**Garthdee Community Council**

**Tuesday 10th March**

1. **Welcome and Attendance**

Tom Malcolm, Jo Duthie, Irene Buchan, Emma Avis, Arthur Allan, Ian Yuill, Liz Ponting, Rab Murchie, David Walker (Evening Express), John Chalmers and colleague (representing the police)

1. **Apologies**

Paul O’Connor, Andy Murray, Hilda Smith, Rob Preston, Gordon Townson

1. **Police Report**

3 Assaults, considered minor, all contained where suspects were known. Isolated incidents between parties known to each other.

2 Vandalisms – ongoing work where the current issue is tackling youths and anti-social behaviour. The police force launched *Operation Springhop* – an initiative where uniformed and plain clothed officers will be on patrol in the area (Garthdee, Kincorth, Asda, Snow Sports, retail parks etc) to support, disperse and generate early opportunities for intervention. Get to know youths and pre-empt issues and promptly address locally raised concerns.

Egging homes – reported and youth in question was scared off by police upon their arrival. Getting a description of clothing and appearance will help the police to resolve these issues faster.

2 people arrested and charged for theft in domestic property and 2 thefts from vehicles – chance opportunity where doors have been left unlocked and keys left by the door (Auchinyell Road area)

Serious Organized Crime and Drugs: 2 people reported, £700 seized, controlled drugs and paraphernalia

Road Safety: nothing of note, parking issues continue particularly in school areas and police are working with school and pupils around safety and speed messages

Sham and Scam calls from workmen, ‘financial institutions’ etc – ensure any vulnerable people you know are informed about what not to discuss on the phone and the police can offer home visits if needed

1. **Public Forum**

No public in attendance

1. **Minutes from the previous meeting**

Proposed by Arthur Allan, seconded by Emma Avis

1. **Matters arising**

Ian Yuill spoke of the Council Budget: Up by 4% and cuts would be taking place and that the cuts would affect all areas as there is a £38m gap to recover – much of the final details will be dependant on the UK Budget. What would be distributed from Holyrood would be dependant on the Barnett Consequential (proportional allocations from the Treasury) and at this stage, this is unknown.

Other matters – no further issues regarding bus stops/missing stops

New database of emails for different businesses in the area

Garthdee Road Cycling route proposition – invited to RGU to explore the different options suggested, speak with the development team and look through plans, maps and proposal images generated of the solution options.

1. **Correspondence**

TM read through the correspondence and emails received and offered to further elaborate or send on any requested by individuals in the meeting.

1. **Local Developmental Plan**
   1. Site at Gwen’s Garden retained: How can we assist its development and reinforce the area as a permanently preserved/reserved zone from building development? EA offered to message as GCC to ask what they would like in terms of support/ideas/community involvement
   2. Former Bowling Club site (B1102) – Council Housing proposed for this location
   3. HMO provision and limiting the percentage of licenses – in line with the expectations and implications of the ALDP (Aberdeen Local Development Plan) of 15% maximum mix of HMO licences permitted in a specific ward zone. Given that our ward has an existing high number of HMO, it is unlikely that the increased limit will affect us greatly as we are already near a capped limit.
2. **Garthdee Road cycle lane consultation**

Proposals visited by PO’C, IB, JD, TM, EA at RGU. 6 options were laid out for cycle path proposals including options to go behind the retail parks, come through the university grounds, add into the existing road and also the prospect of linking a cleared route behind Boots and to the Riverside Drive side of the path. It was felt that there was a social responsibility to keep cycle path users away from road traffic pollution and route that kept closer to the riverside was the preferred option amongst GCC members.

Queries and concerns raised revolved around who is paying for this project and if it was to be routed riverside – Scottish Roads? Local Council? Retail Landlords?

1. **Mental Health booklet**

How best to present and distribute this information? How many to distribute and to who, which geographical localities to cover? Could we include it as a supplement with AB10 magazine? David Walker (Evening Express) said that the EE were intending to publish a mental health piece ‘in the next few months’ and it was suggested by GCC that we could tie in our timing with that so reinforce the support available?

1. **How can Community Councillors report on delegated tasks?**

Have a specific slot in the future GCC agenda to discuss/highlight these matters

1. **Link road from North Deeside Road to Inchgarth Road**

GCC continue to oppose this proposal – can we gain any support from retailers/RGU/students? The planning permission is still live and the concerns about transport at the junction of Inchgarth Road and the proposed link road continue to be the issue.

1. **Next edition of AB10 – Discussion**

Acknowledge and appreciate that it is a lot for one person to arrange and compile, should we reduce editions created or content? Suggested a list of content and desired articles and if everyone could produce an article so that there is a portfolio of articles to utilise. We would require a stipulation in word count and deadline

1. **Next Garthdee Liaison Group meeting**

All local organisations and partners are due to meet on 31st March 2020

1. **Christmas Celebrations 2020**

IB: Get info from our neighbouring CCs as to how they went about getting their lights and maintenance for them. Is fundraising required – if so, we need to start now. Could we get support from Caber Coffee? Where would we put lights? Along Auchinyell Road was suggested or at the three main gateways into Garthdee and build up our collection from there? IY advised that some lamp posts are aluminium and may not support the weight and fixtures of the lights (to be aware of this). We should also be aware of what the council may charge for sourcing from their electricity outlets and perhaps we could open up light sponsorship with local businesses to help offset the cost and maintenance of the lights. Also raised query of whether Brian (Volunteer Gardener at ICC) would be willing to help create a Christmas display/grotto?

1. **Changing place toilet**

GCC continues its support and promotion of CPT and has the facility to offer this with dignity and respect

1. **Local issues**

RM: 3 lights out at the parade of shops (from McColls to the Hairdresser’s). IY noted this and will follow up. IY will also enquire and follow up with lights being off at the Asda steps.

EA: car repeatedly parked up with an ‘F’ permit during permit times on Craigievar Crescent and asked for advice. IY recommended contacting City Wardens via email with details and typical hotspot for focussed attention on their part.

RM: 1B First buses that turn around at the campus – often queued up and returning empty when #1 circular bus is full. Can schedule timings be looked into or effort from RGU/Students Union to promote their student specific route over use of residential route?

1. **Monthly Accounts**

Proposed: Rab Murchie, Seconded: Irene Buchan

1. **Planning Officer/Licensing Officer report**

Greys School of Art applied for demolition of two-story building

1. **Community Council Forum Update**
2. **Councillors’ Reports**

Effects of rejected recycling products e.g. pizza boxes – cannot be recycled due to contamination. 50% of houses purposefully recycle but only 15% in housing where waste collection is communal

Trees have been promised as part of the Union Terrace Gardens redevelopment plan

1. **AOCB**

None raised

1. **Date and time of next meeting**

14th April 2020, 7pm