

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAINS ESTATE RESIDENTS'  
ASSOCIATION

Held on Wednesday 23 October 2013 within Douglas Academy at 7.30 p.m.

**Present**

Committee – Mrs E Gibson, Ms J Horn, Mrs R Hooper, Mrs F McNeish, Mrs A Mandeville & Mrs S Longrigg

In attendance – Environmental Wardens Allan Band & Sharon Thompson and Police Officer Charlene Miller from Milngavie Police Team & Inspector John Hunter. Mrs Jackie Gillespie, Neighbourhood Services Strategy Officer with EDC. Resident Mr Neil Miller. Also Councilors, Gotts, Gibbons and Henry.

**Apologies**

J Kerr, H McFadyen, L Robertson, Cllr Henry

**Chairperson's Opening Remarks**

RH welcomed everyone to the meeting which she advised would involve a lot of business and full discussion.

**Police Report**

Officer Miller advised that there had been 27 crimes of which 12 had been detected. The park had been given some extra attention and residents should still be on the look out for bogus workmen. Also to be reminded to keep valuables out of vehicles and/or locked away together with sheds and outbuildings. Vigilance for house break ins and to look out for others, particularly elderly and anyone who may be vulnerable. A report back was given regarding the 6/7 shots which were heard just before our last meeting. Previously it had been reported to the Community Council (CC) that this was a car back firing, however as heard by the Environmental Wardens and a committee member this was stressed that this was not the case and that no follow up enquiries had been received by either parties, despite our details being taken. However, we were given assurances that a full investigation was carried out and nothing was found. We also advised that the recent deer killings were causing distress to many residents and despite the police initially not being aware of the situation we requested that this type of savaging of animals by dogs be taken seriously. Mrs Gillespie also advised of other incidents elsewhere within EDC. Inspector Hunter assured us that this would be the case. We were also reminded that it is approaching the time of year for fireworks and bonfires to start and the police will also be busy with this together with working jointly with the Environmental Wardens and Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.

**Environmental Wardens' Report**

AB & ST summarised what had been happening which included a recent two week dog fouling campaign. No fixed penalties issued, however the fact that

a presence is there is a good deterrent. They also confirmed that they had been giving Craigton Woods, Mains Park etc extra patrols to help with litter, probably from the school children. The Wardens will also be busy with the Fireworks and bonfires.

### **Minutes of Meeting on 21 August 2013**

Agreed by all present.

### **Neighbourhood Services Strategy presentation**

Mrs Gillespie explained to us what type of tree planting was proposed for the park which would include Golden Weeping Willow, Western Red Cedar, River Birch, Broad-leaved Cockspur Thorn and Swamp Cyprus. It was appreciated that some of these species, although slow growing, will in years to come be large trees. However it was felt that this would add to the area making it more park-like rather than just open space. It was also looked on as planting for generations to come (capability brown moment). Several trees had already been taken down. It was agreed to fund the cost of this which would be in the region of £870 and Mrs Gillespie will arrange for this. It was also suggested that the hedging around the play park could be re-done as the hawthorn has not been a great success as the plants were too small and sparse, Mrs Gillespie has suggested beech for this purpose and will look into costing this for us and also to include the local school children in the planting of this. It was agreed to fund this hedging. Mrs G also advised that tests had been carried out into the drainage of the park and whilst the pipe underneath was there and clear it was just full of water as it had nowhere to drain. There could therefore be an option to open up the ditch as historically this was a ditch area. This would be done by giving it very gradual sloping sides and would help with the drainage and would encourage wildlife into the area. We will be kept updated on results of investigations and any progress.

### **Matters Arising**

Cllr Gotts advised that, at the moment, the Council were not pursuing the crossing at the Castlemains/Hunter Road junction. They had looked into the garages at the back of Hunter Road and Hunter Place and had decided this was not an option either. An application for a disabled parking bay has been received for outside the flats at this area and EDC would be looking into the grass verge at this area and the location of the services underneath to see what could be done.

The statutory consultation on the school estate is over meantime and the next stage will be in the New Year.

