

Minutes of Stobswell Forum Open Meeting 04/10/2017

Committee Present - Colin Clement, Lorraine Clement, David MacDougall, Sandra Mitchell, Mairi Scott, Alessandro Insalaco

Others Present - Stuart Fairweather, Val Kane, Elizabeth Crighton, Albert Smith, Marion Sporing, Cllr Georgia Cruickshank, Cll Ken Lynn, Stuart Budden, Jacqui McCracken, Any Law, Charles Cameron, Stewart Lawson, William McLaren, Shirley Tounsley, Christine Dallas, Arthur Hayburn

Apologies - Robbie Fotheringham, Nichola Fraser, Cllr Lynne Short

Welcome And Introduction - Colin explained the open meeting tonight is an opportunity to listen to issues and share best practices. Great to see so many attendees.

How Can We Help - Stuart asked anyone who wanted to speak to do so. Stuart asked for ideas of what people would like to see from Arthurstone Library

- 1. Val Kane** - Community Regeneration and Participation Worker for Maryfield ward. Val gives support for events, activities, opening bank accounts. Works with the Regeneration Forum to improve the area. Val asked if anyone interested in helping as there are still 3 spaces left on the committee. Next monthly meeting 7/11/2017.
- 2. William McLaren** - Local Minister who is keen that the church halls are utilised for various community events which include Advice Cafe on Tuesdays 11.30-2.30 and Credit Union.
- 3. Marion Sporing** - Co-organising Being Human in Dundee. Workshop in Boomerang 18/11/2017 10.00-15.00. Wants people to become involved in activities; children, parents, Over 60s, etc. Diversity of languages and cultures in Scottish society, crafts, painting, dancing, singing, calligraphy, tai chi, and much much more.
- 4. Shirley Tounsley** - Tutors in Arthurstone Library on Tuesdays from 1.30pm. Wants the word spread to people who need help. Each session is fluid, flexible and tailored to cultural and social requirements - learning disabilities, mental health needs, single parenting, missing school, ADHD, Downs Syndrome, Driving Theory, Welfare Reforms, Men's Groups, Budgeting, Dyslexia, Using IT, Recovering Addicts, and much more.
- 5. Charles Cameron/Stewart Lawson** - Issues with illegal parking in a disabled spot in Park Avenue and are asking for parking permits to be issued to residents. Cllr Cruickshank advised there would be a charge for this. Cllr Lynn advised traffic wardens can be directed to Park Avenue to try to prevent this. Colin advised John O'Neil (Council Officer) has been invited to the next Stobswell Forum meeting on 01/11/2017 to focus and raise issues on local parking so Charles and Stewart may want to attend. Also advised to speak to the Councillors at the end of this meeting.
- 6. Andy Low** - Asked about the heavy traffic travelling up Albert Street and Forfar Road, speeding and creating pollution. David advised that there are a range of issues - long distance busses, transport of farm animals, combine harvesters, etc. Transport Department not listening to the locals as their focus seems to be the City Centre forcing commuters to park outside the city centre and using the local parking facilities as a "park

and ride". Suggestion that the parking fees collected in City Centre be directed to pay for residents parking permits. Andy also interested in getting involved with local groups to assist in improving Stobswell.

7. Jacqui McCracken - Waste ground in Mains Tce being used by local kids as a bike park but is unsafe and unsupervised. Trustees/Owners of the ground are unwilling to agree to any improvement of the ground. Andy suggested looking at the Deed of Trust to ascertain exactly what the ground should be used for and take advice thereafter.

8. Elizabeth Crighton - Raised the issue of lighting in Baxter Park. Between October and February, there is not enough lighting in the park therefore making it unsafe for dog walkers and the various fitness groups who also use the park. David suggested in-tree lighting emulating the Enchanted Forest to also attract visitors but there may be an issue with the birds residing in the trees. Colin suggested involving the Friends of Baxter Park to find solutions to the lighting problem and also improve the pathways. Cllr Cruickshank suggested we could apply for a grant through the new Participatory Budgeting for local infrastructure.

9. Arthur Hayburn - Has offered to be involved in the Stobfest Gala Day with his Scooter Club. Also has issues with prostitutes using Baxter Park. The signs placed on the lampposts are too small. Stobswell Forum to contact the Police, Vice Versa and Community Safety Officers.

Arthur also mentioned that the Ellengowan development affects nearby residents as well as the Ellengowan residents. Cllr Lynn advised him to look out for the Planning Application and send in his objection.

10. Stuart Budden - Has recently taken over St Johns Church on Albert Street and will be using it for community work after renovation. In the meantime, he has acquired a double decker bus to utilise for his Outreach programme. More details available on request. Stuart is also looking for a safe place to park his bus if anyone can help.

11. Christine Dallas - Dundee Healthy Living - promotes health and equality working with Doctor surgeries to promote healthy living, cooking courses, etc. More details available on request.

12. Colin Clement - Stobswell Forum bring people together to try to help resolve issues. Forum look at and discuss every planning application in the area and comment/object as appropriate. Trying to get locals interested in investing in Open Close, an artistic slant on doors/shutters/buildings. Stobswell Forum also host events such as the Christmas Lights switch on - 23/11/17 at 4.30pm and Stobfest in May 2018 which hosts local events for local people. We also produce The Stobswell Voice 4 times a year, the next one due out by end November. Forum looking for locals to get involved both with articles for The Voice about local traders/residents and also on the committee of the Stobswell Forum.

13. David MacDougall - Showcased Stobfest 2018 by inviting participation in the parade and utilising the various halls in Albert Street and the local area.

Date of Next Meeting - 01/11/2017 at 6.30pm in Arthurstone Library.

Contact Details of Attendees:

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