

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: Houston Community Council Meeting
May 2019

Location: Carrick Centre, Main, St Houston

Time: 7:30pm

Ref: HCC/06/2019

Date: 19/06/19

Sheet: 1 of 4

Present

John McEvoy (jmc)

David Dunlop (dd)

John Chambers (jc)

Sharon Chambers (sc)

Kathy McFall (kmf)

Elizabeth Dalgetty (ed)

Janet Mason (jm)

Nigel Hobbs (nh)

Representing

Houston Community Council

Houston Community Council

Houston Community Council

Houston Community Council

Houston Community Council

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Houston Community Council

HCC position

Chair

Vice Chair

Treasurer

Ex Officio

Cllr Audrey Doig (aud)

Cllr Jim Sheridan (js)

Representing

Renfrewshire Council (rc)

Renfrewshire Council (rc)

In Attendance

PC Dick

PC Norwood

Representing

Police Scotland (ps)

Police Scotland (ps)

Apologies

Gordon Wright (gw)

Carol Murray (cm)

Jake Fulton (jk)

Mark Arthur (ma)

Cllr Allison Dowling (ald)

Cllr Scott Kerr (sk)

Representing

Houston Community Council

Houston Community Council

Houston Community Council

Houston Community Council

Renfrewshire Council (rc)

Renfrewshire Council (rc)

Distribution: HCC members and uploaded onto HCC website and issued to Renfrewshire Council.

Minutes taken by: Kathy McFall

1.0 Apologies

Apologies noted by the people above.

2.0 Approval of Previous Minutes

March minutes approved by Janet Mason and Sharon Chambers

3.0 Police Report

3.1 Between the 16th May and 19th June there have been a total of 5 recorded crime reports, 2 so far been detected. The crime summary is:

- 1 x Theft by housebreaking / attempt (proowler, in and out of gardens trying doors)
- 1 x Theft by shoplifting
- 2 x Road Traffic Offences (failure to stop, minor damage; drink-driving)
- 1 x Fraud (online)

3.2 Speed checks conducted in village (one driver issued with ticket for 49mph in 30mph limit); police attendance at both Primary School gala days along with mounted officers, and at GHS Treasure Hunt.

3.3 Police arranging annual football competition, to be held on 2nd September at ON-X Linwood. HCC will contribute £25.00 in support.

Councillors' Report

4.1 AD reported that Education has approved roof repairs for St Fillan's Primary School, at a cost of £118K.

4.2 AD also highlighted that the first round of the Local Area Partnership (LAP) funding would be taking place on 20th June 2019. Grant requests totalling £170K had been received, with only £50K available. Discussion took place around local (village) and Renfrewshire-wide applications; clarification and consistency required.

4.3 AD provided information on a new Scottish Government initiative – Green Spaces – that focuses on the environment and outdoor facilities for children. Renfrewshire Council awarded £1.25M from town centre funds.

4.4 AD reported that there was the potential for the Houston & Killellan Church Halls to host all future election voting days to avoid closure of St Fillan's Primary School.

4.5 JS reported his disappointment in the rejection of the Safer Streets Bill by Scottish Parliament (a private members bill to reduce speed limit to 20mph in residential areas). In response to this, JS requested support from HCC for a Renfrewshire-wide bill to reduce speed limit as above. A report, which has cross-party support, is being prepared.

4.6 JS also reported that Renfrewshire Council are not able to request community benefits prior to award of any contracts in relation to new housing developments. Whilst this is acknowledged by HCC, there should be an opportunity to request support after the contract is awarded.

Treasurer's Report

5.1 JC tabled an update on the income and expenditure within the period of 15th May to 19th June 2019. A copy of this is available on request.

Chairman's Report

6.1 JMcE reported

1. Submitted Community Council's representation on Proposed Local Development Plan to Renfrewshire Council.
2. Attended bottle stall at Houston Show along with John and Sharon Chambers, David Dunlop, Nigel Hobbs and Carol Murray. Also used it as an opportunity to collect residents' views on the Proposed Local Development Plan and their thoughts on a Houston network of paths.
3. The Scottish Parliament has rejected Mark Ruskell MSP's Safer Streets Bill, which sought to introduce a national 20 mph speed limit for residential streets. I would like to propose that we now call on Renfrewshire Council to implement their decision, which had cross party agreement, to introduce this new speed limit in Renfrewshire in the event that the bill was rejected by the Scottish Parliament.
6. Peter Leslie has provided this report on plans for Houston paths.

