

**Govanhill Thriving Place**  
**Notes of 'Placemaking' Meeting**  
**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
**Boardroom, Samaritan House**



**In Attendance**

John Quinn, Director, Govanhill Housing Association  
Iain Marley, Chief Executive, hub West Scotland  
Gordon Smith, City Property  
Hamish Battye, Head of Planning & Strategy, Glasgow HSCP (South Locality)  
Karen McNiven, Health Improvement Manager, Glasgow HSCP (South Locality)  
Jonny Pickering, Locality Planning Officer, Glasgow City Council  
Louise Dobbie, Partnership & Development Officer, Glasgow CCP  
Christine Martin, Neighbourhood Coordinator, Glasgow City Council  
Marzanna Antoniak, Community Connector, Govanhill Community Development Trust  
Ken MacDougall, Head of Development & Regeneration, Govanhill Housing Association

**Apologies**

There were no apologies

**Introductions**

Introductions were made around the table.

**Background**

John Quinn thanked everyone for attending and set the scene for the meeting. There are possibilities for creating a new 'heart' of Govanhill by looking at placemaking around the area of Govanhill Trinity Church, GCC Neighbourhood Centre, Health Centre and Annette Street Primary School.

These are current assets owned by strategic partners but there is the potential to examine if they are fit for purpose to meet the needs of the community now and into the future. The Govanhill area is high density and has changing demographics with population expected to increase with the building of 350 new houses. This will undoubtedly increase pressure on existing assets and services.

As part of the Govanhill Thriving Places initiative, there is the opportunity to create a civic/public realm space by re-examining the existing public assets and infrastructure and coordinating future investment with a shared vision between the partners.

A Masterplan for the area would prove useful in expressing the vision for Govanhill over the next 10 years and reviewing current and future assets.

### **Govanhill Trinity Church**

Ken MacDougall advised that the Govanhill Trinity Church in Daisy Street, which closed last Christmas due to health and safety issues, is currently the subject of an updated Feasibility Study funded by Govanhill Community Development Trust, Community Renewal and GCC.

The FS has considered the current condition of the building and provides costs based on a phased development approach to bring it into full community use. A recent meeting with the Trustees of the Church of Scotland proved positive and a period of time has been allowed to investigate funding for the proposal and subsequent transfer of title to community ownership.

### **Govanhill Neighbourhood Centre**

The Neighbourhood Centre, adjacent to Trinity Church, provides meeting and activity space for a variety of community groups and organisations and is well used by the community. The building, however, suffers from lack of investment. There is the opportunity to consider the future of the Neighbourhood Centre in conjunction with proposals for community use

### **Govanhill Health Centre**

Hamish Battye reported that the Health Centre is well located within the community but is not an integrated facility with other social care services as the space is limited and the site constrained for future development. There are no imminent plans for Govanhill Health Centre as Govan is the current priority. However, the HSCP is willing to be involved in exploring future possibilities.

### **Annette Street Primary School**

It is understood that the school is at full capacity within an old building not particularly fit for the future increase in the Govanhill population. Further information is required from Education Services regarding future planning of primary and secondary education services in the area.

### **Hub West Scotland**

Hub West Scotland had been invited to the meeting with the possibility that they might be able to assist in local asset mapping and masterplanning.

Iain Marley advised that HubCo West is a private sector development company who work in partnership with the public sector in the west of Scotland. The aim of these partnerships is to build new community facilities whilst providing the best possible value for money to the public purse.

Although, happy to participate in the initial discussions, Iain Marley recommended that there is the need for a clear Masterplan Brief to be prepared by strategic partners and the community which could then be used to appoint consultants on the HubCo framework for the Masterplan exercise. This should set out the current and future assets, vision, aspirations, opportunities and investment strategies that meet the needs of the community.

### **Masterplanning**

It was agreed that a Masterplan Brief should be prepared on behalf of all stakeholders with the assistance of GCC DRS and GCC Planning. Gordon Smith agreed to identify potential GCC officers who might lead on this. Partners would be expected to feed into the brief with current information on assets together with future investment plans and strategies.

Karen McNiven expressed the need for sustainability to be part of the brief and that, from an NHS perspective, the Green Agenda was important.

John Quinn also suggested that it would be useful to understand what community benefits are available through Viridor's partnership with Glasgow City Council at its Recycling & Renewable Energy Centre at Polmadie as this might provide a range of opportunities to a variety of community members and businesses. There may also be benefits to recycling waste heat to the nearby housing stock thereby reducing carbon emissions and tackling fuel poverty. Christine Martin agreed to establish the position.

### **Community Engagement**

It was agreed that community engagement and empowerment in the process was essential and is very much part of the Thriving Places approach. Marzanna Antoniak has recently been appointed to the Community Connector post to ensure that local people are involved and have the ability to participate in the planning process, including the shaping and delivery of the Locality Plan.

Jonny Pickering and Louise Dobbie agreed to assist with the community empowerment processes and participation.

### **Date of next meeting**

To be advised

(Notes: Ken MacDougall)