

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: Houston Community Council Meeting

Ref: HCC/15/03/2023

Location: Carrick Centre, Houston

Date: 15th March 2023

Time: 7:30pm

Sheet: 1 of 7

Present

Mark Arthur (MA)
Kathy McFall (KM)
Janet Mason (JM)
John McEvoy (JMc)
Trevor Hillman (TH)
Ian Andrew (IA)
Duncan Greenhorn (DG)
John Paul Cassidy (JC)
Bill Haddow (BH)
Lucy James (LJ)

PC Martin Norwood (MN)
PC Brian Dick (BD)
Cllr David McGonigle (DM)
Cllr Audrey Doig (AD)
Kevin Christie (KC)
Jake Fulton (JF)
Barry Walker (R)

Apologies

Cllr Robert Innes (RI)
Cllr Alison Ann-Dowling (AAD)

Representing

Houston Community Council (HCC)
Houston Community Council (HCC)
Houston Community Council (HCC)
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Houston Community Council (HCC)
Houston Community Council (HCC)
Houston Community Council (HCC)
Houston Community Council (HCC)
Houston Community Council (HCC)
Houston Community Council (HCC)
(Minute Secretary)
Police Scotland (PS)
Police Scotland (PS)
Renfrewshire Council (RC)
Renfrewshire Council (RC)
Gryffe High School (GHS)
Bee Happy Houston (BHH)
Bee Happy Houston (BHH)

Representing

Renfrewshire Council (RC)
Renfrewshire Council (RC)

Distribution: HCC Members, uploaded onto HCC Website, issued to Renfrewshire Council.

