

## **Buckingham, Hamilton and Ruskin Association**

### **Minutes of the meeting held 16 January 2019 at 16 Hamilton Drive**

1. Frances Goldman welcomed those present.  
Present: Joanna Clarke, John Elder, Frances Goldman, Tony Hughes, Christine McGuigan, Colin Miller
2. Apologies: John Butterworth
3. Minutes of meetings on 4 December and 18 December 2018: approved with minor corrections.
4. Matters arising
  - a. Ruskin Place missing yellow lines – Tony to raise with the Council. Tony noting that we don't need yellow lines everywhere, they're not required in residents' parking bays for example, but they are needed right up to the end of unrestricted areas.
  - b. Viewpoint – discussion on use and ongoing maintenance of the site. In relation to interested parties and Frances' previous enquiries of local housing associations, Tony noting that there is another, Glasgow West Housing Association, based near to our area. Frances noting that there is a pollinators' garden being maintained in the Botanics by a community group. Agreed that local views will be canvassed at the EGM to be called in February.
  - c. Local clean-ups, refuse collection – Frances will ask the Council again about the potential for occasional provision of skips in our area.
  - d. Hamilton Drive Lane – Tony raising question of maintenance, repairs, gardening, and potential signage. It was agreed that the owners of those properties responsible for the lane should discuss these issues amongst themselves separately from the BHRA. Frances noting that the original purpose of the metal turntable at the western end of the lane was for the Council's horse-drawn rubbish carts to turn on. Colin noting that he's not aware of any other similar turntables and wondering whether we should approach Friends of Glasgow West or other heritage organisations to find out whether it's unique. Tony noting that the previous occupier of 30 Hamilton Drive burned rubbish on the turntable so it will be filled with ash underneath the surface.
5. Hillhead Community Council (HCC) report – Tony attended the most recent Hillhead CC meeting. There has been notice posted of an application for a HMO licence for 7 students (or potentially other tenants) at 14 Hamilton Park Avenue. Noting that the owner has been a member of BHRA in the past, objection was made to their application to install non-sash and case windows, and the property has most recently been used for business use, currently believed to be offices. Discussing whether the property would ideally be used as flats again, and what proportion of HMOs is acceptable. Tony noting that if an objection is made it can be cc'd to HCC.  
Tony circulating for discussion an extract from minutes from the most recent HCC meeting at which Stephen Egan, the new Head of Neighbourhoods and Place – North West (refuse disposal

and street cleaning) had given a presentation on local issues and plans and was canvassing views. Tony had raised the issue that there are too many bins in Ruskin Lane (these are to be replaced by fewer and larger bins), and not all of the bins in Hamilton Drive Lane are routinely collected. Frances noting that elsewhere (e.g. at Kingsborough Gardens) the Council retrieves wheelie bins out of the basements and returns them, but they won't collect from the front of the terraces in our area. Tony noting that the Council wouldn't historically collect from blue recycling bins in Hamilton Drive north side (via the lane) but they do now collect them. There are issues in other parts of our area though – e.g. Ruskin Terrace - where some properties have been converted and have no access to the rear. The Council needs to look at this again as the mix of collections from some areas by kerb access and tenements by another method doesn't take account of areas with a mix of converted properties. Discussing the Council's proposal to move to an 8-day collection schedule. Currently 4 days on and 4 days off, but still collecting on a 7-day calendar, so it's different crews collecting from areas each time. If the same crews are to collect from the same areas, it won't be on the same day each week. Colin querying how to publicise recycling rules, a leaflet drop is one idea but it might be better to put a notice on the bins? Tony noting the new litter bins being rolled out on the streets, larger capacity, easier to empty as they contain a wheelie bin, no bag required, and incorporating a sensor to alert the Council when full. Discussing the small food waste bins which were not successful, noting that in Clevedon for example they have bins which accept garden waste as well as food waste. Frances suggesting that where there is an option, e.g. Ruskin Lane, people should be asked to line their bins up against a garden wall side of the road not a house wall. Tony or Frances will collate feedback for the HCC.

Other HCC matters – Tony circulated for information a copy of the recent Police Scotland update to the HCC. There is a representative from the Council attending the March meeting to discuss the redevelopment of the Byres Road area, Tony will attend. Frances will attend the February meeting. HCC are developing a new website, using Google Business. HCC have two vacancies on their committee currently. Discussing whether we should have more formal representation on the committee rather than simply observing meetings, and whether a “rotating” (or perhaps proxy) member type of arrangement would work. Frances will ask.

6. Continuity of Membership - Discussing when is best to collect membership fees, and various fees received via committee members. Tony noting that the constitution sets out the membership year. Agreed that renewal emails should be sent each year. Membership lasts for a calendar year. Colin to investigate opening a Trustees Account with Santander (as that should allow electronic payment references to be used in order to trace payments to members, unlike the current arrangement).
7. Website – Christine demonstrated the draft BHRA website which she has produced. Discussing the internet domain name to be registered and used for the website – agreeing on bhrassoc.org which is available.
8. Meeting Organisation: Agenda and AOCB – Christine suggesting that various matters should be specific items on the agenda for meetings rather than being deal with under AOCB, so that people have notice of them. These could for example include: Hillhead Community Council; Cleansing and Amenity; the Viewpoint garden; Membership; Planning and HMO applications.

9. Date and Venue of Next Meeting – to be Wednesday 13 February, 7pm at 15 Hamilton Drive.
10. AOCB - Colin raising issue of damaged/missing bollards in Ruskin Lane – Tony advising Colin to raise this with Alex Gavin at the Council, and providing contact details.

“Green waste” bins – to feed back to the Council that we would like to have these (i.e. the bins which are coloured brown as in Clevedon, not the old grey coloured bins).

Colin noting the replacement of street lamps in Ruskin Lane with LED lamps, which cast a glare into his back garden. John agreeing that the street lamp recently replaced in Hamilton Drive with an LED lamp similarly illuminates the ground floor rooms in houses opposite, unlike the old lamps which seemed to cast a more focused beam pattern. Christine noted a similar issue with her garden and light pollution from the adjacent car park lighting.

Frances noting that one of the small Council cleansing vans was recently unable to clear leaf mould from the pavements in Hamilton Park Avenue as its path was obstructed by a parking pole. Tony advised that whilst the practice used to be that poles would be erected towards the roadside edge of pavements, current practice is that new posts are installed towards the back of the footway which should in the longer term alleviate this problem.