All newsletters have been delivered.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Balance £6267.95 EG circulated the EDC Community Grants correspondence and December will be the next meeting of the committee. The amount of subscriptions were standing at 155 households.

## Local Development Plan

A resident, Mr Miller, asked to address the committee regarding LDP 25 North of Old Mains Farm. Mr Miller lives near this field and advised that his purpose in attending the meeting was to tell us that he had issued a further newsletter to properties bordering this field, advising them of the situation. He told us that he had advised them to attend the meeting at the Town Hall on 31 October 2013. He also told the committee that he had contacted the local paper and was expecting a feature and his picture to be in the paper regarding this issue. He then was required to leave and could not attend our full discussions on the issue. RH did advise Mr Miller that the Association had made representation to EDC for the last Local Plan regarding the area and whilst we really welcome residents being active to support this it is extremely important that this is done in the most effective way. It was reiterated to Mr Miller that he should be encouraging residents to keep up to date via our website, and soon Facebook, and to contact the Association and come along to our meetings to get find out what is happening or e-mail the secretary. A copy of the letter he has sent out was asked for as a matter of courtesy.

A full discussion was held, as planned, regarding the **all** the various sites surrounding Mains Estate. These are LDP14 Hunter Road, LDP16 Craigton Woods, LDP25 North of Old Mains Farm, LDP 49 Tambowie Farm, LDP104 Chestnut Lane North & LDP 105 Chestnut Lane South. Views and comments were taken and will be collated to produce our final comments. These will be circulated round the committee and following attendance at the EDC meeting on 31 October 2013, which JK & RH will attend, any final comments can be made and our submission put to EDC before the closing date of 4 November 2013. We will also submit our comments to be included with the Community Council discussions and for their comment, we understand that the CC may have managed to obtain an extension to the submission date. It was also mentioned that whilst we are concerned with issues directly in the MERA area all proposals affect the MERA area when it comes to road congestion, transport, schools etc. It was also noted that Glasgow City Council are carrying out the same process for sites from Summerston through to Robroyston, much of which is greenbelt land bordering EDC. A portion of the area straddles Balmore Road which is accessed from Auchenhowie Road and is a main commuter route from Milngavie to Glasgow, Torrance, Kirkintilloch, Bishopbriggs and beyond. The Dougalston area has also been identified as an area where the status of the land could be changed for affordable housing in the LDP so all this has a knock on effect to all residents of the area. However, it is hoped Mr Moir's of EDC quote applies when he stated in the Evening Times on 19 October 2013 that "protecting the greenbelt in and around ED has always been a priority for this Council and we promote strongly the use of brownfield sites first and foremost for development". It was also felt that perhaps a comment should be made to the fact that EDC should resist any fracking applications in view of the fact that some have already been made in surrounding authorities.

### **Park Update**

Relevant points were discussed under the Neighbourhood View with Mrs Gillespie.

### **Website Update**

No real change since the last meeting but Sarah has been given the list of e-mails compiled by Elizabeth from those residents who gave their e-mail on the subscriptions form. SL has advised that she will be updating the website and we should be able to e-mail these people.

SL & RH had a meeting with a resident Ms Christie who had agreed to set up a trial Facebook page for the Association. It was felt that this would be another means of communication with residents. The committee agreed to this and that we would approach LR to see if he would be willing to meet with Ms Christie to learn how to monitor it.

SL also advised that she had a heavy workload at the moment and would have to step down from the committee meantime. However she has very kindly agreed to keep administering the website. The Committee thanked SL for all her hard work and were grateful that she would continue with the site.

### **Community Council Update**

RH advised that Fiona Risk had stepped down as Chairperson as her time at the CC had come to an end and she was required to step down. Callum Christie had agreed to be the new Chairperson. JH advised that she was still attending the Making the Most of Milngavie meetings and hopefully there will be a full update at the next meeting.

### **Residential Matters**

There had been mention of an issue at Endrick Gardens re parking and Service Roads but as we have not had further contact from residents and due to time restraint this can be carried forward to our next meeting.

### **AOCB**

None

### **Correspondence**

None

### **Date of Next Meeting**

11 December 2013

12 February 2014