

**PRESTWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES MEETING TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2023
19.15hrs 65 CLUB, PRESTWICK**

The meeting commenced at 19.15hrs.

SEDERUNT:

COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS PRESTWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL (PCC):

Gareth Baines (Co-opted):

Meic Evans (Chair):

Margaret Milligan (Secretary):

John O'Donnell:

Al Priestnall:

Jim Riach:

Jim Ronney:

Norrie Smith (Vice-Chair):

Thompson Piper:

June Whittaker (Treasurer):

Patricia Young:

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (SAC):

Cllr. Ian Cochrane

Cllr. Hugh Hunter:

Cllr. Martin Kilbride:

Cllr. Cameron Ramsay:

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

M McClelland: S Taylor: R Waite:

APOLOGIES:

PCC: C/Cllrs: Shirley Harris: John Park: Alison Smith: Heather Thomson: Mike Tomlinson:
Iain Tulloch:

SAC: Craig Ross, Deputy Head Prestwick Academy:

Police Scotland: Sgt Lisa Thompson:

Prestwick Business Association (PBA): Ainsley Hunter (Chair):

1. Welcome:

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all.

2. Sederunt/Received Apologies/Declaration of interests:

Sederunt and apologies as noted above: there were no declarations of interests.

3. Police Report: Received from Police Scotland. See also item 7.Boydfield Gardens.

4. Hearing/Open Forum:

Covered under Item 7 – Boydfield Gardens.

5. Schools report:

This had been circulated to members, as Schools Officer unable to attend.

6. Minutes meeting 29th August 2023: (September meeting was cancelled):

There were 2 amendments both on Page 3:

Under best dressed window display: thanks to judging team should include C/Cllr John O'Donnell.

Under SAC councillors reports -Cllr Hugh Hunter stated he should have said ARA reviewing parking in Prestwick.

The minutes were then agreed as an accurate record, proposed by C/Cllr John O'Donnell and seconded by C/Cllr Norrie Smith.

7. Matters arising from the approved minutes:

Golf Green Academy: SAC Cllr Hugh Hunter confirmed still ongoing. SAC were committed to this project, and he agreed to follow up.

Boydfield Gardens: Report by C/Cllr John O'Donnell confirmed meeting with residents on 17/10/2023, who advised of anti-social behaviour from youths throwing things at their windows and hurling constant abuse. Residents admitted not reported to Police as waiting time for 101 number to respond can be over 30 minutes, plus Police don't do anything. They were advised to report every incident to Police and report disturbances to SAC housing who are landlords. Residents wanted raised planters removed, top of walls painted with anti-vandal paint, with roses and brambles planted in whole area to prevent youths coming near. Also requested access gate for their car park to prevent youths climbing over their cars and onto Hoppers' office roof. The following actions to be taken from 17/10/2023 meeting:

1. Speak to SAC Cllr Martin Kilbride about SAC removing the rest of the planters from the area in front of the wall.
2. Speak to The Head Mistress at Prestwick Academy about the campus Police officer leading a group of pupils to paint the top of the wall with anti-vandal paint (The head mistress had advised previously they had a stock of this and she was happy to use this in the community anywhere it may be required).
3. Speak to SAC about the installation of a gate at the car park entrance.
4. Speak to SAC Cllr Martin Kilbride about the relocation of a mobile camera to the area for a period of time.
5. For the residents their action is to report all incidents to the police and SAC on every occasion, as the more this is recorded the easier it will be for PCC to make the case for the relocation of the mobile Camera. They agreed to do this.

Since the meeting one resident has been attacked in their car park by approximately 20 youths, resulting in being hospitalised with severe facial and eye injuries. Residents present at tonight's meeting confirmed they were living in fear, and again requested a gate to be installed to prevent access. Meeting arranged for 7/11/2023 to discuss. A conversation with the resident attacked took place, noting his anger and distress, and fear of a reoccurrence. It was agreed that Police representation at PCC meetings would be helpful in light of the attack; a letter should be sent to Chief Constable to request this, and ask what is being done about the disturbances and attack. PCC approved the recommendations proposed at 17/10/2023 meeting; C/Cllr John O'Donnell will continue as PCC liaison with residents and report back to PCC.

