

Buckingham, Hamilton and Ruskin Association

Minutes of the meeting held 13 February 2019 at 15 Hamilton Drive

1. Frances Goldman welcomed those present.
Present: Joanna Clarke, John Elder, Frances Goldman, Tony Hughes, Colin Miller
2. Apologies: Christine McGuigan; Susan Triesman
3. Minutes of meeting on 16 January 2019: approved with minor corrections.
4. Matters arising
 - a. Ruskin Place missing yellow lines – Tony to raise with the Council.
 - b. Viewpoint – discussion on use and ongoing maintenance of the site. In relation to interested parties, Frances has been trying to contact Glasgow West Housing Association. Frances noting that the Children's Wood in Clouston St is now established as a charity and has a lease of the area; Colin to try speaking to them about their experiences and noting that Emily Cutts is on their committee. Community views to be canvassed at the EGM on 19 February.
 - c. Tony noting that the Council is to trial a part-time car-free pedestrian zone outside some primary schools including Hillhead (the crescent of Westbank Quadrant/Otago St on the south side of Gibson Street). Tony will suggest a trial adjacent to Glasgow Academy at Colebrooke Street at the next HCC meeting. In relation to parking in general, Tony noting that within the controlled parking zone, yellow lines should only be required in limited places as the absence of a marked parking bay is equivalent to a yellow line. This needs to be enforced by the parking wardens though.
 - d. Local clean-ups, refuse collection – Frances to ask the Council about the potential for occasional provision of skips in our area for clean-ups.
 - e. Turning points on Hamilton Drive – Tony has been gauging opinions of some of the owners of new townhouses to the west of the bollards. They appear amenable to either extending the turning heads towards the east (per the former BBC entrance) or using the mouth of the road leading up to North Park Terrace. Tony recommending an agreed approach by all parties, as otherwise we will be played off against each other to justify nothing happening. In the meantime Tony is to suggest to the Council that as an interim measure they should re-mark the parking bays to allow 3 to 3.5 metres between the bollards and the first parking spaces, i.e. enough space for delivery vehicles to turn but not enough to park in. Noting that Tony, HCC, Martha Wardrop and John have all raised the issue of inadequate turning provision, and have been variously told that the turning area has been put back "as was" (it isn't), constructed per approved planning permission drawings, or that there was an approved non-material variation to the planning permission (there doesn't seem to be anything available in writing).

5. Website – the website is now live and looks great. We will continue to populate it with documents such as approved minutes of meetings. Our feedback to HCC is by way of minutes of meetings. Christine was thanked by all for her work on the website.
6. Hillhead Community Council (HCC) – Frances can no longer attend the February meeting, Tony will attend in February and March.
Frances will ask HCC about adding community noticeboards to the agenda. North Kelvin CC have a noticeboard on Belmont Street at the steps down to the Botanics. perhaps HCC could have similar ones which we might have use of, the large triangular area at the south end of Queen Margaret Drive possibly being a suitable site.
Refuse disposal and street cleaning - noting that two of the new, larger black litter bins had been deployed in the last few days, one outside 34 Hamilton Drive and one on the pavement outside the viewpoint on Hamilton Park Avenue. The bin at 34 Hamilton Drive had been removed after two days; discussing that a litter bin somewhere on Hamilton Drive would be beneficial and discussing whether it could perhaps be sited in a less conspicuous position perhaps in the communal garden area in front of North Park Terrace, or perhaps near the steps leading down to Hamilton Gardens.
7. Continuity of Membership strategy – Frances noting that there is a preponderance of members from Hamilton Drive, and to a lesser extent from Hamilton Park Avenue. She is trying to speak to occupiers of Ruskin and Buckingham Terraces, but we probably need to distribute more leaflets too. We should also try to promote more diversity on the committee, and bear that in mind for the two vacancies we now have. Tony noting that there are fewer owner-residents on the Terraces and more students, although there are a number of long-term residents.
8. Date and Venue of Next Meeting – to be on Tuesday 2 April at 15 Hamilton Drive at 8pm.
9. AOCB – The EGM is on Tuesday 19 February, 7pm for 7.30pm at the Coach House Trust. The purpose is to approve the new constitution, the main changes being recording the up to date name of the association, and providing for one vote per postal address (as each flat within a property should be entitled to a vote). We will also canvass views on a variety of matters including the viewpoint garden and grey waste bins. If there are several suggestions we could consider running a survey via the newsletter. If there is scope for gardening at the viewpoint that may help with attracting members, and holding events such as plant exchanges.
The committee acknowledged and accepted John Butterworth's emailed letter of resignation dated 5 February 2019.
The next neighbourhood clean-up is to be scheduled. Frances noting the leaf mould remaining on the pavement on the portion of the west side of Hamilton Park Avenue which was not covered by the previous neighbourhood clean-up. This is the second year running that the Council has not cleared leaves on this pavement, and the problem is compounded by gardeners in adjacent properties using leaf blowers to deposit more leaf mould on the pavements.