

KELVINDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, 20th June 2013, 7.30pm
CLEVEDEN SCHOOL

PRESENT: Caroline Johnston (Chair) , David McGuinness, Ken Windsor, Moira Anderson, Claire Craig, Anne Gasteen

1. APOLOGIES: None

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr. John Letford, Cllr. Martin Rhodes, Cllr. F. Scally, Patricia Ferguson (MSP) + many residents
Lee Cammack (Coal Authority), Tom Adams (Glasgow City Council LES), David Hay (Glasgow City Council DRS), Lesley McLellan (Glasgow City Council LES)

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING/MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved – proposed Anne Gasteen, Seconded David McGuinness

All matters arising were ongoing and would be discussed at the next meeting in August.

3. MINESHAFT - WEYMOUTH DRIVE

The main topic at this meeting was the mineshaft in Weymouth Drive, Kelvindale. Four guests had been invited to represent the views of the Coal Authority and Glasgow City Council.

Lee Cammack from the Coal Authority started by giving the meeting an assessment of the situation as far as the Coal Authority was concerned. Through visual inspection there are 4 possible locations for the shaft on Weymouth Drive around No 58. No action will be taken on the shaft unless the shaft collapses. However, new evidence has suggested that the mine was for ironstone which would mean that the Coal Authority is not responsible. The Coal Authority's Legal Services are investigating this. According to the Coal Authority the shaft is around 60 metres deep and has probably been filled with 'materials' but all this is conjecture until a physical inspection is done.

Tom Adams from Glasgow City Council LES informed the meeting that a desk study gave a strong indication that the shaft was outside No 54 but to confirm this would require drilling and LES are not willing to do this as there is no sign of ground movement at the present. He will be approaching Legal Services at Glasgow City Council to clarify the responsibility issue. LES are satisfied that the inspection program (of photographs once per month) they have in place is appropriate and rely on the Public to notify them otherwise. Signs to look for are deformation of surface, deflections and cracking of road surface. It was noted that the road, which was in a very bad condition, had been re-surfaced recently. There is no requirement for restrictions based on the current situation as it is not considered dangerous and fine for the Public to walk across.

Lesley McLellan (Glasgow City Council LES) explained the fence that had been erected in Dawsholm park around a mineshaft was put in place because accurate information was available due to investigations carried out for a development. She said every shaft is treated differently.

David Hay from DRS at Glasgow City Council told us that a strategy review caused the inspections and felt the risk to the public was negligible. He is going to ask Legal Services at Glasgow City Council to get in touch with the Chair of the Community Council regarding responsibility for the shaft. He also informed us that the property line extends to the middle of the road in front of the house.

Brian Lavery (resident of Weymouth Drive) has documents to prove that the shaft was dual purpose - both coal and ironstone. The Gilberts (Weymouth Drive) have a letter from the Coal Authority saying that if the shaft collapses they are responsible i.e. the letter is a legal document. The Gilberts have also had a desktop survey done which places the shaft on the pavement outside No 54 Weymouth Drive. Brian Lavery would also like a letter from both Glasgow City and the Coal Authority stating that the shaft is safe. The ambiguity over responsibility for safety needs to be resolved especially as the shaft is so close to a Primary School. The estimate to fill the shaft is in the region of £25-100,000.

Cllr Rhodes said that responsibility and location were the two most important questions needing answers quickly especially as the Coal Authority is now putting doubt on the shaft being for coal. LES should liaise with Educational Services regarding the safety of Primary School children walking over the shaft.

Cllr Scally felt that as the shaft is so close to a Primary School and we have known about it for over 2 years that it should be filled in as a preventative measure once it has been accurately located. Responsibility for the mineshaft needs to be established quickly.

Cllr Letford felt the area needed cordoned off until the situation had been clarified with regard to exact location and legal responsibility. Any available documents should be made available to all parties.

Caroline Johnston (Chair) summed up by giving a plan of action :

1. Confirm legal responsibility - Coal Authority or Glasgow City Council
2. Establish type of mine - coal or ironstone
3. Get up to date cost of filling shaft
4. Plan of action for safety of 500 Primary School children walking over shaft daily

She also thanked our guests for attending the meeting.

4. A.O.B.

Caroline Johnston and Wendy Grannon were approved as our representatives at the Area Partnership

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, 15th August 2013 at 7.30pm in Clevedon School