



QUEENSFERRY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CELEBRATING 33 YEARS 1986-2019

Minutes of Business Meeting - Monday, 27nd May 2019

Present: Keith Giblett (Chair), Terry Airlie (Vice Chair/Secretary), Grant Sangster (Transport Convenor), David Flint (Education Convenor), Graeme McKinley (Social Media Site Administrator), Anne Mitchell (Health Convenor), Councillor Norman Work, June Jansen (Environment Convenor), Kirsten Heggie (Queensferry Businesses), Councillor Kevin Lang, Muir Kay (QBC), David Learmond (Queensferry Heritage Trust), Maggie Quayle (PEYC), 2 members of the public.

1. Chairman's Welcome

Keith welcomed all attendees to the meeting, particularly the visitors from Edinburgh Council's Street Light Replacement Team. He mentioned that the summer season in Queensferry town centre had begun in earnest within the past month. Events at Port Edgar, liner visits and holiday weekends had brought visitors from near and far to enjoy Queensferry's attractions.

2. Apologies

Diane Job (Treasurer and Planning Convenor), Laura Sexton (Advisor), Cllr Louise Young, Gillian Smith (QCCC), Neil McKinlay (Rotary Club), Councillor Graham Hutchison, Jenni Smith (Queensferry High School), PC Martin Crow (Police Scotland)

3. Police Report (for April 2019)

Copies of the police report were made available (informal data, for community council use only). However no rep was present to elaborate on the content.

4. Energy Efficient Street Lighting Programme

Two representatives from the street light replacement team outlined reasons behind the upcoming campaign, which is expected to cause a small amount of disruption. Almond is the sixth ward in Edinburgh to be upgraded, with most of the 'up-pole' work contracted to Amey, who are also involved in rollout of City Fibre. Sodium vapour (orange coloured) lights will no longer be manufactured from 2021, and CEC are taking the opportunity to convert all their lights to LED technology. This involves replacing the lanterns which can be fitted to most existing pole designs, however many replica gas lamps will need to be replaced altogether, not least due to obsolescence issues. As part of a separate initiative, nodes are being fitted to the top of lanterns which are intended to remotely return data on light performance rather than relying on reports from members of the public. All existing LED lights still need to have nodes fitted, even although the lanterns themselves are being retained. The most likely date for Queensferry replacements is July and August, with each lantern taking around 15 minutes to swap. In some cases access will require trimming of shrubbery, which may be responsibility of nearby property owners. It is possible that such owners may receive formal notice to remove trees or shrubs that may affect access to lamp posts or wiring, and the situation can be exacerbated by tree preservation orders. Car parking is often an issue, but rather than going through the TTRO process, staff will return at a later time if access is impeded by parked vehicles. A permanent night shift

operates, so there is usually some time of day/night when a clear 15 minutes can be found. Very few new columns are anticipated and most wards to date have only needed a couple of dozen replacement poles. Some routine replacement work is also going on in parallel, and in some cases the opportunity has been taken to replace completely unsuitable columns at the same time. For new estates, a street lighting proposal is put forward by the developer and CEC's Street Lighting Dept is a statutory consultee, so hopefully the lighting is always installed to an adoptable standard which can be maintained efficiently. There is quite a lot of publicity available, which CEC are happy for QDCC to distribute through the normal channels.

5. 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 Ann and seconded by Graeme.

6. Matters Arising

ACTIONS FROM APRIL 2019 MEETING, REMAINING OPEN FROM MAY

- **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.** A very thorough survey had been carried out, covering the entire harbour rather than the knuckle alone. However no repairs have started yet. A timeline plan is still required
- **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, but Graham has been appointed as Almond representative on the new partnership
- **Diane to enquire on details (ongoing costs and responsibilities) for the shared internet connection proposal with Queensferry History Group. Action continues.**
- **Diane to investigate prospects for Planning Sub-Committee to hear talk from former CEC planning official, similar to the recent presentation to QHT. Action continues.**

ACTIONS FROM APRIL 2019 MEETING, CLOSED IN MAY

- **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.** Neither Graeme nor Norman had any luck during discussions with the Ferry Tap licensee. However Genoa Black agreed in principle to having a sign on their wall. A suitable design has not yet been identified. Action complete
- **Norman and Kirsten to make enquiries about former bank building, and if possible establish long term plans for the site. Action transferred to Louise.** The present lease runs out in September and is presently being advertised. It is a condition of the new lease that the premises trade as a shop, rather than whatever is going on at the moment. Action complete

- Norman to enquire if charges for parking meters in Queensferry are rising from the present 50p cost. Action continues. Parking charges on the High Street and The Loan confirmed as increasing to 60p. Action complete
- 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 woodland area has been included in site plans for the new school, therefore previous worries were unfounded. Action complete
- Graeme to write a short piece about QDCC for the Ferry Fair programme. Action complete

7. **Chairman's Report - circulated**

Keith stressed that hard copies of the Forth Bridges Strategy document were available on request. Considerable time had been spent over the past month along with Graeme on liner visit arrangements.

