

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MAINS ESTATE
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Held on Wednesday 6 June 2012 in Clober Primary School at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Mr J Kerr, (Chairperson) Mrs E Gibson, (Treasurer) Mrs R Hooper, (Secretary)
Mrs S Longrigg, Mrs J Horn, Mrs F McNeish, Cllr J Gibbons & Cllr E Gotts.
Residents as per signing in sheet.
Environmental Wardens

Apologies

Mrs E Adie, Councillor M Henry and Mrs Duff,

Chairperson's Opening Remarks

JK welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the committee, Police, Environmental Wardens and Councillors for their support throughout the year. A brief summary of events that were attended and dealt with over the past year were mentioned.

Presentation by Jackie Gillespie EDC Strategy Officer

A very informative presentation was made by Jackie Gillespie of EDC on the wonderful countryside surrounding Mains Estate.
JG advised that the woodland and countryside surrounding the estate was a very interesting area and suggested improvements that could be carried out to the surrounding area. Woodland was planted in the late 18th century and is now part of the Core Path Network. Pig Nut grows which was cultivated in middle ages and was written about by Shakespeare. In times of famine people used to forage for it. This indicates the area has not been disturbed for a long time and indicates this is old woodland as also evidenced by the native bluebell. Also indicates area of special interest. Red campion, another woodland species, along with ground elder which was another food plant. Drifts of blue flowers. Wood avons small yellow flowers whose seed heads have hooks to attach to animals to spread. Bugle fantastic for insects, ladies mantle and many more. She also advised that this was a super habitat for wildlife with pink purslane which is good for bull finches and many others so good for wildlife. She mentioned that even the estate boundary wall is also good maidenhair, along with ivy is good for nesting birds, bats etc. Trees reflect the natural ancient woodland and 365 different species can live in one oak tree along with the enjoyment of having the beauty of the tree. There are common lime trees from which you can make tea. Hawthorn which is type of shrub. Anything over 30ft is a tree, under is a shrub. There are Rowan trees, amongst others which are good for winter feeding. Excellent yew trees too. It was also suggest that there are few open areas

where we could be more selective in doing some planting i.e. honeysuckle which is good for bats. Areas which need thinned out and perhaps some chainsaw carving could be done and we could involve local children. Plant more flowers. Re the super play park, JG advised a large area of wet ground at bottom has ladies smock where butterflies lay eggs. Buttercups in park and are getting rarer. Hybrid northern marsh orchid. Ragged robin another rare plant again great for wildlife and this is growing in the park. Benches would be good carved to reflect the area as seen at Kilmardinny. Opportunity to do meadow planting. There is a large area of wetland and could look at amphibian pools in park to attract dragonflies etc. Cost about £1000 for one carved bench.

Minutes of Annual General Meeting on 8 June 2011

These were proposed by Mrs A Telfer and seconded by Mr I Ferguson

Matters Arising

It was pleasing to note that Hunter Road improvements had been carried out. However, it would be appreciated if the Castlemains Rd, Hunter Rd junction could be tackled. Cllr Gibbons advised that it had been touch and go whether anything got done at all. However, Hunter Road is still ongoing. Historically the work had to be done in order to retain the funding for this. It is noted that the pavement is well used already. Thus ensuring childrens' safety. A brief history was given by Cllrs Gibbons and Gotts as to what works were carried out. Resident asked to formulate an action plan for Hunter Rd some feel it a bit of a waste. A request for an action plan for the area was made and for MERA to perhaps write highlighting the junction. It was mentioned that the Community Council are requesting a masterplan for the Milngavie area. Some residents felt Castlemains Rd was still a danger area and it was agreed to write to EDC. Perhaps double yellow lines, perhaps letter to planners to invite someone from Roads Dept. along to our meeting for consultation and suggestions, even single line. Those present were informed that we did not proceed with planting of trees as mentioned in last year's minutes.

Police Report

Jim McLean Milngavie Community Policing Team Beat 82 advised there were 3 crime reports for estate, drugs, breach of peace and damage to Balvie Bank Cottage vandalism. WHW violent crime an arrest been made. Speed checks carried out and double parking. Request made to check Craigton Wood. Residents urged to tel 532 4000 and report anything. Hunter Rd residents are receiving a letter re parking and Cllr Gotts has requested police to monitor this. Parking still an issue. Residents would still like to see something done at the junction with Castlemains Rd. Buses at Castlemains Road there can sometimes be two parked at parking bay. The officer took a note of the problems.

Environmental Wardens Report

Michelle advised that the month of June will be dedicated to dog fouling issues within the area. Encourage to give as much info to wardens to identify dogs and owners and times as they are keen to tackle this problem. No butts campaign helped to get message across to smokers not to drop cigarette butts. Wardens are part of the night noise team 0300 1234510 to contact wardens re any issues and is manned 24hrs. The Wardens are now wearing body cameras which can help to record incidents. Barrachan at Reservoir a lot of anti social behaviour. Maybe not local people Underage drinking trying to tackle this too working alongside police. Report anything you think they can help with. Noise pollution from buses encouraged to report to Environmental Health who can come out and take readings etc. Residents mentioned that there is a shortage of bins for litter and there is a shortage and Michelle advised an EDC audit will be carried out. Another resident mentioned noise from seagulls at water feature with 36 crows and seagulls noted at one time. A seagull cull was suggested and Alastair Sharp is noise officer who would deal with this. It is an offence at this time of year to interfere with birds. New terminus for the bus, drivers are emptying the ash trays at this area. Bin is now always full of rubbish from the bus. Michelle took note of these things.

Treasurer's Report

The current balance of the account is £7802.14 which includes a donation from Tarmac for play equipment. The meeting was advised that out of the 1000 households there are currently only approx 150 who pay subscription.

Website Update

Residents were encouraged to sign up to the website to receive automatic updates and notifications. Instructions were in the newsletter. Had more hits in May this year than other months. It was noted that we would like to increase the number of residents subscribing to the blog. Only 18 receiving the blog on a regular basis. SL explained how the blog works.

Park Update

JH and RH advised that additional funds had been secured from Tarmac which has been used to provide and install the new goal posts in the play area and they are already being well used together with a new seat within play park. The meeting were asked what is feeling re seats and presentation? There was no strong feeling on anything but suggested getting a sign for play park stating who provided play area and stating that no dogs to be allowed in play area. Trees lining Academy Way could be monitored to ensure they are not getting too big and close to property. Play equipment older children have been noted on it. Woodland at bottom could be looked at. One resident enquired if there were increasing number of foxes around but there did not seem to be.

AOCB

We had comments by letter about noise from motor cycles at Stockiemuir Rd, police are monitoring it. We have taken the matter up. There was strong feeling regarding the bus terminus at Castlemains Rd that it was not appropriate. It was agreed to write to First Bus to ask if terminus could be returned to Baljaffray._

A resident asked if MERA had been asked to consult on Waitrose proposed development but we had not yet been formally asked by Waitrose, although some members did attend.

Election of Committee

A request from the floor was made that the committee be re elected. Mr Duff proposed that committee be re-elected and this was agreed by the entire floor.

Correspondence

None, other than those mentioned in previous sections.

Date of Next Meeting

29 August 2012