**Buckingham, Hamilton and Ruskin Association**

**Minutes of the meeting held 15 January 2020 at 15 Hamilton Drive**

1. Frances Goldman welcomed those present.

Present: Joanna Clarke, John Elder, Frances Goldman, Christine McGuigan, Colin Miller, Mark Rickards

1. Apologies: Linda O’Neill, Susan Triesman
2. Minutes of meeting on 4 December 2019: approved
3. Matters arising
   1. AGM

A reminded will be circulated to members who have still to pay this year’s subscription. Full draft minutes of the AGM awaited. Frances, Christine and Colin are checking with former committee members in relation to the representations which were made through the Association in relation to the license application for the Mackintosh building, as some discussion at the AGM did not appear to accurately reflect the position and it would be helpful to clarify this.

* 1. Roads

Frances has corresponded with the Roads Department in relation to the issues with the bollards on Hamilton Drive and road markings generally. They advised that a traffic order is going through currently in relation to Hamilton Gardens which will include provisions for these matters too. Generally they are reluctant to put double yellow lines within the controlled parking zone but they will put them on the corners of Ruskin Place which are just outside the start of the zone. Hamilton Gardens is to be a total no-waiting area so some road marking may require to be done there. A disabled parking space will be re-painted. There was a difference of opinion on the need for fire corridor markings, which following a recent incident in which access by fire engines was blocked by parked cars Frances believed is necessary, but they will put double yellow lines on the corners with Great Western Road.

* 1. Bins, recycling and refuse collection

The Council have offered Frances a walkaround the area to look at issues raised by the association. Colin will accompany Frances and the Council officer. Martha Wardrop has said that if we would like smaller grey (food recycling) bins then we should let her know via HCC, see below.

* 1. Planning issues

Members had reported building work which appeared to be carried out by Kelvin Properties at 39 Hamilton Drive, including installing french windows, brick walls and a high fence, apparently without planning permission or listed building consent. This has been reported to the Council and it is believed they have carried out a site inspection.

* 1. Noise issues from Glasglow event

Representations have been made to the Council about the noise nuisance to adjacent residents, from the Kibble Palace in particular.

1. Treasurer’s report

Joanna reported that she met with the Santander branch manager, who advised that they would require amendments to the Association’s constitution before they would open a Treasurer’s Account. Joanna also met with Clydesdale Bank who provide a similar account product and who would be happy to open an account without any need to amend the constitution. It was agreed that a new account be opened with Clydesdale Bank, as this would allow for electronic payments and standing order payments of membership subscriptions to be introduced. The initial signatories to the account require to meet together with the branch manager to open the account and once opened the number of signatories cannot be changed, although the identity of the signatories can. It was agreed that for flexibility there would be four signatories to the account, initially to be Joanna C, Frances G, Colin M and Christine Mc.

1. Hillhead Community Council

Frances attended the most recent meeting on behalf of the association. Issues discussed which are relevant to us were:

* 1. Lane closures. Kersland Lane is to be closed for some time for works to a gable end. Torness Street is to be closed during some demolition works on the Glasgow University campus development.
  2. The application for Great Western Road business improvement district status is continuing.
  3. Three traffic orders are pending:
     1. Byres Road to introduce a 20mph speed limit;
     2. Byres Road to narrow the carriageway, introduce cycle lanes, remove the westbound filter lane at the Great Western Road junction, etc.
     3. Hillhead parking zone. It is proposed that it will become more like other zones in the west end, with shared spaces for everyone to use. It remains unclear which other zones it will be joined to. Controlled parking zones are also due to be extended northwards to Clouston St, Oban Drive, etc.
  4. Licensing. BBQ Kings on Great Western Road has applied to extend its takeaway licence to 3am seven days a week, to be considered at a meeting of the licensing board at 9.30am towards the end of January. There is an issue with litter particularly in Belmont Lane (and Belmont Street and Crescent) to which this is relevant.
  5. Airbnb. There is a government consultation ongoing, particularly with reference to planning and architecture.
  6. Bins and refuse collections. Erratic and late collections continue, but so far as we know the collection rota has still not been published which makes complaints difficult. There is an offer of smaller grey (food) bins if we want to replace larger bins. One issue is that if the wrong items are placed in any bin, it is regarded as “contaminated” and will not be emptied. However the bin is not marked as contaminated and the blue, green and grey bin collection teams are entirely separate so the bin remains unemptied until someone complains and asks for the green bin team to empty it. As the bins are not marked as contaminated there have been cases of each team repeatedly declining to empty a bin following complaints. We will ask the Council to introduce “contaminated” stickers.
  7. Low Emission Zones. This has been introduced in the city centre for buses and will be introduced at end 2022 for other traffic. There are issues with cars idling, particularly taxis in Byres Rd and cars at Glasgow Academy. A traffic order is to be introduced for Hillhead Primary to prevent cars driving around in circles.

1. Continuity of membership strategy

Colin has found it difficult to source a list of houses in the association’s area. The edited electoral roll is no longer available to view at libraries. He will try to compile a list.

Another newsletter is due to be produced, Frances and Christine will coordinate again.

Christine suggesting that we could produce a leaflet or card as in introduction to the neighbourhood.

1. Date and Venue of Next Meeting: Wednesday 26 February at 30 Hamilton Drive.
2. AOCB
   1. Litter

The owners of 2-4 Hamilton Park Avenue contacted Frances in relation to problems with litter left by food businesses in Belmont Lane to the rear of their property. There is an issue with refuse there, which is more noticeable following a community cleanup at the start of the Lane (to the side of The Viper). Frances considering asking the Council to make it an environmental monitored site.

Businesses are also using the residents’ blue recycling bin/skip at the start of Hamilton Park Avenue, which contributes to the frequent overflowing and dumping of refuse beside it. Given there are residents’ blue wheelie bins in Ruskin Lane which the residents of Ruskin Terrace have access to, we should possibly request that the blue recycling skip is removed as most of the litter nuisance relates to it and there are alternative arrangements for residents (unlike the green glass skip, which has no alternative and does not seem to be as problematic).

Mark pointing out that more blue bins are required at the western end of Ruskin Lane as there is not enough capacity. Frances will ask again that where possible blue bins are placed against garden walls rather than house walls.

* 1. Viewpoint Garden

Clean-up and gardening work is continuing, more members have joined the Whatsapp group and it was agreed that coordinating meet-ups should be encouraged. Discussion on use and the ongoing maintenance of the site. Generally we will continue to encourage people to use the Viewpoint and to garden it. Discussing arrangements for the Summer Party, other events, and locations for erecting gazebos in case of inclement weather.

* 1. Railings

Frances has received a query from a resident at Ruskin Terrace as to who has responsibility for maintenance of metal railings. Some of them are poorly maintained, should we be encouraging owners in the area to keep them safe? This can be mentioned in the newsletter, and if required we can try to help with contacting relevant owners and encouraging them to carry out maintenance and repairs.

* 1. Newsletter, website

It was suggested that it might be helpful to have an address at which membership subscriptions can be left, Frances agreeing that hers can be used. Christine has updated the website again with copy minutes, the changes in committee members following the AGM, and copies of newsletters.

* 1. Buckingham Terrace

Mark noted that the parking bay markings have been removed and have still not been repainted by the Council. Frances will raise this along with the other parking issues.

* 1. Caryl Godwin

The committee minutes its regret at the news of the death of Caryl Godwin, a respected former committee member and fondly-remembered host of garden parties, who was actively involved in the life of the association’s area in many ways. Frances has circulated an email to members with details of the funeral arrangements on 25 January.