

Minutes of the Strathbungo Society Meeting
Tuesday, 19 January 2021 at 8pm via Zoom

1. **Attending:** Jane Catrolan, Chair; Paola Rezzilli , Vice Chair; Steven Good, Treasurer; Sharon Schweps, Secretary; Heather Alexander, Imelda Devlin, Andrew Downie, Ann Downie, Nick Kempe, Harriet Steymor, Janes Spooner.

2. **Minutes of 15 December 2020 meeting** – approved.

3. **Matters arising:**
 - 3.1 **Doorstep Bungo at the Bells** went well, all things considered, with quite a few people coming out and making a noise at midnight. Thanks to Paola for organising and Kristian Healy for designing a flyer to print out and post. Publicity was kept deliberately local. There was a good feeling on social media that we had managed a Covid-appropriate intervention, including a tweet from Alison Thewliss MP.
 - 3.2 **Queens Park Glasshouses:** The QP Friends group aren't responding and the website has not been updated. Jane to keep an eye on the situation lest yet another local landmark is lost.

4. **Network Rail.** Jane has replied on behalf of the SS to NR's letter of 4 December re the electrification project. She noted that they had committed to consulting with the community but they are merely communicating their plans, without regard to local input. This casts doubts on their willingness to consult re the design of a suitable replacement for the bridge. She also raised ad hoc night-time work without timely notice to residents, and offered our social media resources to alert residents. While NR are technically entitled to take down Susie's and the footbridge without our consent, when NR met with the Society, and Nicola Sturgeon and/or her representative, they were still talking about alternatives such as raising the bridge or lowering the tracks; it now appears a decision has been made without consultation. What is the timetable for this? Our letter has been acknowledged but as yet the standard points have still not been addressed. It seems prudent to get in now with our councillors and understand what the process is going to

be. Should NR fail to provide the information, the Society can pursue a Freedom of Information request. Jane will ask Fiona Mackinnon to explore the planning issues. She was also asked to chase up NR on our previous email , particularly to get the timescales and plan , and to pursue information re the bridge and the alternative of lowering the rail bed. We need to get the word out to local residents and interested outsiders as people will be shocked at the immediate threat to these iconic landmarks. The Society must lead on this, consider petitions and also seek input from local architects or other experts on practical alternatives. James will publicise this in the next newsletter and ask residents what they think.

5. **Possible access path from Moray Place to Titwood Road.** The Crossmyloof nursing home has been handed over to the Council's Assets Disposal department for sale. This is an excellent opportunity for a small stretch of land to be withheld and turned into a direct link for pedestrians and cyclists to Titwood Road with quicker access to the railway station and Morrisons. How can we make this happen? Andrew to ask Cllr Jon Molyneux how to approach this.
6. **Strathbungo News.** James noted the various issues discussed here, and other suggestions for Spring 2021 - eg, sculpture in Queens Park pond, George the streetcleaner's retiral.
7. **Upcoming events**
 - 7.1. **BiBL 21.** The main decisions on whether – or how– this will go ahead in June can be made as late as March. Nick noted that there has been no sign through Pollokshields Area Partnership of a budget for community events so grants are unlikely.
 - 7.2. **Strathbungo Society 50th Anniversary.** The original Strathbungo Conservation Society, founded in 1971, was instrumental in saving our community from being bulldozed. This calls for a celebration, perhaps around the time of the 2021 AGM. Sharon will contact Mike Stanger, one of the founders, re the early history.
8. **Wider community representation.**
 - 8.1 **Pollokshields Area Partnership.** Nick wants to stand down. Jane will take his place.
 - 8.2 **Shawlands and Strathbungo Community Council.** Jane to investigate what we can do to the benefit of both.
9. **AOCB**

- 9.1 **GCC Climate Emergency Action Plan.** As this concentrates on new housing, Nick will compose a contribution on behalf of the Society to do in particular with Glasgow's existing housing stock.
 - 9.2 **Treasurer:** Steve noted that the SS event insurance expired at the start of the year and needn't be renewed until decisions are made about staging events. Our PayPal account is now classified as a charity. Steve / Andrew to promote this on the blog.
10. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday, 16 February 2021 at 7pm via Zoom. Please note the time has been changed to an hour earlier.