Item 1

5th December 2024

ANDERSTON/CITY/YORKHILL AREA PARTNERSHIP'S MINUTES.

Minutes of meeting held on 26th September 2024, City Chambers, Glasgow.

Present: Councillor Eva Bolander (Chair), Councillor Philip Braat, Bailie Christy Mearns and Councillor Angus Millar, Glasgow City Council; Inspector Jonathan Watters, Police Scotland; James Stuart Duffin, North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network; James Rouse, Anderston Community Council; Irene Loudon, Blythswood and Broomielaw Community Council; Christy Hamilton, Garnethill Community Council; David Hughes, Merchant City and Trongate Community Council; Michael Glen, Townhead and Ladywell Community Council; Anne MacPherson, Yorkhill and Kelvingrove Community Council; and Lise Fisher, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

Apologies: Station Commander Graeme Morrow, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service; Shogufta Haq, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; Nora Hytiris, Garnethill Community Council; Gary Atkinson, Merchant City and Trongate Community Council; and John Gerard, Yorkhill and Kelvingrove Community Council.

Attending: J Crawford (Clerk); R O'Sullivan (for the Head of Policy and Corporate Governance); J Laiolo, K McCormick and S Shaw, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; Inspector Iain Sibbald, Police Scotland and Eileen Findlay, Dundasvale Community Council.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

1 The minutes of 22nd August 2024 were submitted and approved, subject to noting that at Item 7 with regard to graffiti and vandalism issues in the city centre, members discussed ways in which to tackle these, and Merchant City and Trongate Community Council highlighted the upcoming football celebrations next year and queried what the Council and Police Scotland were putting in place to tackle the expected associated issues.

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Governance Framework – Membership 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 R O'Sullivan would seek clarification on the membership of Dundasvale Community Council.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service update – Consideration continued.

3 The Partnership agreed to continue consideration of this item to a future meeting of this Partnership.

Police Scotland ward update noted – Request to Police Scotland.

4 There was heard a report by Inspector Jonathan Watters and Inspector Iain Sibbald, Police Scotland, advising the Partnership that

(1) from 1st March to 1st September 2024 there had been a decrease in house breaking, fraud and theft and an increase in shoplifting;

(2) the football celebrations were being discussed and how to alleviate the problems ahead of the next year celebrations in the city centre;

(3) the Retailer Against Crime group had increased its meetings to quarterly https://www.retailersagainstcrime.org/ and that shop watch was now in contact with the Procurator Fiscal for all repeat offenders;

(4) vandalism and graffiti in local areas had increased and to contact 101 or report through https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/safer-streets-reporting-tool/ ;

(5) there had been an increase in E-bikes being seized;

(6) following public consultation regarding Police Scotland wearing body worn cameras, 71% of respondents agreed they would always feel safer knowing that their interaction with Police Scotland was being recorded by Body Worn Video, 13% said they would feel safer often and 8% said sometimes;

(7) new legislation regarding the introduction of buffer zones near abortion clinics had come into force on 24th September 2024 and it would be illegal for protests outside the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, the Royal Infirmary and the Sandyford Clinic within a 200m zone;

(8) there had been several incidents at SWG3 over the past few months and Police Scotland had praised the efforts of the SWG3 security team for the assistance in the detection of 2 persons being arrested for dealing drugs; and

(9) the Govan/Partick bridge had been vandalised with graffiti and there were ongoing problems in the local area.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted and thanked Inspector Watters and Inspector Sibbald for the report and for the work carried out within the ward; and

(b) requested that Police Scotland supply a procedure note for community councils to follow to report incidents in the ward.

Variation in order of business noted.

5 The Partnership agreed to vary the order of business as hereinafter minuted.

Glasgow Third Sector Interface Network update noted.

