we hold a similar event that we had last year with the birds of prey etc we could consider contacting Scott. He recently held sessions in local parks in the area which were covered in the local paper.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 11 March 2009 in Clober Primary School, Kirk Street, Milngavie

Points for action

We will however communicate via e-mail after next weekend to determine any action we require to take re promotion of ceilidh and preparation for this event.

We shall write to EDC and Councillors re dog fouling, gritting and leaf clearance.
(Rona shall effect this)