Chaired By

Mark Arthur

Minutes taken by

Lucy James

Representing

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Representing

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
1.0	Apologies All were welcomed to this month's meeting with apologies noted above.	Note	
2.0	Approval of Minutes of Meeting from 15th February 2023 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record of that meeting. Approved: Janet Mason Seconded: Cllr McGonigle. No further matters arising / raised.	Note	
3.0	Police Report PS/bd and PS/mn issued a written report at the meeting (refer to Appendix A) with the following items raised by exception.		
3.1	No further matters arising / raised by those present.	Note	
4.0	Gryffe High School Report GHS/kc issued his report at the meeting (refer to Appendix B) and went through each item with the following points noted by exception.		
4.1	School show – The school's show 'Grease' will take place in June, running for three nights. GHS/kc will notify the community council when tickets are released.	Note	
4.2	Young musician – GHS has a representative entering the Renfrewshire Young Musician competition this April.	Note	
4.3	Litter picking – GHS/kc thanked Jake from Bee Happy for keeping in touch with the school about the litter. He admitted that litter picking makes a real difference but isn't happening every day. The school plans to work with Bee Happy to take individual classes out litter-picking and educate them about its importance.	Note	
4.4	Coronation champions – the possibility of Gryffe putting young people forward was mentioned.	Note	
4.5	Hi vis litter-picking gear – it was decided that GHS will buy the hi vis gear and give the price over to HCC. HCC will then make a donation.	GHS/kc	
5.0	Councillor's Reports <u>Councillor Audrey Doig</u> RC/ad gave a verbal report at the meeting as follows.		
5.1	Mount Kilimanjaro – RC/ad revealed that her son, who was previously head boy at GHS, recently led a group of teenagers up Mount Kilimanjaro. She agreed to send his piece for Lochwinnoch's local chatterbox over to GHS/kc.	RC/ad	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
5.2	Environmental Communications Officer absence – RC/ad confirmed that Michelle, the Environmental Communications Officer, could not attend the meeting due to family bereavement, but will attend next month.	Note	
5.3	20mph limits – RC/ad confirmed that it is now in the council’s budget to put 20mph limits in place for all entrances to Renfrewshire, excluding connection roads. There is no timeline for this yet.	Note	
5.4	Gateway money – RC/ad confirmed that this is also in the budget, again with no timeline available as of yet.		
5.5	Temporary speed camera request – RC/ad confirmed that this request is in a line of ideas being considered at the environmental traffic law.	Note	
5.6	LAPs feedback – RC/ad reminded HCC members that feedback on how donated money was used is vital when reapplying for money the next year.	Note	
5.7	Uplifting of garden waste – RC/ad outlined the details for the new regulations regarding use of the brown bin for garden waste. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="336 1032 1062 1099">i. Use of the brown bin for food waste alone will be free of charge. <li data-bbox="336 1099 1062 1167">ii. Use of the brown bin for food and garden waste will be £40, per brown bin, per year. <li data-bbox="336 1167 1062 1234">iii. Information leaflets will be sent to houses outlining this change. <li data-bbox="336 1234 1062 1335">iv. Collection of garden waste is not an essential service to be provided by the council, which is why a charge is being put in place. 	Note	
5.8	Fly tipping – HCC/th raised the matter of fly tipping, and RC/ad confirmed there were measurements in place to stop this, including the use of mobile CCTV. <u>Councillor David McGonigle</u> RC/dm gave a verbal report at the meeting as follows.	Note	
5.9	Speeding next to school – RC/dm confirmed that he has spoken with the council regarding this issue, and was told that reducing the speed limit is not an option, but putting a fence in place to prevent use of the shortcut is still being looked at.	Note	
5.10	McGills buses – RC/dm confirmed that he wrote to McGills about reduced timetable and speed of drivers, and received a response with the offer of a meeting with one of their representatives at the council offices. It was decided that HCC/ma and HCC/jm would attend on the 5 th April at 3pm.	HCC/ma & HCC/jm	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
5.11	RC/ad confirmed there was also a meeting with McGills, the councillors and MSPs coming up on the 16 th March regarding their new schedule.	Note	
5.12	Police – RC/dm also confirmed that he spoke to the police about speeding, and commended their effort in dealing with those breaching the one-way system at the gas works in Bridge of Weir.	Note	
6.0	Action Log Review / Update HCC/ia gave a verbal update regarding the progress made over the month which is progressing well.	Note	
7.0	Treasurer’s Report (see note 1) HCC/km issued the treasurer’s report for the month of February prior to the meeting and confirmed a current balance of £13,918.11 (Refer to Appendix C).	Note	
7.1	Insurance costs – HCC/th was congratulated for reducing the insurance costs for the group. No further matters / items raised.	Note	
8.0	Chair’s Report HCC/MA issued a copy of his report prior to the meeting (refer to Appendix D) and went through the report at the meeting. The following was raised by exception.		
8.1	Houston Barrochan Road development – it was agreed that HCC/ma would write to ask for update on any progress made. RC/ad confirmed that the lack of response from the head of housing may be due to grief. She agreed to ask Sharon Markle, who is the next ranking down, for an update.	HCC/ma RC/ad	
8.2	LAP applications – it was confirmed that this deadline for this is 10 th April. It was agreed to proceed with the Christmas lights only. HCC/ma to progress the application.	HCC/ma	
9.0	HCC Matters Arising / Correspondence since the previous meeting for Discussion / Decision		
9.1	<u>King’s Coronation Weekend Saturday 6th May to Monday 8th May 2023 (raised by HCC/ma and HCC/km)</u> – it was agreed that although running a formal event would not be possible, an effort should be made to acknowledge the event. HCC/bh confirmed that there was bunting stored in the Carrick Centre that could be put in the streets. A sub-committee was formed, with the following members: HCC/ma, HCC/jm, HCC/km, RC/dm. It was agreed that HCC/ma would look at the coronation champion website and reach out to GHS/kc if there was anything the school could partake in.	HCC/ma	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
