

## **VICTORIA PARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

### **REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2017 in St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, 112 Mitre Road, Jordanhill, Glasgow, G14 9PP**

**Present:** Professor John Winfield, Chair; Mrs Kate Still, Vice-Chair,  
Mr Douglas Fotheringham, Treasurer  
Mr David Beaton, Committee Member; Mrs Phyllis Fisher, Committee Member;  
  
4 Members of the public

#### **1. Chairperson's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

#### **2. Apologies**

Dr & Mrs A Clark, Mr J Grierson (Secretary), Mr A Houston

#### **3. Report of the AGM Held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 and Ordinary Meeting Held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

The minutes of the AGM held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 and Ordinary Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016, were accepted as a true record.

#### **4 Report of the Year's Activities by the Chairperson**

The Chairman reminded members that VPRA had originally been established in February 2015 in response to potentially serious issues being faced in the area of South Jordanhill which were not being addressed at that time by Jordanhill Community Council. However, since the Spring of 2016, due to a substantial common membership, we now have a close alignment with the Community Council. This raises the question of 'whether or not VPRA should cease to exist?' which will be considered later in the meeting.

Activities during the period February 2016 to January 2017 have included the following:

##### **.1 Objection to the Proposed Gasification of Waste Plant, 865 South Street, G14 0BX**

VPRA, along with other local action groups, objected to planning permission being granted for an enlarged incineration facility in South Street. Although the facility was outwith our boundary emissions could impact on Jordanhill. VPRA submitted written evidence to the Planning Enquiry and gave oral evidence at the GCC Planning Meeting in March. Planning permission was denied and an appeal by the initiator was made to the Scottish Government. VPRA submitted objections to the appeal document and were observers at a site visit in July 2016. The Scottish Government's Reporter's evidence and finding has been lodged with Kevin Stuart, MSP, and the final result will be made public in two to three months.

## **.2 The Future of Victoria Park**

VPRA's proposal for the regeneration of the blaes pitch area in Victoria Park was considered with two others in an on-line consultation exercise organised by GCC Land and Environmental Services. As none of the proposals was overwhelmingly supported the exercise was abandoned by LES early in the summer of 2016. A series of 'Placemaking Workshops' has since been established by LES and is being run by a contracted organisation – EKOS. While this is perhaps not the most favourable approach VPRA and JCC have taken part stressing that Victoria Park is an important piece of history and should be considered and planned as a single entity.

Independently, VPRA put together with great help from Page & Park, Architects, A Community Plan for Victoria Park and its Associated Green Spaces which was published in July 2016. This document was accepted by JCC before publication and is presently being considered by potential partners in the enterprise – notably our neighbouring Community Councils.

Although none of these activities has yet reached any conclusion we are cautiously optimistic that there is little likelihood of the blaes area being leased for commercial enterprise. While income generation will be required there is a strong feeling that any funds generated should be returned to the Park concerned rather than being held centrally by GCC.

## **.3 Developments at Scotstoun Sports Campus**

Glasgow Life issued a planning application document (a pre-planning process) in the summer of 2016 with the promise that proposals would be made available to local Community Councils. However, the process to date has been very frustrating and it is possible that formal proposals will be issued and presented to the GCC Planning Committee in the near future. Although this does not involve VPRA directly we are deeply involved since we have previously made representations over parking at Glasgow Warriors home games (our Equality in PTRO provision) and this situation has not improved.

## **.4 Changes to the 4/4A Bus Route**

VPRA alongside many other organisations and individuals in the area has made representations to First Bus about the reductions in bus routes. They have resulted in the loss of the direct link between South Jordanhill and Byres Road/University Avenue. Sadly our efforts to date have yielded no result but we will continue to press the company.

It was noted that the revised route would require to be run for 90 days before any change might be affected.

In concluding his report the Chairperson acknowledged the efforts of all members of the Executive Committee over the past year.

## **5 Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer led the meeting through a summary of the VPRA income and expenditure from 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 until 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. Income for the year received from the Executive Committee and members of the public amounted to £182.58. Expenditure to

cover renewal of website fee, printing and room hire costs amounted to £169.30. The balance remaining at 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 was £13.28.

The annual membership fee of £5 remains unchanged and fees or donations should be directed to the Treasurer.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was proposed by KS and seconded by DB. A copy of the Report would be available on the VPRA website. The Treasurer was thanked for the work he had done throughout the past year.

## **6 Arrangements for VPRA in the Future**

Those present were directed to Item 8 of the report of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016 where it was decided that views on VPRA's future would be sought by members.

Taking account of discussion and responses from the wider community it was concluded that VPRA should continue in the meantime, meeting quarterly rather than on a monthly basis. Once meeting dates were agreed with the Executive, an email would be sent to the community to update them and seek donations to cover the cost of room hire. As the upkeep of the VPRA website was costly it would cease to exist with minutes and correspondence being posted on the JCC Website. The Executive Membership would be confirmed and publicised.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair for the work carried out on behalf of VPRA over the past year.

**N.B. This is a draft minute which will be confirmed/amended at the Jan. 2018 AGM.**