

MEETING IN CHURCH 20 February 2006

*(Please note: this is a brief transcript of the dialogue recorded and noted from the meeting held in Kelvin Stevenson Memorial Church on Monday 20 February 2006 at 7pm. This is not a verbatim report, although efforts to reflect the points raised in the discussion have been taken into consideration in this summary).*

Frances introduced George Gillespie, Head of Roads and Traffic, and Donald McKinven, Road Traffic Controller from the Council. Also Inspector William Ross from Maryhill Community Policing.

6 month review is now underway. The leaflets being handed out at back of church are not MPAG leaflets. However the 'Yes' leaflets for Napiershall mention some valid points and what MPAG are trying to do is to push Council to look at current scheme that is not working and properly review this before rolling it out elsewhere. Thus avoid spreading the upset and mayhem caused in adjacent areas. Lack of consultation at the outset. Alternative proposals of MPAG (available on website: [www.metereparking.org.uk](http://www.metereparking.org.uk)) are just a starting point. We talked to people on street. MPAG recognised by Council.

George Gillespie: Review is to consider business permits, GPs, carers, and hours of operation, especially Belmont and Woodlands. Some residents want 24 hour restriction [No mention was made of the very short restriction periods as discussed with MPAG)]. Also looking at permits for some developed properties, eg Angel Building (the converted church in Kent Rd) and multiple occupancies. Review meeting will be at the end of March at latest. Statutory consultation was 6 weeks. Frances has been constructive. He is here to listen.

Frances opens meeting to floor.

Male, an outsider [**from Maryhill**]: **Already pay Road Tax.**  
Just another way of getting money.

G Gillespie: Object is to stop commuters. Money goes to parking attendants and the scheme has to be self financing. {Jack Stuart commented later: Why do we pay to benefit city as a whole.}

Sandra White [MSP for Glasgow]: Scheme is too inflexible and is just moving the problem. There should be a Glasgow wide scheme and permits should be free via Council Tax

Frances: Council has admitted there are not enough attendants to enforce due to them being pulled off to staff school crossing patrols.

G Gillespie: Extra 50 attendants have been brought in. 14,000 fine notices since June. Redirection needed to cover school crossings.

Female: But enough money taken to pay for many attendants. **Scheme is inflexible and causes** displacement [**applause**], so consultation needs to be wider, **Glasgow wide**. Businesses have moved. **Do away with meters. Resident permits** should be free. [**applause**]

Male: Peebles give 45 mins free parking. - a very successful scheme. Here a ripoff. [**applause**]

Male: Jardine St choc-a-bloc with over-spill.

Frances: Some residents are not paying but **parking instead in nearby uncontrolled zones**.

Idem Lewis (disability rights campaigner): Burnbank Terrace now congested with parked cars displaced from surrounding CPZs. Disabled people are having trouble finding places to cross the road and have difficulty seeing moving vehicles because of the parked cars.

Frances comments: **Local residents affected by drivers from outside Glasgow: how many Park & Rides available, and what's being done about issues raised?**

Peter Wilson [**Chair Woodside Community Council**]: Schools Teachers have to come early to get place **because of displacement congestion**. Problems reported to police, but nothing done. Land adjacent to St Joesph's Primary owned by the Catholic Church.

**Frances: General obstruction and bad parking on corners, particular danger at foot of Belmont street; zone signs 5 to 10 meters from G W Rd where cars park freely cause visibility and access problems; accident waiting to happen.**

Inspector Ross: Enforcement of yellow lines is for Council and the rest is for police. Contact police if there is dangerous infringement. Towing charge is £160. Disabled Parking Bays are not statutory.

Male: Holyrood Crescent cars on pavement and inability to turn.

Frances: Stresses our concern for overspill and for **entire community** to be taken into consideration in the review. [**applause**]

Male [**Burnbank Gardens**]: How many of us have filled in the Council form? Around 10 on a show of hands. {Many did not know of the form and have not seen it.}

Case of ambulance stuck 2.5 hours. **Beat** Police came after 1.5

hours and there for another hour. Of four misparked cars in Burnbank Gardens two lifted and two given tickets is it potluck who gets lifted? **System all wrong - has to be enforced, even to extent of permanent confiscation of offending vehicles. [applause]**

Inspector Ross: Private land involved there. Presumes the 1+ hours is matter of priority. It takes a long time for the message to drip-feed to everyone.

Donald McKinven: Some restrictions in **Burnbank area** need to be redefined; **this is in progress.**

Call for show of hands if agree problem to be looked at a Glasgow wide context - vast majority.

Male: Re self-financing, we are now paying for school attendants. Why can council employ attendants from 8am to 10pm, but not open Parking Shop that long? **[applause]** [no answer to this, **but George Gillespie says they are recruiting Crossing Patrols]**

Show of many hands of people who have seen unticketed parkers in CPZ.

It does not seem to be an offence to use disabled bays.

