Item 1

14th February 2024

VICTORIA PARK AREA PARTNERSHIP'S MINUTES.

Minutes of meeting held on 15th November 2023, City Chambers, Glasgow.

Present: Councillor Feargal Dalton (Chair), Councillor Eunis Jassemi and Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell, Glasgow City Council; Inspector Mhairi Crawford, Police Scotland; Station Commander Kenneth McCartney, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Mary Kate Harte, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; David Rennie, Broomhill Community Council; Elizabeth Brown, Whiteinch Community Council and Catherine Benton, Jordanhill Community Council.

Apology: Ailie Hunter, Thornwood Community Council.

Attending: P Yule (Clerk); P Boyce and T Bowers (for the Head of Policy and Corporate Governance); M McColgan, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and L Lovelock, Glasgow Third Sector Interface Network.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

1 The minutes of 6th September 2023 were submitted and approved, subject to noting that in relation to paragraph 8 (5) with regards to the Police Scotland ward update on the reporting of incidents statistics, indicating that this should now read "the number of incidents reported to Police had decreased slightly in comparison to the last reporting period.

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Governance Framework – Membership update noted.

2 There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration providing an update regarding membership of this Partnership advising that

(1) Marin Lundie had been nominated as the new co-opted member for Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; and

(2) that members should process and agree organisations that could formally be invited to sit on the Partnership as co-opted members.

Community Planning Partnership – Governance Framework - Register of Interests noted.

3 There was submitted and noted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration advising the Partnership of the requirements in relation to the

Community Planning Partnership Governance Framework regarding the registration and declaration of members' interests and detailing those interests which had been declared by members of the Partnership.

Glasgow Communities Fund Details noted.

5 There was heard a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth, advising that

(1) the Glasgow Communities Fund was introduced in October 2020 offering a 3-year programme of grant funding to support third sector organisations;

(2) the 1st phase of the programme had supported around 300 organisations to deliver diverse programmes of activity at a city-wide and local level;

(3) phase 2 of the funding had commenced on the 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2026; and

(4) that the feedback from the survey from phase 1 it was recognised improvements could be made and was now looking at reviewing the process of future funds.

Neighbourhood Infrastructure Fund 2022/23 - Update noted.

5 With reference to the minutes of 6th September 2023, there was submitted areport by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), regarding the Victoria Park Neighbourhood Infrastucture Fund (NIF), advising of

(1) a progress update in relation to the process to support the NIF, as detailed in the report;

(2) the Centre of Civic Innovation community engagement process, as detailed in the report; and

(3) that members should consider medium to large scale projects that could be supported by the fund.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the report;

(b) raised concerns in relation to the length of time taken by NRS to administer and complete projects;

(c) agreed

(i) that Councillor Lana Reid-McConnell would email all members of the Partnership to arrange a meeting to discuss the feedback from the survey regarding the Thornwood roundabout project prior to the next Partnership meeting;

(ii) that elected members would request timescales and costings for projects for the next meeting of this Partnership; and

(iii) the 4 locations for the re-deployable CCTV units, namely, Squire Street (underneath footbridge), Jordanvale Avenue, Northinch Street and Thornwood Drive.

(d) approved funding totalling £5,000 towards the cost of improving the condition of pathways to the newly installed accessible picnic bench within the Naseby Park.

Winter Maintenance Plan 2023/24 update noted etc.

6 There was submitted a report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, regarding the 2023-24 Winter Maintenance Plan, advising

(1) that the Winter Maintenance Plan submitted to the Council's Environment, Liveable Neighbourhoods City Policy Committee could be accessed at https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/councillorsandcommittees/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=110582;

(2) of the work carried out by the programme during the winter of 2022/23;

(3) of the priority 1 cycle and busy commuter routes; and

(4) that to promote "self-help" gritting, numerous grit bins would be located throughout the city to allow members of the public to grit areas out with priority routes and grit bin locations could be found at http://glasgowgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/LocalPerspective/index.html?appid=e99ff0bfd5a44fd6a1c68de66e123299;

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the report;

(b) that the most effective way to report faults of ice or snow affecting carriageway and footway surfaces was by calling RALF (Roads and Lighting Faults) on free phone 0800 37 36 35 and that the line was staffed 365 days/24 hours and could assist and prioritise works according to the nature and extent of the defect; and

(c) that the Council's gully cleaning programme could be found at https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=29470.

Bonfire debrief noted.

7 There was submitted and noted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding the Bonfire debrief, advising

(1) that from 2022 a closer partnership approach had been identified, particularly in relation to the removal of unauthorised bonfires and to ensure partners worked together to establish improved delivery efficiency;

(2) that a Multi-Agency Control Centre (MACC) had been established, which allowed unauthorised bonfires to be risk assessed remotely;

(3) that MACC operated from Glasgow City Council's Eastgate Building and included representation from Glasgow City Council, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Police Scotland, which ensured a responsive co-ordinated approach;

(4) of the dedicated phone lines that had been setup within MACC, to record key details of the structures including location, proximity to buildings and power supplies and access to sites, which would be shared with all partners within MACC and added to a priority list for removal;

(5) that unauthorised bonfires would be prioritised based on a risk assessment by SFRS, with their removal attended jointly with Police Scotland to protect staff and maintain public order;

(6) that members of the public were encouraged to report unauthorised and potentially dangerous bonfires to Glasgow City Council by contacting the Council's Cleansing line on 0141 287 9700;

(7) that to ensure intelligence was captured in advance of bonfire night, community partners including housing associations, third sector partners, Police Scotland and SFRS staff would be provided with contact details of the Neighbourhood Liaison Co-ordinator who would ensure vital information was passed to operations for removal; and

(8) that unauthorised bonfires could cause significant alarm and distress to individuals and other issues including potential risk of personal injury, damage to property and increased antisocial behaviour, therefore by deploying staff to locations it would promote public reassurance and give confidence to communities.

