

Ashley & Broomhill Community Council Meeting - Wednesday 15th March 2023

In Attendance: Ian Yuill, Martin Greig, Leila Turner-Smith, Derek Davidson, Ken McLeod, Sylvia McKenzie, Isabel Milne, Emmanuel Odufuwa, Steve Clark, Marc Langford, Jennifer Butler, Jennifer Stewart, Tom Murray, Iain McKenzie, Ruth Payne, Police Scotland: Inspector Nick Searle and Vanessa

Apologies: Ronan Burke, Louise Fotheringham

Agenda:

Police update
Planning
Ashley Road School fair - Saturday 27th May
Easter event
Ruthrieston Sports Centre
School meals
Poor parking outside of schools
GWCT update
AOB

Nick Searle introduced himself as the new Inspector for the West End, operating out of Whinhill Police Station. Nick advised he has been with the Police for 20+ years and in various roles. Nick commented on the stretched resources they have and in particular asked the public to remain patient with the Police. Please continue to report all times of crime including low level crime. Vanessa highlighted the recent Police report for the area. Some anti-social behaviour, Facebook fraud, which is difficult to police and road traffic issues. People parking dangerously and on double yellow lines outside of schools was discussed with the Police and how it could be improved. A few suggestions made from city wardens patrolling, cut out cardboard Police and education via the schools. Road Safety Scotland could help too. It was also highlighted that a new shop had opened on the corner of Claremont and Ashley Road, who's vans are parking on double yellow lines on the corner of the streets. Both issues have been highlighted to the City Council wardens.

Planning application for 81 Brighton place for a CCTV camera in a residential garden was discussed. The committee agreed that they would remain impartial in residential planning applications unless there was a profound impact to the community and discuss each application on its own merits.

The question was put to the Police whether they felt there was an issue with siting CCTV in a shared garden where footage and audio could be captured? The Scottish Information commissioner should be contacted for further assistance. In terms of the residential planning applications, the ABCC committee agreed to remain impartial and review applications on a case-by-case basis. Intervention could occur where a residential application impacted the community. Words to be drafted and added to ABCC website stating that the committee will not take sides in individual applications.

We have been offered a free table and space at the Ashley Road School fair on Saturday 27th May. Volunteers required to spread the good word/work we are doing and answer any questions. Also, I offered a candy floss machine and popcorn machine which we could use to raise funds for ABCC. Other suggestions were to have a quiz with letters around the school that would spell out a word and a prize given to a winner. Might be good to capture names/addresses and emails of folk.

Easter event Sunday 16th April at the Holburn West Church between 1-4pm. Crafts will be held in the small hall, tea and coffee in the large hall. What food are we supplying? Budget set at £600 for the event. Volunteers required to help with tea/coffee, crafts and general support setting up/clearing up. Organ to be blocked off. Membership forms for GWCT to be available and a QR code for fund raising would be beneficial.

Update of Ruthrieston Sports Centre was that a public meeting and consultation was hosted by Ian Yuill with Sport Aberdeen and ABCC. Lots of ideas coming forwards. 80 people in attendance but perhaps not a very diverse group. An enclosed dog exercising area was much discussed. Raised that dog fowling is on the increase. Some areas have recycled plastic bottles stuffed with dog suitable bags for dog owners caught short. Is this something we could do at the Easter event?

School meals, numerous complaints from children and parents at Ashley Road school regarding the availability of hot meals and food running out. Letter sent by Marc to Eleanor Shepperd and Mr Middleton Ashley Road school headteacher is aware of the issue.

As mentioned above, complaints have been made to the Ashley Road school regarding very poor and dangerous parking outside the school gates. Police notified and City Wardens notified through the City Council website.

GWCT update. Need 900 members and currently at 500. Councillor Ian Yuill stated his position as an associate member and Cllr Martin Greig as a Trustee of GWCT. Suggestion to target more members by standing outside schools with leaflets and setting up a stall at the entrance of Sainsburys and or Asda (with their permission). Afterschool club keen to increase use of Church but can only commit once school resumes for second half of 2023. It was stated that purchase of the church would include the Tennis court.

AOB: Ferryhill library closure highlighted and a request was made to ABCC to support the campaign to review the closure and maintain the service. 30th March is closure date. ABCC was advised that books would be redeployed to other libraries and the building offered to other council services initially. Community asset transfer is possible. Mike from Ferryhill CC notified of the issue. ABCC sent an email to the council advising of their disappointment of the closure of the library.

Next meeting is Wednesday 19th April 7:30pm, all welcome.

Regards
Thomas Murray
Chair of ABCC