G Gillespie - They are advisory only.

Female: Says more on that (Buckingham Terrace area where someone left their car in the disabled bay for two weeks and the disabled person was unable to use it?). **[applause]**

Inspector Ross: Disabled bays are **Council responsibility, but are 'advisory', ie unenforceable.**

Male: Councillors should hang heads in shame **[applause]** Sham consultation. **[applause]** Should bin scheme and start again **[lots of applause]**

Male of N Woodside Rd: Cannot park at home. Problem of residents of nearby areas that do not pay - make scheme free or minimal fee **for permits, and no meters or bays.[applause]**

Frances: £50 does not guarantee a place. Why not? **and are they going to stick meters and white lines all over conservation areas?**

Male: Will there be a dedicated phone number? Are fines not to be used for policing scheme?

G Gillespie: Any surplus from fines goes to traffic infrastructure **[under Road Traffic Act 1991]**. The new **CPZs** are struggling to break even. A new arrangement for Parking Shop is being considered. Council Access Centre to provide additional service to the Parking Shop.

Inspector Ross: It is best to speak to community officers if not urgent [532 3754]. Another number for urgent matters [532 3700]. Please consider the other priorities of the police.

Male (Gavin Roberts): The Council waste money on illuminating buildings & lighting of sky and not areas where people park (safety issue). Problem with friends being unable to park. Councillors need to get involved. A whole West End issue! There should be a city-wide strategy on parking.

Also, the Council has failed to enforce planning regulations on the provision of car parking at new residential properties. **Council not dealing with transport policy generally.**

[applause]

Male (from top of Belmont): Safety issue. Hands raised for taking a wider view of Glasgow.

Patricia Ferguson [MSP Glasgow Maryhill]: Council **was** warned of overspill problems, but why did they not foresee extent of difficulties. In the summer she was told the scheme was against commuters, so why are times extended into evening? What about two short periods of restriction? Why not try pilot schemes in different areas? Regions differ in needs.

[applause]

Male (Joe ? chairman of Queen's Crescent Improvement Trust): Scheme is beneficial there **but only at the 'front'**. However, schysters park in lane at rear and get in way of cleansing lorries etc. Most people in crescent are commercial, eg vet, GP who cannot get **resident** permits. Three new build sites which are ineligible for permits. G Gillespie less than honest on proposals in review.

Frances: Reiterates 'concern for whole community **businesses, visitors and residents'** [applause]

Female (from Cromwell St): Bad situation **finishes shift at 11pm, street crammed with overspill residents parking for free**. She had **written and** been told by Council that no-one else had complained: please listen! [applause]

Frances - Many people unhappy with responses from Council.

Head-Mistress of St Joseph's Primary: Asks G Gillespie what were the problems previously in Raglan St? She was unaware of any. Raglan St lies empty day after day, but teachers **have to leave classes unattended while** feeding meters.

G Gillespie: happy to visit Raglan St. The 6 issues he listed previously are not them all.

**Headmistress: Why didn't you consider all the factors raised tonight before you implemented the schemes? George Gillespie agreed to arrange visit to St Joseph's.**

Male (of St Vincent Cres): Mentions '14-day' letter and having to respond to Council to uphold original objection [this was back in May]. There was a commuter problem in St **Vincent Crescent**, but now it is empty by day. How much did it cost for meters and road markings? Now problem parking in Kelvinhaugh St. He has six vehicles (5 kept off-road), but will not pay £50. After 6 pm SECC cars cause blockage **including fire path in Minerva Street**, but police unwilling to react.

Male (**Chair** of Yorkhill and Kelvingrove Housing Assn): There are problems, but on balance some aspects of scheme have worked. We need a proper transport system.

Male: Many elderly in congregation of this church. Drivers lucky if they can drop them off and park nearby. **Youth organisations meet in evenings, and parents can't get near to pick up offspring.**

Female to Mr Gillespie: Will Napiershall get scheme? She understood that overspill was expected. She has had a good response from Council.

G Gillespie: Displacement of parking was inevitable. He referred to future Phase 2.

Frances: Stressed that current scheme is not wanted. Need to revise properly and look at problem issues before rolling it out elsewhere. Extension will cause more upset and spread of displacement to other areas [example of commuters in Hyndland and Jordanhill now].

Male: One-ways, no entries etc do not work for cyclists. Corners should be re-configured so that people cannot park on them. European squares are clear of cars, because car parks are provided. St Joseph's is only thing on **Raglan** St. Dough School now has private road for parking. Other towns have incorporated school roads into schools.

Frances: Will Council tell us date of meeting and give us documentation and feedback before Roads & Lighting Committee meet? She thanks Gillespie, McKinven and Inspector Ross.

Collection for Church hire, printing etc. Website (thanked Graham Anderton). Thanks to leaflet deliverers and Church. Re-iterated alternative proposals on website and website address.

Meeting concluded 8.45pm.