6 There was submitted a report by Mr James Stuart Duffin, North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network (NWGVSN), providing an update on its work, advising

(1) of the ongoing issues related to the cost of living crisis;

(2) that the Robertson Trust was a charitable trust and assisted with the cost of living crisis and food poverty https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/; and

(3) that the Glasgow Wellbeing Fund provided small grants of up to £10,500 for projects that improved mental wellbeing for adults in the city https://gcvs.org.uk/project/glasgow-wellbeing-fund/.

After consideration, the Partnership noted the report and thanked Mr Duffin for the update.

Student Accommodation Policy - Presentation noted – Request to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

7 The partnership heard a presentation by S Shaw, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, advising that

(1) the Council had held a public consultation on student accommodation in January 2021 that had resulted in revisions to Section 2 of SG10: Meeting Housing Needs, which was approved by the Council in June 2021 and the revised section had been adopted for use on 11th October 2021;

(2) in 2022 there had been a shortfall of approximately 6000 beds for students in Glasgow which was the largest supply imbalance in the UK and had a student to bed ratio which was significantly higher than the desired figure;

(3) students currently resided in University's Halls of Residence, houses of multiple occupancy or private lets and of an acute shortage of accommodation compounded by a lack of affordable and/or accessible options for students particularly with additional support needs or mature students with families, that left many students facing precarious living situations;

(4) the Council had several accommodation projects underway, some at planning or consideration stage, accommodation that had been granted planning permission and that some of the accommodation would not go forward to the construction stage;

(5) planning officers would ensure that any building constructed could be used for multi uses to minimise empty properties at a later date;

(6) concentration of student accommodation in certain areas was an issue due to lack of amenities, doctors, dentists and shops and that this would be monitored; and

(7) that planning could be halted if the figures for student accommodation became saturated in certain areas and if a proposal was found to have a harmful impact on the community it would not be supported by planning officers.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the presentation;

(b) raised questions that were addressed by S Shaw, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability; and

(c) requested the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to provide a further update to the Partnership at a future date.

Busking update – Presentation noted.

8 The Partnership heard a presentation by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) providing an update on busking in the city centre, advising

(1) that in 2023 the Council had undertaken a public consultation on busking in the city centre;

(2) that the majority of respondents supported busking, but some had concerns about noise levels, performance quality and the length of busking pitches;

(3) of steps the Council had taken in response to the consultation, including:

(a) the installation of new signage in Buchanan Street;

(b) increased presence of Police Scotland and community enforcement officers;

(c) the promotion of the Buskers' Code of Conduct; and

(d) stronger action against buskers who breach the code, such as fixed penalty notices or equipment seizure; and

(4) of the Glasgow Code of good practice for Buskers and Street Performers, https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/busking

After consideration, the Partnership

(i) noted

(A) the report and thanked Jane Laiolo for the update; and

(B) that a further review would be undertaken in late 2024; and

(ii) highlighted concerns with busking and street performers in the city centre and that if members had any concerns or feedback to contact Ms Laiolo.

Local Parks and Open Spaces update noted – Request to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.

9 With reference to the minutes of 14th September 2023, there was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), regarding the Local Parks and Open Space Improvement Fund providing an update on projects allocated within the ward for years 2021/22 and 2022/23 and an update on work carried out within the report for the Anderston/City/Yorkhill ward as detailed in the report and the appendices to the report.

After consideration, the Partnership

(1) noted the report;

(2) requested the Executive Director NRS to provide information regarding

(a) the footway at the junction of New City Road and Shamrock Street near Memorial Fountain parklet costing £1,594 and NRS to bring back a revised proposal for monies to be utilised to a project specifically within Dundasvale;

(b) the creation of 6 parklets within the ward costing £9,340 and NRS to confirm what had been installed, any future proposals and the exact amount of money remaining;

(c) progress on the Stewart Memorial to be provided to a future meeting of this Partnership;

(d) the use of glyphosate in the parks and the scale of its use; and

(e) a RAG rating of projects be provided; and

(3) agreed

(a) on repositioning of benches from George Square to the Merchant City outside Ramshorn Church; and

(b) that the next report to the Area Partnership be rationalised, with all completed projects removed.