Ayrshire Growth Development Funding: Chair confirmed that the three Ayrshire Councils under the Chairmanship of East Ayrshire, had set up a committee to deliver the Ayrshire Growth Deal. A sub-committee has been set up to deal specifically with those projects that are faltering. Chair to monitor and report any consequences for Prestwick.

Beach: A comprehensive report regarding the beach, was e-mailed to members by C/Cllr Mike Tomlinson, who will continue to update PCC on any further progress, and report on the meeting held between him and SAC Kenny Dalrymple.

The Ayrshire Link- Community Advisory Group (CAG): C/Cllr John O'Donnell is our representative on CAG, and the Secretary had circulated paperwork from meeting he attended, which included minutes, presentation and future meeting dates.

Prestwick Town Lights: PBA Chair reported previously no appetite from businesses to do anything. SAC Cllr Hugh Hunter had asked at a previous meeting if PCC would be interested, but lack of feedback disappointing. The Chair confirmed he had emailed PBA Chair asking what was involved, but received no response. Since then, SAC Cllrs Kilbride and Hunter together with C/Cllr John O'Donnell and other businesses, have arranged Prestmas for Saturday and Sunday 25th and 26th November. There will be market stalls and entertainment both days, with lighting up taking place on 26th November. A brochure detailing the event will shortly be published. SAC Cllr Kilbride confirmed despite PBA statement, 25 businesses had actually contributed funds towards the event. When asked if PCC would be willing to take responsibility for new lights and store them, it was confirmed not possible this year, however would look at position for 2024. It was also agreed the Community Council would in the new year discuss with SAC Cllr. Hunter possible involvement with future Prestmas.

8. South Ayrshire Councillors' reports: The Community Council agreed with the Chair's request that SAC Councillors' written reports should be sent to the Secretary 1 week prior to PCC meetings, to allow members to have any questions ready and to help meetings move along timeously.

Hugh Hunter:

As trains now start and stop at Prestwick due to Station Hotel fire, parking, especially at Station car park is a problem. Request made to ARA to ask Airport to consider use of a car park as pick up point, but airport declined. Chief Executive ARA contacted an MSP Minister to look into this and ask Airport to consider as a park and ride; awaiting response. Plaques placed at locations in Prestwick are being well received, with a dedicated plaque for those who lost their lives in Prestwick Plane crash in WW2.

Freemans Hall drop in event went well with talks on steeple progressing.

Street lighting and other lighting in Prestwick was discussed.

Public toilets discussed and the cost of same, with the Chair commenting on the lack of public toilets near the Main Street in Prestwick. He had previously outlined to members proposals for a community ownership, and is currently liaising with a community Group in South Ayrshire that has taken on responsibility for managing facilities. Chair stated that the advantage that they enjoyed was that they had taken over premises that had previously been closed.

Prestwick does not have a vacant toilet. Further information re: the payment/labour requirements to successfully take on a toilet still required.

Ian Cochrane:

Lack of housing still a major problem, as are care packages for elderly due to lack of resources. Recurring problems with drivers driving against one way system, especially in Crofthead Road and Gardiner Street.

Cameron Ramsay: Getting involved with the Ark project which really helps young people. Updated the meeting on work carried out by VASA.

Martin Kilbride:

Confirmed arrangements for Prestmas. Parking still a problem; Scotrail approached Airport to ask for assistance.

The Chair spoke about housing in Ardfin Road and building by private developers.

Vice Chair asked the elected SAC Councillors if they had regular surgeries. The Councillors advised it was dependent on demand. The Community Council agreed with the Vice Chair's request that information about surveys on numbers of constituents attending, the issues that were raised and discussed, could usefully be collected so that PCC are kept aware to enable update on PCC website. It was agreed if this was carried out, the Vice Chair would collate the results.

