

GORGIE



DALRY

Gorgie Dalry Community Council
7 pm, Monday 6th April 2026
Gorgie and Palmerston Place Church

Minutes

Attendees

GDCC: Joan Gordon (JG), Alex McKendrick (AM), Lynn Bruce (LB), Rona Brown (RB), Bob Bain (BB) – CVOC, Moira MacKirdy (MM), Chris Macgown (CM)

Councillors: Dan Heap (DH)

Local Residents: Barbara Roberts (BR) – GDS Church, Val Chisholm (VC), Diane Horsley (DH), Graeme Shields (GS)

Speakers: Police Scotland Community Officers

Apologies and Quorum

Meeting was quorate

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by BB, seconded AM

Matters Arising

Place Plan

- MM circulated draft survey and took feedback on this.
- GDCC website will include contextual information about the survey and the survey will include a link to this.
- JG asked about translation to other languages. There had not been the capacity to do this, but MM was confident that google translate will work fine.
- Posters will be printed and distributed, including in St Brides. Local groups and schools had been emailed. Councillors could also spread the links. AM noted that the Council Engagement officer had been approached for help promoting the survey.

- AM asked the meeting what topics should be included in the survey. DH noted that if PBSA was mentioned in the plan, planners would have to account for it. The meeting agreed that social housing for families should be a priority. In terms of green spaces, more bins and more frequent collections would be a positive step. Lack of pavements and pedestrian crossings for West Approach Road was noted. Poor crossings at Ardmillan was also mentioned.

GDCC – Future Committee and Meetings

- AM noted made efforts to increase GDCC numbers and find a new chair and treasurer. The Forum, Living Rent and community farm had all been contacted. Notices had been placed on social media. However, there had been little concrete success from this.
- There were hopes that the place plan may generate interest.
- JG offered to stay on as chair until a replacement was found.
- AM believed that a by-election would not need to be held unless no chair was found, as 6 further members could be co-opted.
- AM confirmed his intentions to stand down as Treasurer.
- MM offered to take forward the Engagement role.
- **Decision:** it was agreed that meetings should be moved to the second Monday of the month to avoid bank holidays.
- **Decision:** It was agreed that the AGM should be held in May and combined with a discussion about the Place Plan.

Correspondence

- N/A

Engagement

- N/A

Treasurer's Report

- A summary had been submitted to the Council and AM was going to submit the accounts.

- Costs had been higher because outgoings such as the hall hire had been brought into this financial year.

Planning and Licensing

- N/A

Councillor's Reports

Dennis Dixon

- N/A

Dan Heap

- The council had been setting budgets for 3 years plus 1 year.
- Gorgie City Farm: DH had tried to get funding capital and running costs as part of the council budget settlement but this was unsuccessful. He believes it needs investment to succeed and will keep pushing. However, the farm has had some positive news with 80 volunteers and the Forge on site.
- Public toilets: Still trying to get the Haymarket Developer to pay for public toilets. However, he was hopeful of tourist tax funding for toilets in Gorgie. 2 toilets plus baby changing would cost around £250,000. He believed the most logical place was in front of the City Farm. AM noted that urinals on match days would be useful.
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Ross Mackenzie

- N/A

Items for Discussion

Police Report

- Two Community Police Officers gave a report to the meeting.
- They had sent out a newsletter with the main community updates
- They had conducted an initiative against shoplifting, involving the supermarkets. A retail task force had been set up with government funding to actively work with shops to identify and charge shoplifters.
- They had also conducted an e-bike initiative to target illegal e-bikes

- AM asked about drugs issues in the area and access to closes. The number of reports has gone down but there are plans to dedicate a week of action to the issues.
- They currently only had 3 out of 4 staff for the area. Most of the time was spent on neighbourhood disputes, with weekends on football events and protests. They sometimes aided the response team.
- AM thanked them for attending.

AOCB

- Blocked Drains: CM noted that there were lots of blocked drains and that this had been a long-standing issue. DH asked that these issues be reported to Councillors to take forward. AM noted the budget pressures on the Council infrastructure budget.
- Thanks to JG: DH presented JG with card and flowers as token of the Council's thanks for her work.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 11th May 2026