

<b>Date:</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024, 19:00
<b>Place:</b>	Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Church

### Attendees

**GDCC:** Joan Gordon (JG), Rona Brown (RB), Angela Astor (AA), Lynn Bruce (LB), Mathew Reilly (MR), Alex McKendrick (AM), Calum Ross (CR)

**Councillors:** Ross McKenzie (RM), Dan Heap (DH)

**Local Residents:** Graeme Sheilds (GS), Robert Bain (RB) – Caledonian Village, Barbara Roberts (BR) – GDS Church, Shona Thomson (ST)

**Guest Speakers:** N/A

### Apologies and Quorum

Apologies from Chris McGowan

Meeting was quorate.

### New Member

Approval was given to co-opt Chris McGowan onto the Committee.

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes proposed by MR and seconded by CR.

### Matters Arising

N/A

### Correspondence

- An email had been received from a firm of architects asking about creating a local plan.
  - **Action** AM, MR and RM to set up meeting
- A new detective for the area is now in post.
  - **Action** MR to invite to April meeting.

### Engagement

- CM had offered to help maintain the website. This was welcomed by the meeting.
  - **Action** MR to confirm with CM

### Future Speakers

A list of proposed speakers for future meetings was agreed:

- April
  - Caledonian Brewery Development
  - Police Scotland
- May
  - Mission Church
  - Union Canal Active Travel Link
- June
  - 20 Minute Neighbourhood

### Treasurer's Report

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- MR reported that the 2022/23 accounts were still to be signed off by the accountant. The delay was due to issues with changing the address of the bank account to St Brides. The accounts need to be signed off before funds will be released. This had prevented GDCC receiving funds for 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years.
    - **Action:** RM to ask Council if 2023/24 funds could still be released
    - **Action:** once the address is corrected, the bank is to be changed from Bank of Scotland to one that offers online business banking

## Councillors' Reports

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### Dan Heap

- Private roads: These had become an issue since parking controls were extended in Gorgie as residents were unable to apply for parking permits. He is trying to get Robertson Gait adopted by the council. It has been difficult to engage with the Council on this issue, but DH is bringing it to the Council Transport committee. The Council had accepted in principle that Westfield Street should be adopted.
- Firework control zone: These had been accepted by the council and would mean that a licence would be required to let fireworks off in these areas. The council will be seeking proposals for these areas. He believed it would be enforced by the police
- Toilets: no funding had been released for public toilets in Gorgie/Dalry in the recent Council budget. ST thought that Living Rent would continue to campaign on this issue.
  - **Action** DH to check the results of the report that was commissioned on toilet provision

### Ross McKenzie

- Waste and Cleansing: there are still a lot of complaints about this, including rats at Robertson Avenue, but RM feels that there are incremental improvements.
  - RM had presented his own budget at Council. He believed the Council should have raised council tax to fund a long-term shortfall in funding for social care and education. Most households Gorgie/Dalry were low tax bands so would be relatively unaffected by any increase.
  - Murrayfield Sports Bar: the planning application for purpose built student accommodation had been refused due to flood risk. Other developments had been approved on the same site, but council officers believed that these had mitigated the flood risks.
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## Planning and Licencing

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Nothing to report

## Items for Discussion

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### Gorgie Farm

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- DH reported that EVOC are going to present the Council in July with options for the future of the farm. It had been accepted the Culture Committee that a Councillor and representative from the Council should be involved in any future business model. DH had also pushed for a partial re-opening of the site as soon as possible. He noted that the front parts of the site were still operational and that the longer the site was closed, the less engaged the community would become. This was also accepted by the Culture Committee.
  - RB highlighted that EVOC were holding a Coffee and Conversation at St Brides, 14<sup>th</sup> March 10.00-12.00

### **Roseburn Path Tram Proposal**

- There was a discussion on whether this was of relevance to GDCC as it fell outwith its boundary.
  - **Action:** It was agreed that RM would invite a representative to speak when the consultation was launched.

### **Caledonian Brewery**

- **Action:** MR to invite developers to speak at April meeting.

### **Ward Boundary Consultation**

- The Council asked Community Councils to respond to a consultation on ward boundaries. It was noted that GDCC boundaries are not in line with Council Ward boundaries and it was agreed in discussion that GDCC ward boundaries should be updated to encompass a wider area.
  - **Action** AM and AR to bring proposal for changes to the GDCC ward boundaries to the April meeting
  - **Action** RM to ask Council for clarity on what changes can be enacted at this stage in the process.

## **AOCB**

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### **Phone Boxes at the Co-op on Dalry Road**

- RB reported that these were in a poor state and being vandalised again. RM noted that this needs to be raised with BT.

### **Toilets for Lothian Bus Drivers**

- CM had raised via email that there had been reports that there were not enough toilets for bus drivers on some routes.
  - **Action** MR to email Lothian Buses to ask if there were any toilets required in Gorgie/Dalry and if GDCC could help with this.

### **Building Damage**

- CR reported that a building had been damaged on Murieston Road, and asked if RM could report this to Building Standards.

### **Newsletter**

- RM reported that he was writing a newsletter which would be printed and distributed. He asked if he could use the GDCC logo to advertise the community council. This was agreed.

### **Crossing at Henderson Terrace**

- MR asked for an update on this. RM replied that there was an up-coming public consultation on a segregated cycle lane through the area. Any changes to the junction would be made after this, but this would not be until 2026.

### **Gorgie Mission Church**

- JG asked for an update on the future of this building. CR reported that an organisation called 20 Schemes, which is connected with the Free Church of Scotland, are trying to raise money to fund the church.

### **AGM**

- It was agreed to hold the AGM at 1830-1900 on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024, prior to the next ordinary meeting.
  - Action** Agenda to be issued at least 21 days in advance of meeting.  
Minutes of last AGM to be circulated as well

**Date of Next Meeting – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024**