



## **QUEENSFERRY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **CELEBRATING 33 YEARS 1986-2019**

#### **Minutes of Business Meeting - Monday, 22nd April 2019**

Present: Keith Giblett (Chair), Diane Job (Treasurer and Planning Convenor), Grant Sangster (Transport Convenor), David Flint (Education Convenor), Graeme McKinley (Social Media Site Administrator), Anne Mitchell (Health Convenor), Councillor Norman Work, Laura Sexton (Advisor), Cllr Louise Young, June Jansen (Environment Convenor), PC Martin Crow (Police Scotland), David Learmond (Queensferry Heritage Trust)

#### **1. Chairman's Welcome**

Keith welcomed all attendees to the meeting, particularly the new nominated councillor David Learmond who is now representing Queensferry Heritage Trust.

#### **2. Apologies**

Kirsten Heggie (Queensferry Businesses), Gillian Smith (QCCC), Maggie Quayle (PEYC), Terry Airlie (Vice Chair/Secretary), Neil McKinlay (Rotary Club), Councillor Kevin Lang, Councillor Graham Hutchison, Jenni Smith (Queensferry High School), Muir Kay (QBC)

#### **3. Police Report (for February 2019)**

A small number of vehicle damage, vandalism, assault and road rage incidents had been reported in the March review period, without any clear pattern emerging. Damage to a direction sign near Dalmeny Station was thought related to a recent spate of disorder which the police find is becoming more apparent across the west side of Edinburgh. Youths initially congregate in particular locations but become displaced and sometimes use public transport to meet others or access alternative venues.

Pub Watch promotions continue to be active across Queensferry, and licensed retailers receive regular visits from the police regarding sales either directly to children or through proxy adult customers. Briefings can be expected every couple of months. A Blue Light disco was being planned along with a drop-in session for any interested parties at the Rosebery Hall. The drop-ins are hoped to run each month. The police station front desk is no longer staffed, so any found property or queries should be arranged via email. Recent investigation surrounding reports of people entering a vehicle revealed nothing particularly suspicious.

#### **4. Minutes from Last Meeting**

The February 2019 minutes had been distributed to members in draft form, with re-wording suggested by Diane made and re-circulated in advance of the April meeting. The 'Draft 2' minutes were proposed by David Flint and seconded by Diane.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

**ACTIONS CARRIED FORWARD FROM MARCH 2019 MEETING, REMAINING OPEN IN APRIL**

- **Norman to establish ownership of Ferry Tap building and enquire with them on prospects of fixing a Greenferry sign to its eastern wall. Action transferred to Graeme.** Some enquiries made with the licensee but a firm rebuff received. Established that the building is owned by Caledonian Heritage. Genoa Black at the bookies may be an alternative. However Graeme will try approaching the Ferry Tap licensee again
- **Terry to write to Cllr Cath Fullerton (CEC Regulatory Committee Convenor) asking for clarification and reasoning for the existing HMO notification process, stating that QDCC deem this unsatisfactory and wish it changed. Action continues.** Not aware of further HMO applications made recently in Queensferry
- **Norman to continue reporting on knuckle progress until repairs are complete. Action continues.** Partnership approval has been given but the money is not yet available. CEC have conceded that the repair is urgent. A step forward is that QBC is now included in the Hawes/Longcraig users group
- **Norman to find date for publication of Locality Review papers and supply a copy of the report being submitted to the Corporate Policy Committee. Action Continues.** No date or papers available yet
- **Norman and Kirsten to make enquiries about former bank building, and if possible establish long term plans for the site. Action transferred to Louise.** It was established that recent alterations would not require planning permission and that no change of use application had been made. However it was felt a risk remained that either the owners or Clydesdale Bank might still be able to sublet the premises for uses (or non-uses) that may detract from the present High Street offering.
- **Norman to enquire if charges for parking meters in Queensferry are rising from the present 50p cost. Action continues.** Initial enquiries suggested no increase from the most recent review, but Norman would double check.
- **David and Graham to speak with QHS about the 'Community Woodland' area behind the existing top car park, including intentions during and after demolition of the existing school building. The sign might require replacement at some point. Action continues due to school holidays.**

#### **ACTIONS FROM MARCH 2019 MEETING, CLOSED IN APRIL**

- Diane to clarify position on requirement for detailed Ferrymuir Gait plans. Closed. Reported separately.
- Anne to take forward the CPR and defibrillator training, with support of QDCC. Closed. Reported separately.
- Norman to try to accelerate the dialogue between CEC Repairs and Housing departments, to try and limit damage to QBC property. Closed. Dialogue accelerated as requested.
- Kevin to provide support to Rosebery Hall committee in future negotiation with CEC. Closed. Support provided to David's satisfaction.

#### **6. Chairman's Report - circulated**

Keith had contacted Jennifer to thank her for taking minutes and reported that she is recovering well. The signing of a letter of intent for developments at Port Edgar relating to the Sea Cadet facilities was pleasing to see and contractors are expected to start work soon. The Forth Bridge walking experience

would be overseen again by Ian Heigh following some staff changes at Network Rail. Tentative delivery dates range in the 2021-22 period and some consultation sessions can be expected within the next 2-3 months, depending on venue availability.