Glasgow Third Sector Interface Network update noted.

8 There was submitted a report by Ms Lyn Lovelock, North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network (NWGVSN) providing an update on its work, advising

(1) of the continued work regarding the the issues, processes and decisions that had affected the network following changes to the Glasgow Communities Fund;

(2) of the key themes within the North West of the city, which included concerns with regards to the cost of living crisis moving into winter and the lack of funding affecting organisations who would struggle to offer additional services and activities;

(3) of the ongoing IT recyclying project, indicating that further information could be found at https://nwgvsn.org.uk/network-it-recycling-project-2/;

(4) DRC Youth Project had secured a new learning space in the Whiteinch Centre and that the space would be multifunctional, acting as an office space and training suite; and

(5) of the issues within the ward and the key issues facing members, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the partnership noted the report and thanked Ms Lovelock for the update.

Police Scotland ward update – noted etc.

9 There was heard a report by Inspector Mhairi Crawford, Police Scotland, advising the Partnership

(1) that a new Chief Constable was now in post;

(2) the number of incidents reported to Police have decreased slightly in comparison to the last meeting and public nuisance and disturbance calls are at a similar level to this time last year;

(3) of the launch of the Our Big Youth Conversation campaign and its aim to reach young people aged 11-25 in all of Scotland's communities to get ideas and opinions that would help deliver effective policing and services for young people in local areas https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/our-big-youth-conversation/;

(4) that there had been an increase in youth disorder on local buses within the ward;

(5) that officers had worked with partners leading up to Bonfire Night, with presentations held in schools on the dangers of fireworks, licence premises being monitored on the sale of fireworks and that 3 firework related incidents had been reported to Police Scotland within the ward;

(6) that there had been a decrease in bike theft however bike and car thefts continued to be monitored, with free bike marking still available to cyclists and that Police Scotland encouraged members of the public to take safety precautions to help alleviate car and bike thefts and house break-ins and that any suspicious activity should be reported to Police Scotland or via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111; and

(7) of road safety action within the Car Free School Zone areas and the continued work to educate parents and carers and issue penalty notices as necessary.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the report and thanked Inspector Crawford for all the work carried out by Police Scotland within the ward; and

(b) raised concerns and questions that were addressed by Inspector Crawford.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service ward update noted.

10 There was submitted and noted a report by Station Commander Kenneth McCartney, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) regarding the current issues, incidents and work being carried out in the ward for Quarter 2, from 1st July to 30th September 2023, advising the Partnership

(1) that the Service had attended 1,287 incidents in the North West area of which 180 were in the ward, 15 fires, 25 Special Services and 2 fire fatalities;

(2) of the work carried out by SFRS prior to Bonfire Night including engagement activities and education on the dangers of fireworks;

(3) that the Service had attended 68 false alarms in the Victoria Park Ward; and

(4) of the prevention and protection activities carried out by SFRS in the local community as detailed in the report.

Area Budget 2023/24 – Applications for funding dealt with etc.

11 With reference to the minutes of the Council's City Administration Committee of 23rd March 2023, when the committee approved the 2023/24 Area Budget allocations, there was submitted a report by the Head of Policy and Corporate Governance, advising

(1) of the current position in relation to the Area Partnership's budget for 2023/24;

(2) that the Victoria Park Area Partnership's Budget allocation for 2023/24 was £59,732.90 and that £52,850.19 had been allocated to date, leaving a balance of £6,882.71; and

(3) of the applications for funding from the Area Budget for 2023/24.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the position regarding the Area Budget allocation for 2023/24; and

(b) dealt with application for funding as follows, the grant award being subject to the conditions detailed in the report:

Applicant	*Purpose of application*	*Decision*
Glasgow Wood Recycling	Towards the costs of upgrading of the current vehicle in order to ensure they can operate and comply within the city's Low Emissions Zone	Consideration continued
Behind the Scenes Partick Volunteer Group	Towards the cost of providing 100 festival boxes for those most vulnerable families within Victoria Park and Partick East	Awarded £1,600
*Friends of Naseby Park	Towards the costs on improving the condition of pathways to the newly installed accessible picnic bench within the Park	Funding to be awarded from the Neighbourhoods Infrastructure Fund (as per Item 5 of these minutes)
The DRC Youth Project (SCIO)	Towards the costs of intensifying and extending street work presence in Whiteinch and Victoria Park in response to a serious rise in Anti-Social Behaviour	Awarded £5,752.71

* David Rennie declared an interest in this application and took no part in the discussion or decision thereon.

Future Meeting Dates 2024 noted.

12 The dates of the 2024 meetings were submitted and approved by the Partnership as detailed below:-

(1) Wednesday 14th February 2024 at 1000 hours

(2) Wednesday 17th April 2024 at 1000 hours

(3) Wednesday 11th September 2024 at 1000 hours

(4) Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 1000 hours.