

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAINS ESTATE RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

Held on Wednesday 12 February 2014 within Douglas Academy at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Committee – Mrs E Gibson, Ms J Horn, Mrs R Hooper, & Mr L Robertson
In attendance – Police Officer Natalie Chambers from Milngavie Police Team
& Councillors Gotts, Gibbons and Henry. Environmental Warden John
Timoney

Apologies

Mr J Kerr and Mrs F McNeish

Chairperson's Opening Remarks

RH deputised for JK and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Police Report

An effective initiative had been carried out within the MERA area focusing on speeding, particularly Castlemains Road. NC updated us on other issues non of which seemed too serious and the committee were pleased to note that a burglary in the Douglasmuir area had been stopped in the act. She also updated the committee regards patrols and it was pleasing to note that officers will be patrolling on foot within the estate together with travelling on public transport. The particularly bad problem of dog fouling at Clober School and pavements on Douglasmuir Road and Dunellan Road were highlighted and it is hoped that the police will work with Environmental Wardens in putting a stop to this.

Environmental Wardens' Report

JT confirmed that he was aware of the numerous cases of dog fouling at Clober Primary School and St Lukes Church and whilst the area had been visited, sanitised and leaflets distributed this was still ongoing. The Association stressed that the problem had been raised with us on numerous occasions too, together with the areas of Douglasmuir Road and Dunellan Road. The Association have asked JT if he can address this issue again. JT has also advised that he is arranging for a bin and for the local shops to give out free dog waste bags.

JT also updated the Association on the fact that from 2 April 2014 extra Wardens are being employed by EDC, making a total of 8, which should give more manpower. However, the Wardens will also be enforcing the parking regulations coming into force in April 2014 and will be involved with the introduction of the new parking charges the following April 2015.

Minutes of Meeting on 11 December 2013

These were agreed by all present with the one amendment by Cllr Gotts who advised that on the last page under "AOB" that the figure mentioned of £35000 paid each year by EDC over a 5 year period, as part of the BID, should read £30000, although Cllr Gibbons did confirm that with other funds due it would be in excess of £30000.

Matters Arising

JK had investigated the ownership of the land where a resident wished First Bus to relocate the bus stance to at Douglasmuir Road. However, Hacking and Paterson confirmed that this is owned by approx 100-200 households. It would therefore not be a suitable proposition at this period of time.

JK managed to walk with the Ramblers around the Core Path and the Ramblers have decided to carry out path repairs mostly on the Chestnut Lane side of the Core Path Walk in the area near Dumbrock Road. They have chosen Saturday 5 April 2014 and intend to start at 8.30 a.m. and hoping to end at 4 p.m. It is understood that the Ramblers may approach Clober Primary School and Douglas Academy to see if they would like to come along and participate in this path repair demonstration by the Ramblers. They hope to demonstrate inserting a path drain, culvert clearance, instating a path on a desire line, clearing overgrowth and trees. It is also hoped that MERA residents will volunteer and it was agreed at our meeting that we would provide financial assistance when an approach is made by the Ramblers once it has all been costed.

The Mactaggart Mickel development street names will be Earl's View and Earl's Gardens.

Scottish Water have agreed to look at the bursts in the area of Ardlui Gardens and we are awaiting an update.

Treasurer's Report

Balance £6,167.27 We have one more subscription and they now stand at 158. However, there are still cheques to be presented for payment to the bank which has not been done by EDC and are therefore still outstanding and the balance will be reduced by £1251.87. As stated previously there will be a contribution to be made to the path improvements around the Core Path. We thought we could ask for other ideas at the AGM and in our newsletter.

Park Update

Mrs Gillespie of EDC has started the planting of the trees although due to the weather and ground conditions this has not been completed.

It was with disappointment that it was noted that Mactaggart & Mickel had obtained planning permission for a sales sign to go at the entrance to the Park on Falloch Road where the Association had planted bulbs with the local schoolchildren. It was also felt that the planning application for this sign was misleading as it referred to the location as "site adjacent to Douglas Academy, Craigton Road, Milngavie" (TP/ED/13/0843) instead of the actual location

which is the Entrance to Mains Park on Falloch Road, Milngavie. RH spoke to planning and they agreed that this was confusing, however permission has been granted. They advised that Mactaggart Mickel can submit an amendment to move 6-8 ft along in order not to undo the good works already undertaken. This suggestion has been made to Craig Ormond of MM.

Website/Facebook Update

Things seem to be running along and RH has noticed a marked increase in the amount of residents contacting her as Secretary. Don't know whether this is because there have been many issues raised or because the information is beginning to get out, probably a mixture of both. LR advised that Facebook is still slow but is still in the early stages. We shall promote this on our newsletter in the hope that we can grow the numbers.

Community Council Update

There had only been one meeting since the Christmas break and many of the new members of the CC hope to be more active in their role and hope to engage more with the residents of Milngavie and our elected members. A website update for the CC is ongoing.

AGM Preparations

LR kindly agreed to prepare the newsletter and RH will send the text which can be put together with any photos.

Residential Matters

RH had e-mailed the committee in January 2014 regarding the numerous e-mails and contact she had received by residents of Ardlui Gardens, Achray Place and Kilmannan Gardens regarding a footpath which Mactaggart Mickel had created from their ground over a section of land owned by Ardlui Gardens' residents out onto the Service Road at Ardlui/Achray. On further investigation MM had advised that they had been asked to do this by the Headteacher and EDC. This is despite the fact that a few years earlier the Headteacher had highlighted this shortcut through the woods and after representation to EDC Mr Currie Head of Education subsequently sent out a letter to all parents advising that this was not a recognised route to school. The recognised safe routes to school are pedestrian access from Douglasmuir Drive, Falloch Road and pedestrian and vehicle access from Craigton Road. Craigton Road being the main entrance to the school. However Falloch Road is temporarily shut due to the MM building works, despite MM giving an undertaking that this entrance would be kept open. As Falloch Road is meanwhile closed children have been taking a shortcut along Ardlui, Achray and Kilmannan and there has been an increase in the numbers. With the appearance of the path created by MM residents were outraged and concerned with the safety of a Service Road being used. The Association managed to get a meeting arranged with MM, EDC and concerned residents held within Douglas Academy on 29 January 2014. It was well attended by over 30 residents and

Mr Corrigan of EDC and Mr Ormond of MM agreed that the path would be removed and the fence and mature hedge that was removed would be reinstated, and that Mr Corrigan would go back to the Education Dept. with a view to re-iterating the current routes and trying to discourage the kids from taking shortcuts. MM were also asked to get the Falloch Road entrance open again as soon as possible and it was suggested that this may require creating a robust and safe walkway for the youngsters.

AOCB

We had received a request to start a local type of Milngavie in Bloom whereby we could have a street by street clean up. It was felt the organising of this rota would be a fairly onerous task to include notifying householders and trying to get them involved. However, it was generally thought a good idea and would be put to the AGM in the hope that maybe some folks might come forward to help with this.

Correspondence

We received letters and e-mails of thanks from all recipients of our Community Champion Awards. Also thank you e-mails for arranging the Douglas Academy meeting.

We had received an e-mail advising that EDC had been successful in their bid for Heritage Lottery funding amounting to approx. £280,000 and as a result the "Trails and Tales" project shall be going ahead. What form this will take has still to be advised but could involve community and art projects and will run through every area of EDC.

When attending meetings at Douglas Academy it was reminded to those attending not to park in disabled bays at the school or turning circle.

Date of Next Meeting

16 April 2014

11 June 2014 AGM held within Clober Primary School