9. Treasurer's report: The Treasurer confirmed a total of £82.00 outstanding in cheques; the current balance is £582.45. When asked about purchasing wreaths for Remembrance Service, advised PCC would be able to cover this for current year, although funds are becoming restricted due to repeat monthly expenditure, and only receiving one grant from SAC. The Treasurer to contact C/Cllr Shirley Harris regarding wreaths.

10. Planning Report: This had been circulated.

- The proposals for a Care Home on the land by Prestwick St. Cuthbert Golf Club, were discussed, noting that the land is currently identified for housing in the Local Development Plan 2. The Chair agreed to write to SAC with PCC concerns regarding the loss of land allocated for housing in the Local Development Plan 2

- An e-mail had been circulated by C/Cllr Mike Tomlinson outlining his concerns about the planning application lodged for the land at the former Parkstone Hotel. The Chair confirmed he had written to SAC regarding lack of consultation with PCC prior to the closing date for comments/objections, resulting in PCC being given an extension of 2 weeks to submit any. The Chair e-mailed all PCC members enclosing SAC letter, and asked for any comments/objections to be sent to the Secretary no later than 11/10/2023 as he was on holiday. The Secretary confirmed she had received no communication from anyone. The Chair expressed disappointment at the lack of response from members, as SAC had given PCC an extension date to comment/object as a favour.

11. Licensing Report: The Licensing Board meeting held on 26/10/2023 lasted for 20 minutes, during which no licensed premises in Prestwick were discussed.

12. Airport Consultative Committee Report: C/Cllr Jim Riach advised the Chief Executive of Airport concerned at the number of windfarms in the area; currently there are 12 with a further 16 planned, and if this indeed goes up to 28 could block the airspace between Prestwick and Carlisle, a major concern. ACC asked PCC to support the Airport's concerns on the windfarms. PCC agreed. Air freight very successful, and plans to increase this would include carrying farming produce, and live-stock. When asked about increased noise, C/Cllr Jim Riach confirmed there had been no recent complaints.

13. Correspondence/concerns received:

The Secretary confirmed that C/Cllr Julie Twaddell had resigned, due to being heavily committed to other projects, in particular Dementia Friendly Prestwick. A letter of thanks on behalf of PCC was sent to Julie.

As a result of the resignation, the Secretary intended to start the co-option advertising process, and PCC members present were asked if they would formally agree for her to do this. All present agreed. After the meeting closed, C/Cllr Al Priestnall also tendered his resignation to the Chair and Secretary, again as a result of being heavily involved in his work and other projects. The Secretary sent a letter of thanks to him on

behalf of PCC, and issued an e-mail to PCC members advising them, and confirming the co-option notice would advertise 2 vacancies.

As the September meeting was cancelled, James Maclay's presentation had been issued to all PCC members to enable them to make any comments at this meeting (October). PCC agreed to support this in principle as an initial proposal requiring further work, and the Secretary would confirm this to Mr Maclay.

14. A.O.C.B:

Public Toilets: Discussed under SAC Cllrs reports.

Service of Remembrance: C/Cllr Shirley Harris has been dealing with this, and after liaising with SAC, they advised her due to the excessive cost of hiring equipment, will no longer consider this. They have instead purchased a sound system for PCC to use at the event and for other future use. The equipment to be uplifted and stored by PCC. C/Cllr Jim Ronney offered to lay a wreath at Polish War memorial; volunteer required for the War Memorial at Prestwick Cross.

Dog fouling: SAC Cllrs were reminded that as this matter had been brought up repeatedly at meetings, someone needs to take responsibility for addressing the problem.

Community Carol Service: Confirmed as 17th December at 7.00pm in Kingcase Church.

The following items to be carried forward to future meetings:

Local Biodiversity Action Plan: Prestwick Place Planning: Community Council Community Development Trust: SAC approach to consultation: Common Good Fund:

15. Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 28th November 2023, at 19.15hrs in 65 Club, Main Street, Prestwick.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 21.25hrs.