## **7. Councillors' Reports**

**Councillor Lang** – no report

**Councillor Hutchison** – no report

### **Councillor Young**

Verbal report highlighted feedback received on Scotstoun Avenue traffic calming has been useful. CEC's Transport & Environment Committee Convenor would visit Queensferry very soon to witness liners and toilets. These could be viewed as citywide issues. If possible, a visit would be made to Station Road near Queensferry Primary School, in connection with parked vehicles and impact of the one way system proposed for the High Street.

**Councillor Work** – [report](#) circulated

## **8. Treasurer's Report – [circulated](#)**

The Charity Bank account application is in progress but the £60k cheque has not been cleared yet. Funds for the community facility are beginning to accumulate fiscal interest.

A request had been received from the History Group for QDCC to share an ongoing subscription for an internet router, which QHG would install. The usefulness of such a connection to QDCC was debated, and more cost-efficient approaches for low or occasional data use could also be explored. As an outlay, the proposal might consume a significant proportion of CEC's grant money in future years, so more detail of the charges was felt necessary to make a decision.

**ACTION: Diane to enquire on details (ongoing costs and responsibilities) for the shared internet connection proposal with Queensferry History Group**

QDCC decided to contribute £100 towards the Ferry Fair this year, but as participation in float decoration has reduced in recent years the money may not be used as prizes for the float competition. Rather than repeating the previous practice of taking out an advert in this year's Ferry Fair programme, QDCC would write a short piece outlining community council business.

**ACTION: Graeme to write a short piece about QDCC for the Ferry Fair programme**

## **9. Secretary's Report**

No report

## **10. QDCC Sub-Committees**

**Transport** - [circulated](#).

### **Education/Recreation/Rosebery Hall**

In a verbal report, although political support had been forthcoming as requested, staff cover situation at Rosebery Hall was highlighted as remaining a source of concern

**Planning** – [circulated](#)

Some consultation sessions with Taylor Wimpey anticipated towards the end of April, in connection with their application for a further 80 properties on the South Scotstoun site, on land released by Transport Scotland. The whole site therefore becomes better aligned with its housing allocation agreed in the LDP, supporting about 380 homes. Source of funding for the Scotstoun Avenue traffic calming was stressed (a Section 75 condition of building/selling houses on the former Agilent site). Builyeon Road Section 75 likely to be postponed for a considerable time due to the absence of a valid masterplan, despite the new high school being built at present to accommodate children from this location from 2020. A progress report on Ferrymuir Gait is expected in May, where a dummy AMC was submitted immediately before the PPP expired in order to extend the permitted time for submission of credible plans until 14 August.

#### **Health – [circulated](#)**

Another defibrillator will be deployed soon at a site yet to be determined.

#### **Queensferry Businesses**

No report

#### **Port Edgar Yacht Club - [circulated](#)**

#### **Environment**

In a verbal report, June mentioned she popped into Blackhall Library and collected some leaflets describing flora and fauna found their local area. The booklets contain useful maps illustrating access to areas of interest and are good models of what could be done in Queensferry. The example leaflets were produced with support from Almond Neighbourhood Partnership.

#### **Queensferry Boat Club**

No report

#### **Heritage Trust**

A verbal report stated that plans for a set of talks over the winter period are underway and current activities are being reviewed to differentiate heritage aspects from historical. Membership presently stands at 97, and the AGM held recently had been a resounding success. Consideration was being given to promoting several Queensferry locations for Doors Open Weekend this year (28-29 September). For previous events only one site has been chosen, sometimes attracting large numbers of visitors but beset by limited access times or technical issues. Experience of a talk from a former CEC planning official had been fascinating, and this might have some relevance to development plans for Queensferry in general.

**ACTION: Diane to investigate prospects for Planning Sub-Committee to hear talk from former CEC planning official, similar to the recent presentation to QHT**

#### **Queensferry Churches Care in the Community (QCCC)**

No report

#### **Communications – [circulated](#)**

The first liner is due on 10 May. The new CEC designed system will be monitored by QDCC particularly how and when in the day the increased car park space is freed up and what it delivers in practice. This system is rather disappointing and leaves a number of issues outstanding. There will be a QCHS lead community event planned for the evening of 13th June (time tbc). Theme is awareness of the stresses on our young community today and how to support with Neil and Graeme running school leaver destination/pathway workshops as one of five session subjects on the night. A trial of the Play Café

proposal (previously considered for community facility building at Ferrymuir) is being established at Dalmeny Church by Lesley Gould.

The Port Edgar Open Weekend will be held again on 11th-12th May charging a £5 / £10 fee for up to 500 watersports taster sessions. Street Food Festival, DJ, kids' activities, etc. Expected to be extremely busy on the back of last year's popularity. This is now another major event in Queensferry's calendar.

**11. Any Other Business**

None

**12. Questions from the Floor**

No members of the public occupied the floor

**13. Date and Time of Next Meeting:**

Monday, 27nd May 2019 in basement of 53 High Street at 7.30pm