Festive Lighting 2024/25 update noted – Delegated authority approved.

10 With reference to the minutes of 9th May 2024, there was submitted a report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS), regarding Festive Lighting within the Ward, advising of the central funding of £3,600 available to meet the costs of erecting and maintaining festive lighting and the proposed costs and locations advising

(1) of the 2023/24 festive displays and switch-on events and asking the Partnership to confirm whether it should be included in the 2024/25 programme;

(2) that the Partnership should notify NRS of any proposed new locations for assessment by NRS to determine the feasibility;

(3) that members should approve the necessary funding for any additional costs over and above the central funding, which could be approved by delegated authority to the Director of Communication and Corporate Governance in consultation with the Chair during October 2024, following receipt of the updated pricing table; and

(4) that approved funding in excess of the central funding would be deducted from the Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership 2024/25 Area Budget allocation.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the report;

(b) agreed

(i) to delegate authority to the Director of Communication and Corporate Governance in consultation with the Chair, Councillor Bolander, to approve additional costings within the ward, to be deducted from the Area Budget fund after final updated prices had been confirmed during October 2024; and

(ii) that members send any requests for Festive Lighting to Councillor Bolander for NRS to provide costings.

Area Budget - Final monitoring statement

11 There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Policy and Corporate Governance regarding the Area Budget for 2023/24, in relation to projects previously

funded in 2023/24, of which £62,446.05 had been fully allocated in the Anderston/City/Yorkhill ward.

Area Budget 2024/25 – Applications for funding dealt with

12 With reference to the minutes of the Council's City Administration Committee of 21st March 2024, when the committee approved the 2024/25 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 2024/25;

(2) that the Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Budget for 2024/25 was £62,446.05 and that the Partnership had committed £25,147 to date on various projects serving the area, leaving a balance of £37,299.05 yet to be allocated; and

(3) of the applications for funding from the Area Budget for 2024/25.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted the position regarding the Area Budget allocation for 2024/25;

(b) the applications dealt with under Delegated Functions, as detailed in the report; and

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

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Applicant	*Purpose of application*	*Decision*
Cranstonhill Nursery	Towards the cost of outdoor learning and instil a love of nature among children aged 2 to 5 years, particularly those from deprived backgrounds with English as an additional language	Awarded £3,000
Enable Glasgow	Towards the cost to build capacity to improve their digital infrastructure at Esmond Street Advanced Support Service.	Refused as Area Budget not considered an appropriate source of funding for this project and advised to contact North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network and engage with their IT Refurbishment

		Programme
SiMY	Towards the cost for a 'walking bus' from local primary schools to their existing Kids Club and Primary groups, establishing a free after school service and boosting participation in their community development offerings.	Awarded £4,793
Garnethill Neighbourhood Watch	Towards the cost to continue helping to make their community a safer and better place with self defence classes. .	Refused as similar to courses previously funded
ESOL Scotland Ltd	Towards the cost of ESOL classes for 36 women for creche, room hire and facilities.	Awarded £4,920
The Pyramid at Anderston	Towards the cost of community led activities throughout the winter months and to continue into 2025.	Awarded £5,000 subject to a copy of minutes from recent board meetings being submitted to the Area Partnership along with an updated position in terms of the current Governance arrangements of the organisation
Stepping Stones for Families	Towards the cost to replace outdated and unsafe equipment, replenish resources and other nutritious snacks.	Awarded £5,371
WISE Mentoring	Toward the cost to fund the winter/autumn term of the WISE Character Mentoring Programme.	Refused due to lack of wider community benefit

Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership workplan update noted.

13 There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Policy and Corporate Governance, regarding the Partnership Workplan and the frequency of standard agenda items and additional agenda points it wished to be included at future meetings, as detailed in the report.