



Quarterly meeting of the West Dunbartonshire Community Council Forum
Wednesday 1st Mar 2023 @ 19:00 in Napier Hall, Old Kilpatrick

1) Welcome

Present :

Alexandria	Apologies from Harry McCormack
Bonhill and Dalmonach	Jack Fordy Fiona Jenkins
Bowling and Milton	Shona Brown
Clydebank East	Alistair Conaty (CCF Treasurer)
Dumbarton East and Central	Dorothy Heron
Faifley	Apologies from Tricia Lorimer
Kilmaronock	Andrew Sinnott (CCF Secretary)
Old Kilpatrick	Isobel Plunkett (CCF Chair)
Parkhall, North Kilbowie & Central	Drummond McNair Anne MacDougall
Silverton and Overtoun	Rona Wilkinson (CCF Vice-chair) Rose Harvie Linda McCowat
WDC Your Community Team	Alan Karas Apologies from Clare English

Issy welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed thanks to former Chair Drummond McNair and Secretary Jack Fordy for keeping the Forum going prior to the pandemic shutdown.

Alan handed out copies of the latest Community Councils Handbook. The contents will be for the Forum to review and revise on a regular basis e.g. annually.

2) Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising.

Issy went over the role of the CCF as outlined in the inaugural meeting in December and introduced the office bearers/executive committee. The office bearers were appointed for 6 months to get the Forum up and running, after 6 months the Forum will have the option to elect office bearers as per constitution.

Alistair has set up the bank account and Alan is in discussion with WDC Finance to get grant money transferred to the new account. At the moment, WDC cannot find details of the old account which they need for their internal processing.

Drummond agreed to look for any documents he may still have copies of but confirmed that all such original material was passed over to WDC at a meeting in Church Street, prior to the pandemic shutdown.



Funding was briefly discussed, should the Forum seek funding for its own projects or just support individual CC's in their projects? No conclusion reached, as it is unclear if our constitution allows for fund raising.

The status of the constitution was discussed – a new one was written but not signed off prior to the pandemic shutdown. The final version should sit with Brian McQuillan's old files. Alan has a copy of those. Otherwise, we have to go back to the 2015 version and rewrite it all again.

Rose brought up the issue of office space for the use of the Forum, this led to a discussion on access to computers and printers etc. Most CC's use their own resources for CC business, some back charge for consumables some don't. Some standardisation of what other consumables such as software licences, internet access and more should be reimbursed and how is needed so that WDC don't just take community councillors for granted. It was agreed that this would be explored further along with IT training on best practice for handling and storing documents and email. Issy suggested a sub-group be formed to look at this and report back.

Other discussion topics were difficulty in recruiting new CC members, grant application delays due to admin requirements, inconsistent treatment of similar issues across different CC's by WDC.

It was highlighted that not all the details on WDC Community Councils web page are correct – Contact name, details of meetings and listed Agendas and minutes. It was suggested that each CC take responsibility for checking their own page and informing WDC of any changes needed.

CC Forum logo – Shona volunteered to design a new one, Jack happy with the existing one.

Actions

Alan will liaise with Drummond on account info

Alan to check through old files from Brian for the existing constitution document.

Andy to form a sub-group with Dorothy & Linda to investigate IT support for the Forum and all the individual CC's.

Shona to design a new logo for the Forum

Each CC secretary to check their details on the relevant WDC web page and that their Agendas and Minutes are posted up to date. Andy to circulate a note to that effect.

3) Guest speaker

Unfortunately, Clare English had to pull out at the last minute in order to attend the WDC meeting on the budget cuts.

Alan covered the work that the Communities Team do as well as his own remit.

Of course, it was noted that the funding cuts being discussed at WDC may well have an impact on that work going forward.

4) Budget cuts

WDC were meeting today to finalise the balancing of the budget by agreeing to cuts and/or reorganisation.



It was noted that restructuring often gives the chief officers a chance to duck issues as they deny responsibility of what went before. It also usually leads to a reduction of experience levels. For the Community Team, 2 options were presented – one a straight cut of 50% across the board and two a restructuring of the team with resulting cuts. By the end of the Forum meeting, it had been announced that option 2 had been chosen.

5) Positive News Stories

Parkhall and Old Kilpatrick CC's worked together to host a Christmas Sing a long for staff and patients at the new Clydebank Health Centre financially supported by the Provost.

Clydebank East CC has an annual Gala Day

Bonhill & Dalmonach CC organised a Winter Warmer event to provide a warm space with refreshments. Jack also noted that Y-Sort-it were doing well in his area with jumble sales etc, and the Community Garden at Bonhill is a success.

Silverton & Overtoun CC had a meeting with Just the Brave and are looking at having a Mental Health Awareness event with all Mental Health Associations but with Just the Brave as Headliners to attract the young! Details to be finalised but in late Autumn. Rona recommended using EventBrite in a Reservation capacity as it does not involve selling tickets or a cost but gives advance notice of interest in an event.

6) Diary Dates for Forum 2023

Forum meetings will be the first Wednesday of every 3rd month commencing March 2023, afternoons in winter months, evenings otherwise.

Wed 1st March @ 7.00pm

Wed 7th June @ 7.00pm

Wed 6th September @ 7.00pm

Wed 6th December @ 3.00pm

So far, all we have found available is the Napier Hall, if anyone has alternative suggestions then let the committee know.

7) Date of Next Meeting

The next business meeting will be 7th June, notices will be sent out in good time. The executive will meet as needed before then.



Appendix 1 – Community Councils Info

Community Council	Contact	Meeting Schedule	Email
Alexandria	Harry McCormack	Second Wednesday	harrymccormack.alexandriacc@gmail.com
Bonhill and Dalmonach	Jack Fordy	Second Monday	bonhill-dalmonachcc@outlook.com
Bowling and Milton	Shona Brown	Third Tuesday	secretary.bowlingmiltoncc@gmail.com
Clydebank East	Alistair Conarty	First Monday	clydebankeasttreasurer@gmail.com
Dumbarton East and Central	Dorothy Heron	Second Tuesday	adheron@gmail.com
Faifley	Caroline Macdonald	Last Thursday	faifleycc@outlook.com
Kilmarnock	Andrew Sinnott	First Monday (alternate months)	secretary@kilmarnockcc.org
Old Kilpatrick	Isobel Plunkett	Second Tuesday	chair@oldkilpatrickcc.org.uk secretary@oldkilpatrickcc.org.uk
Parkhall, North Kilbowie & Central	Anne MacDougall	Second Tuesday	Anne.macdougall957@btinternet.com
Silverton and Overtoun	Rona Wilkinson	Second Thursday	rona_w@yahoo.com soccdumbarton@gmail.com
Balloch and Haldane			
Dalmuir and Mountblow			
Dumbarton North			
Linnvale & Drumry			
Dumbarton West			
Renton			