8. **Councillors' Reports**

Councillor Lang – no report. Verbally, a catchment review for local primary schools is expected to start taking shape towards the end of 2019. Ideas are being invited over the summer months on an informal basis. A large volume of complaints received regarding Port Edgar traffic using Shore Road therefore a meeting with Roads Dept officials will be held. A large volume of complaints received regarding the FLY event at Hopetoun, largely surrounding unwanted noise and lack of advance publicity. Complaints also related to traffic using Society Road, where security staff had traditionally reinforced signage but had been absent this year. Complaints received about motor vehicles using the pedestrianised Killiekrankies Path - some barriers had been removed which now allows vehicles to drive along a section.

ACTION – Kevin and Keith to find out why full-width barriers at junction of Killiekrankies Path with Dimma Park were removed and if alternative measures (such as bollards) can be taken to prevent vehicles using the path.

Councillor Hutchison – [report](#) circulated

Councillor Young – no report

Councillor Work – [report](#) circulated

9. **Treasurer's Report** – circulated

10. **Secretary's Report** - circulated

A meeting with QCCC was being arranged. A publicity brochure had been released by QCCC for the community facility which may have been premature. While funding has been sourced, some conditions attached to the development need clarification

11. **QDCC Sub-Committees**

Transport - [circulated](#).

Some changes to parking restrictions around Queensferry Primary School were highlighted. Cllr Hutchison is trying to source more enforcement effort around the school.

Education/Recreation/Rosebery Hall

In a verbal report, David mentioned that the Rosebery Hall AGM would be held later this week. Also he was pleased to see Christine Jardine MP taking an interest in development of the former Corus motel site at Ferrymuir Gait and seeking alternatives to housing. Alex Cole-Hamilton had received responses from Transport Scotland on various challenges to their resistance to limited access for the proposed housing development, but these were thought to contain errors. A meeting with Transport Scotland would be sought.

Planning – [circulated](#)

Health – [circulated](#)

It was further noted that the CPR training sessions were very busy and deemed a success. Ann would be meeting Queensferry's new (replacement) Health in Mind worker within the next few days.

Queensferry Businesses

In a verbal report, Kirsten mentioned that the local map was in the final design stages with only a couple of snags outstanding. High Street reconstruction continues to be a topic of concern amongst traders, with worries that the duration of disruption could become unbearably long. Feedback on liner trade is being sought, with the hope that validated statistics can be identified rather than the conjecture that has existed for a while.

Port Edgar Yacht Club

The extended Sea Cadet lease has now been signed off. The open day at Port Edgar was found highly enjoyable and successful. This was thought to be Maggie's final QDCC meeting in formal capacity as Port Edgar Yacht Club rep, and Keith thanked her for attendance, involvement and reports over recent years.

Environment - [circulated](#)

June highlighted local concerns regarding fire risks in housing at Lochinvar Gardens development, arising from press reports related to other properties from the same builder. It was recommended that owners should approach Bellway directly with any questions about safety of materials used during construction.

Queensferry Boat Club

Potential repairs to the knuckle have been assessed, as mentioned earlier.

Queensferry Heritage Trust - [circulated](#)

The programme for 2019 is still under preparation but will include further input from a former CEC town planner. QHT would like to further promote Queensferry Museum, partly because some new residents may be unaware of it. The annual Doors Open Day will be on Saturday 28 September with Dalmeny Kirk and QHT intending to participate. QHT plan to open the Vennel Churchyard, Masonic Hall, and, in association with Greenferry, Hawthornbank Community Garden. QHT is encouraging the Priory Church, St Margaret's and Queensferry Parish Church to also open on the day. The overall theme is "Global Connections" and there is also the opportunity to celebrate the 950th anniversary of the first arrival of Queen Margaret in Queensferry. A separate meeting might be convened to discuss options for an overall parking scheme in Queensferry.

Queensferry Churches Care in the Community (QCCC)

No report

Communications – [circulated](#)

Graeme highlighted the Queensferry & Kirkliston Community Event being hosted by QHS on Thursday 13 June from 6-9pm which would focus on changing community perceptions. About 20 notes of interest in attendance had been received so far, but the deadline for registration (end of May) was looming. Each workshop would be facilitated by an expert in fields of mental health, positive relationship building, LGBT issues, and understanding autism. Neil and Graeme would be hosting a session on positive destinations. Some movement with liner arrangements as the season matures has been perceptible, but progress with the authorities remains painfully slow and difficult. Some conflicts still remain between excursion operators, businesses and local residents.

12. Any Other Business

None

13. Questions from the Floor

An applicant hoping to establish a new pharmacy shop in Queensferry stated that he was very grateful for the support received to establish an appeal against the ruling that the application should be rejected. A hearing was anticipated within the next 6 months and a petition remained active. This petition relates to the hearing in addition to the successful appeal.

A High Street resident asked about an upcoming meeting for road resurfacing due to be held on 6 June, and if there was an indication of responses on proposals being fed back. Outcomes from the various options presented across four consultation sessions were expected shortly after the meeting on 6 June.

14. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Monday, 24th June 2019 in the Amos Room of Dalmeny Church Hall at 7.30pm