9.2	<u>Crosslee phone box defibrillator (raised by HCC/ma)</u> – HCC/km confirmed that she has paid for a new battery pack for the defibrillator. HCC/dg agreed to check on the defib once a month, with HCC/ma sending the details to the council.	HCC/dg	
9.3	<u>Bee Happy Houston, Litter Picking Sticks, Donation of £150 requested (raised by HCC/ma)</u> – it was agreed that 8 picking sticks would be purchased for Bee Happy. RC/ad mentioned the deposit scheme at Sainsbury's, suggesting that it would be effective at GHS.	HCC/km	
9.4	<u>Connecting Houston Update – raised by HCC/ia</u> – i. HCC/ia confirmed that he has spoken to Peter Leslie, who is happy to move ahead with the project. ii. there is a plan in place, involving traffic calming around town and the cycle path connecting Houston and Bridge of Weir. iii. Sustrans have confirmed that funding will continue to be available. iv. Project is heading into to design stage, the stage before construction / civil works start. v. Project will involve liaising with Alistair Scott and RC to decide who will fund each area. vi. it was confirmed that every member of HCC is happy for HCC/ia to continue to push the project. vii. Landowners are happy for the project to go ahead, but have asked for another access point to the farm. Option of additional parking for angling club is also being discussed. It is likely that this will be on the farmer's land rather than in the play park. Contact with angling club will help to reach a decision on this. viii. Gryffe High School shall also be a stakeholder in this project.	Note	
9.5	<u>Renfrewshire Council Forum Update (raised by HCC/ia)</u> – HCC/ia attended RCC forum and gave a verbal update as follows. i. it was decided that the purpose of the forum is to identify and share best practices of CCs, and gather common issues across CCs to pass these onto the authorities as one. ii. the scheme for establishment of community councils in Renfrewshire will be re-written, but not immediately because Scottish government are re-writing the new model. iii. Elections - All CCs will stand down before October election. RC will send notice and provide marketing material. If not enough people are elected, there is a 6 month period where another election can be held.	Note	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
	<p>iv. Over the next 3 meetings there will be a speaker from infrastructure, a speaker on cost of living and how Renfrewshire council is responding to the crisis, and a speaker on community asset transfer.</p> <p>v. Any members can come along, but each CC only has one vote.</p> <p>vi. HCC/ia will feed back anything that members of HCC think the forum should take on. The forum meets every 2 months.</p> <p>HCC/jmc raised the idea of community asset transfer, as HCC was previously unsuccessful at buying Mansfield. Bee Happy are exploring management route rather than asset purchase route, which has never been done before. HCC/ma confirmed that there are several options to take.</p> <p>9.6 <u>Kirk Carnival Brochure / Programme HCC Advert (raised by HCC/ma)</u> – KM made A5 brochure including projects by HCC. It will go up next to Carrick Centre and 1500 will go out in the Kirk Carnival Brochure, enticing members to join. HCC/km will contact the Advertiser to see how much it would cost for it to be put in. HCC/ma to send KC a copy of the brochure. It was also suggested that HCC members go into the school to speak to the students. HCC will get back to KC on this.</p> <p>9.7 <u>Village Hall and Old Crosskeys Pub for Sale / Rent (raised by HCC/ma)</u> – HCC/ma has had no response from David Love from RC, which RC/ad confirmed is because he is on maternity leave. HCC/bh looked into who owns the Village Hall, and will email all that he learnt onto the rest of HCC. The Village Hall belongs to Renfrewshire Council, who will likely sell it. Cross Keys is privately owned, but it likely it will also be sold. HCC/ma will send letter to Sharon Markle asking them to keep HCC in loop regarding the Village Hall.</p> <p>9.8 <u>Carrick Centre Café Refurbishment and Advert in the Kirk Carnival Brochure / Programme (raised by HCC/ma)</u> – Refurbishments to the café will start next week and will last 6 weeks. There will be internal café. The existing owner and Dance West Limited have expressed interest in taking over ground floor and café. They will put a proposal in and Carrick Centre will review pros and cons.</p>	<p>HCC/km</p> <p>HCC/ma</p> <p>HCC/ma</p> <p>Note</p>	
<p>10.0 10.1</p>	<p>AOB Types of plastic recycling – HCC/jmc reached out to RC to clarify which plastic types should go in each bin, and received a detailed response. He will send a follow up email to gather more information before putting it to the community.</p>	<p>HCC/jmc</p>	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
10.2	Buses – McGills responded to a complaint from resident about functioning of 1A and 2A on 26th March. The response consisted almost entirely of apologies.	Note	
10.3	Resident email regarding Kilallan Road – HCC/km to respond to resident suggestion that Kilallan Road be made motorcyclist access only.	HCC/km	
10.4	Road closure at Woodend – works on pavement underway, they appear to be setting tarmac road surface to be opened up as access point to estate. No notification has gone to HCC about this. HCC/ma will go and take a look.	HCC/ma	
10.5	Speeding – HCC/jc wrote to the authority regarding lack of signage, speed of traffic and road surface. The response only addressed signage, saying it was agreed at national level to be compliant. He has sent her a follow up email and copied in Cllr Innes.	Note	
10.6	HCC website – HCC/ia will to get in touch with head of IT department at GHS directly, and happy to sit down with him to discuss updating the current website with new software. It was established that someone would have to be appointed to maintain the website. It was decided that HCC will reach out to GHS when ready to go ahead.	HCC/ia	
10.7	Community map Scotland – HCC/dg looked at the software and concluded there was no benefit to be gained from HCC from its use.	Note	
10.8	River Inn – HCC/dg explained that the owner of River Inn is applying for license to do outdoor events. He was advised to get a list of Cllrs on the licensing board and email them with any concerns. He will also send details of the request to HCC/ma so that he may offer advice.	R/dg HCC/ma	
11.0	Date and Time of next meeting 19 th April 2023 at 7.30pm		
12.0	Distribution HCC members and uploaded onto HCC website and issued to Renfrewshire Council.		
	The meeting was closed by HCC/ma at 9.10pm		

