

Dumbreck Community Council Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Minute of Meeting of Thursday 19th January 2006

1. Sederunt and Apologies

Apologies: George Boyes, Alastair Gilchrist, Kathleen Lanigan, Fiona McCreath, Lynda Smith, John Stewart, Constable Thomas Wilson.

Present: James Armstrong, Charlotte Cavanagh, Mair Crouch, Naida Higgins, Carol Jacobsen, Robert Mitchell, James Sewell, Sheila Smith, John Thomson, Ralph Willins, Sergeant Kirk.

In the absence of Alastair Gilchrist, Mair Crouch chaired the meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting were adopted

Proposed by John Thomson and seconded by Ralph Willins.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

Glasgow City Council advised DCC at the last public meeting that the area between Dumbreck Court and Mosspark Boulevard has been surveyed and reported unsafe for the building of a play park. GCC are proposing a small toddler play area on open space by Torridon Path. Residents have objected and GCC have responded by saying there are no alternatives and, if the objection stands, they will use the money to refurbish the play park south of Mosspark Boulevard next to the Bowling Club. DCC have requested a copy of the survey report. It was thought the flats were built in the early 70's. Members had witnessed some work in the area with no noticeable mishap. There has been some subsidence in areas within Bellahouston Park. Problem areas can be capped but this might make the project too expensive.

4. Financial Situation

The only expenditure has been £10 for the hire of the session room, leaving £111.99 available.

5. Police Report

Sergeant Kirk is the Community Sergeant for Dumbreck and is responsible for the area from Kingston Bridge to Penilee. He has only ten Police Constables, including Tom Wilson, covering the whole area. When needed, they are seconded to other sections.

Crime figures for the period from 1st October 2005 to date covering Bellahouston Park and Bellahouston as well as Dumbreck are:

- 3 Housebreakings (2 in Dumbreck low-rise flats – both were entered through the roof space; 1 in Melfort Avenue around 6pm – broke rear window)
- 1 Attempted Housebreaking (in Nithsdale Road – male with hooded top)
- 7 Vehicles broken into (3 detected)
- 3 Other thefts
- 1 Serious assault (domestic)
- 1 Assault (domestic)
- 5 Cases of Vandalism
- 2 Breaches of the peace (1 road rage in Dumbreck Road, and 1 within Bellahouston Academy)

Early in December a male flasher was reported seen in Bellahouston Park. It was at 7.50pm and he was described as over 50 wearing a three-quarter length dark coat. He was on the path between the Bowling Club and Dumbreck Road. This path is obscured by a lot of shrubbery and overhanging trees and it was suggested that we ask that they be trimmed so that road users see the path. Carol will write to the Parks Department.

Sergeant Kirk said that crime in this area is low and very sporadic. He did not think the housebreaker was "professional". He can provide us with leaflets with useful telephone numbers and advised us of the Ante Behavioural Task Force based at Nye Bevan House. It deals with ASBO orders and offers mediation, the freephone number is 0800 0273901.

6. Incident Report

Ralph Willins gave George Boyes' report. On 17th November, at 7.20am, an attempted break-in in Urrdale Road. On 14th December at 3.45pm a schoolboy mugged and his jacket taken on the footbridge over the motorway at Gower Street. (Sergeant Kirk said the boys were arrested soon after the event; this would have been recorded as happening in either Ibrox or Pollokshields). George also reported occasional stone throwing and frequent use of Maple Lane. Ralph had witnessed a bout of stone throwing but suspected they were not Bellahouston pupils but an incoming rival gang.

Ralph Willins complained about lack of police action against bad parking for football matches. The Council Parking Attendants leave before the match has started and latecomers cause most of the bad parking. Sgt Kirk said most of the parking is inconsiderate and they would only remove cars if they caused an obstruction and were dangerous. Sheila Smith said it was very dangerous at the corner of Dalkeith Avenue and Fleurs Avenue. There were no yellow lines or cones so cars parked on both sides of "wee Fleurs" and on the corners. Sgt Kirk said that prevention was better than the cure and road markings and cones should prevent the problem. James suggested taking a photograph of the problem parking and will bring to the next meeting a letter from Land Services with telephone number to phone. John Thomson said those parking often moved cones. Charlotte Cavanagh asked if Rowan Road could be included, with Fleurs in the general cone drop. At present she has to put out cones she has been given. DCC will take up and draw a new map showing areas needing cones.

7. Publicity

There was no noticeable increase in uptake of Crime Prevention Surveys following our advice in the last DCC Newsletter.

Carol had picked up some crime prevention leaflets from a display table in Asda organised by Police Officers from Helen Street Police Office. She will order more from Tom Wilson for general distribution.

8. Bellahouston Academy

Ralph Willins said that the situation had eased. Pupils had been a nuisance during November and December, he assumed they were coming and going with study leave for prelims. Kids are still using Maple Lane and there is a need for a uniformed officer about once a fortnight. Constable Tom Wilson has been able to move them on in the afternoon but his shift now starts at 2pm. Ralph asked Sergeant Kirk if a Police Officer could be sent for the problem times of 11am and lunchtime. Things have improved at 3.30pm as more parents are coming in cars to collect their children.

Sheila Smith said there were similar problems at the Fleurs Avenue exit from the school. Pupils were climbing over the boundary wall and onto the garage roof at the corner of Fleurs and Dalkeith. The owner has had to put up additional fencing to prevent them. In December pupils were very rowdy near to the station and they always left lots of litter.

Ralph Willins advised that on 17th and 18th October a BBC film unit had used the school grounds and local residents were disturbed by two nights of strong lights. The gates were left unlocked and parts of the school grounds looked like a floodlit campsite. There were buses and support vehicles and people going to and fro. This was for the filming of "Sea of Souls". Ralph expressed concern that local residents were not consulted and thought problems could arise if the school grounds were let for similar events.

9. Roads

DCC are pursuing further measures to stop rat running through Dumbreck. Humps in Beech Avenue and Dalkeith Avenue are being considered. As the M74 is likely to be delayed until 2010 DCC and Gordon Jackson MSP are asking for the Seaward Street diversion scheme to be implemented separately and without delay.

James had taken photographs and taken up the problem parking for Al Meezan House. DCC have suggested cones similar to the Rangers football match days. Al Meezan have sent out parking attendants to advise their students about parking and distributed a leaflet to local residents with their telephone number asking people to phone if there are problems. They will provide a leaflet giving days and times of classes.

Sergeant Kirk was asked if it was legal to park half on the pavement. He said it was OK and was only illegal if the pavement was obstructed.

10. Next Meeting

The next meetings for Dumbreck Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators will be on **Thursday 18th May** and **Thursday 21st September 2006** at 7.30pm in Sherbrooke St. Gilbert's Church.