Connecting Houston volunteers have progressed the project since we have last met by the following:

- 1) Started to create website
- 2) Walked the route to BoW
- 3) Discussed project with Sustrans
- 4) Engaged the community at Houston Show and will create a similar exercise on the website

The next step is to submit Sustrans applications and finish setting up website. To help this Peter Leslie requires around 10 photos of Houston area. They do not have to be active travel related, just photos we can use on the website that highlight it is about Houston and the local area. Please email peter with high res images at peterleslie80@gmail.com

The next update will come when we complete the application form and submit to Sustrans.

5. Cala Homes have submitted a PoAN for land south east of Woodend House and plan to hold a public consultation at the Carrick Centre on 27 August. We need to agree our next steps.
6. Along with Gordon Wright will meet with Paul Lunney, Senior asset and Estates Surveyor at Renfrewshire Council, on Thursday 20 June to take forward our asset transfer request for the land at Mansefield.

7. Mark Higginbotham of Renfrewshire Council has confirmed that white lining will be carried out but that there is a long list of other lining projects that predate this request. Our request was first submitted in October 2017.

8. Anne McNaughton will send a supply of pamphlets allowing us to promote the upcoming community council election. An election pack will follow at the end of July.

9. Councillor Dowling has updated us on status of the metal bridge at Ardgyffe.

Taylor Wimpey has agreed to do some interim work within the next two weeks which will involve a tree surgeon removing the trees growing out and over the bridge. They will also put a blanket of stone over the bridge to level out the surface. This should remove the trips and at least make the surface flat.

The company has also suggested various options for the future ownership of the woodlands behind Crawford Road, one of which is an asset transfer to the community council. Details of all the options have been sent to all community councillors. Stuart Graham, Renfrewshire's Partnership Manager, and a representative from Taylor Wimpey would be available to attend one of our future meetings to discuss these options, should we wish to accept their offer.

10. Cllr. Kerr has also submitted a report.

I am awaiting news from mark Higginbotham regarding issues about Cycle track on crosslee road at Co-op, Speeding again on Houston road.

I am delighted to be fully in support of Gryffe High Sports Facilities getting looked into and upgraded.

I am more concerned about the overall state of Gryffe High as I feel the whole school needs upgraded.

I am in full support of the local residents against the manse crescent planning application.

I drive around the local area once every 2 weeks looking for road, pavement repairs that may need repaired. If anyone knows of any they are looking to get done. Please let me know??

I have forwarded the latest update of ardgyffe metal bridge from the council but still waiting to hear from taylor wimpey.

There will likely be £250k left from the Renfrewshire Town Centre cash Boost. Please email any ideas you have that could improve infrastructure and community led regeneration in Houston to Stewart Macmillan at the council as soon as you can.

I also have a sign to pass on to use with the defibrillator.

6.2 DD suggested that the proposed scheduled CALA Community Consultation Event in relation to their POAN does not constitute meaningful engagement due to the timing (2.00pm – 7.00pm) and it was agreed that J McE would write to request they rethink their planning strategy.

6.3 HCC had received a request to consider an asset transfer for the bridges; it was agreed that this would not fall within the remit of HCC and would be passed back to the local residents.

Action Log

NH advised the **Action Log** had been refreshed and updated, and a template would be presented for discussion at the August meeting.

7.1 Planters / benches - request for update given that summer was approaching. Reported difficulties in installing benches; AD suggested contacting Malcolms to assist.

7.2 Renewal of white lines on roads – RC advised this is scheduled for September.

7.3 Plans for a second **defibrillator** within the BT Phonebox are progressing, though there is an 8-12 week approval process.

7.4 RC have advised that new **bus shelters** will be installed on Magnus Road at Lemn Drive and on Houston Main Street at St Fillan's Church in July.

Hydro Scheme

MA submitted a report for discussion. HCC approved the request for an ecology report (Step 2). Findings would then need to be presented to HCC before commencing with Step 3 (community consultation event).

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Consultation

HCC submitted two objections in relation to the Local Development Plan, namely Woodend House and the Manse Field. Copies of the responses can be provided upon request.

Christmas Light Switch-On

Discussion took place on the 2019 event; agreed that initial meeting should take place in July, with interested parties / sponsors then invited to attend a more open meeting (likely to be held in September).

10.0 AOCB HCC agreed that it would be helpful to provide information on local clubs and events that benefit the community. This would cover only Houston and Crosslee and would be hosted on the website. Work will begin on this in the autumn.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st August 2019 at 7.30pm in the Carrick Centre.