APPENDIX A

OFFICIAL



**HOUSTON & CROSSLEE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH2023**

Update from Previous Meeting

Crime Summary

Between 15th February and 15th March there have been a total of six recorded crimes, none have so far been detected.

CRIME/OFFENCES OF NOTE	NUMBER	DETECTED	CONTEXT
Theft by Housebreaking/Attempt	0	0	
Theft	2	0	1 x shoplifting, 1 x car key/licence & cash
Robbery	0	0	
Serious Assault	0	0	
Common Assault	0	0	
Drug Offences	0	0	
Anti-Social (breach of the peace/vandalism/street drinking)	0	0	
Road Traffic Offences	2	0	2 x hit & run
Other	2	0	1 x online fraud, 1 x suspicious activity at house[section 57]

Crime Trends and Policing Priorities

Community Police Report

(Include focus of activity, any initiatives, partnership working)

OFFICIAL

APPENDIX B

Gryffe High School

Houston Community Council Update 15/03/2023

- S2 into S3 Options information evening was highly successful, over 150 parents attended.
- Spring concert in the school theatre, Tuesday 28 March 7pm – tickets are free and are available from the school office.
- Our new Astroturf is superb, we have organised games at lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. PE staff and SMT supervise these 3 x 9v9 games each day, ensuring 54 pupils get safe and enjoyable games each day.
- Author visits have taken place for S1 and S2 pupils recently. Authors Martin Stewart and Victoria Williamson talked about their new books and the working life of a children's writer.
- S5 pupils benefited from a motivation speaker assembly ahead of their upcoming exams – Brian Costello from Headstrong delivered the empowering talk.
- Our school Awards Ceremony is back for the first time since 2019 on Thursday 20 April.
- Some celebrating success stories:
 - Luke S6, 2nd in Janet Coats poetry competition.
 - Zara S3, Scottish and British Cross-Country athletics champion
 - Lucy S3, runner up in Scottish Young Chef competition, supported by Gryffe Valley Rotary group.
 - Alba and Caitlin S5, played for Paisley & District girls football select

K Christie

Head Teacher

APPENDIX C

Houston Community Council

Treasurer's Report

1st to 28th February 2023

Opening Balance	£14,038.29
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Income

Total	£0.00
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Expenditure

Insurance (Keegan & Pennykid)	43.18
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HOST (Rent)	27.00
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Lucy James (secretary)	50.00
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Total	£120.18
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Closing Balance	£13,918.11
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As per electronic statement to 28/02/2023

APPENDIX D

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: Houston Community Council Monthly Meeting

Report Purpose: Chair's Report

Issue Date: Wednesday 15th March 2023

Author: Mark Arthur

1.00 Activities completed since last meeting attended (18th January 2023)

- 1.01 Prepared and issued the meeting minutes for the January meeting.
- 1.02 Attended Houston and Killellan Kirk's Women's Guild event on Tuesday 7th February and gave a talk on the roles and responsibilities of HCC. Had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed it.
- 1.03 Issued my Chair's report on 10/03/2023.
- 1.04 Attended various meetings, in my role as HCC representative on the Carrick Centre's Board, to discuss the café refurbishment project, budget for next year and lease renewal with Renfrewshire Council etc.

2.00 Activities to be carried out before the next meeting that I can attend in person (17th May 2023)

- 2.01 Issue minutes and action log for March's meeting.
- 2.02 Monitor Barochan Road development planning application and Renfrewshire Council's decision and respond where necessary over this period on behalf of HCC.
- 2.03 Local partnership funding application to be submitted for the 2023 Houston Christmas lights display and switch on event.
- 2.04 Do Chair's actions from the current action log (monitored by HCC/ia) and include update within the Chair's report for the May meeting

3.00 Urgent Matters to Raise

- 3.01 None

End of Report



Mark Arthur
on behalf of Houston Community Council