



QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



CELEBRATING 27 YEARS 1986-2013

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING – MONDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2013 COMMUNITY COUNCIL OFFICE, BURGH CHAMBERS, SOUTH QUEENSFERRY

ATTENDEES

Keith Giblett(Chair); Terry Airlie(Secretary);June Jansen; David Flint; Maggie Quayle (PEYC); Fiona Duncan (QBC) PC Aidan Douds (Police Scotland); Diane Brown (QA); Juliette Summers; Ross Martin; Grant Sangster; Laura Sexton; Diane Job(Treasurer); Jim Ferguson (QHS); Mark Ruickbie (QHS); Eilidh Donaldson Councillor Norman Work

Guest Speaker

Tom O'Brien – Group Leader, CEC City development

1. Chairman's Welcome

Keith Giblett (Chair) welcomed everyone to the September business meeting of QDCC.

The Chair referred the meeting to the fact that this was the last gathering of the current Community Council ahead of the nomination/election period and welcomed Tom O'Brien to Queensferry. A brief synopsis of Tom's background was given and Tom thanked the Chair for the opportunity to speak to QDCC.

The Chair then ran through some of the matters dealt with by QDCC over the last month, namely domestic bin collection problems, development plans for the Corus motel site, QA market application, QHS awards, CEC/Halcrow study, Port Edgar developments including the future of the sailing school, Agilent site development plans and recent issues regarding fireworks at Hopetoun House.

A round table introduction followed

2. Apologies

Willie Hardie; Councillor Alastair Shields; Councillor Lindsay Paterson

3. Guest Speaker – Tom O'Brien

Tom began by delivering 2 presentations, one via powerpoint slides and the other by the way of short film

He also pointed the meeting to the Events Edinburgh/Events Planning webpage

The main aim of the EPOG's group is to ensure public safety at all events in and around Edinburgh.

The process of applications for and granting licences for public events was outlined with reference to particular events related to Queensferry

It was highlighted that communication between all parties was vital to the ongoing success of local events, the uniqueness of Queensferry be considered and the willingness of QDCC and CEC to work together moving forward was noted.

A short Q and A session followed.

4. Police Report

The Police Report has been circulated. Members were reminded of the sensitivity of some of the discussions surrounding the content.

Aidan delivered a summary of events over the last reporting period and fielded a number of questions relating to Community Policing, the Partnership Safety Forum and the recording of crime statistics

Mention was made to recent Facebook postings relating to house break-ins as well as dangerous dogs

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed: June Jansen

Accepted: David Flint

6. Matters arising from Previous Meeting

The minutes of the July meeting have already been ratified and published via e-mail as the August meeting was devoted to an update on the Forth Replacement Crossing.

Outstanding matters as follows

- Following the receipt of a letter to QDCC from Mark Williams (Commander Edinburgh Division) relating to the review of Traffic Warden Provision and the opening hours at Queensferry Police Station, the chair has written a response on behalf of QDCC. **A reply from Mark Williams is awaited**

- Ongoing dialogue with CEC regarding future of the Provost Room in the museum. Almond Ward Councillors in process of arranging a meeting between all involved parties.
Action: An update is required from Almond Ward Councillors at next meeting
- Update on Manor Homes/CEC dispute. Detailed maps of adopted areas have been supplied to QDCC. This is now subject to a legal challenge and an update will be provided when available.
Action: QDCC Exec to report back at next meeting
- Primary School Catchment Areas re Agilent development. Councillor Paterson has written on this and feedback is awaited.
Action: Councillor Paterson to update next meeting
- Reported disturbances at Lovers Lane Electrical Sub-Station. Secretary has been in touch with Community Policing. **Item closed**
- Update on High Street – repairs, parking etc. Chair has written to Gavin Brown. Halcrow Study Report awaited
Action: Chair to provide update at next meeting
- Potential impact should World Heritage Status be granted to the Forth Bridge means further discussion will be taken offline and subject to a separate meeting
Action: Chair/Almond Ward Councillors to facilitate

7. Chair Report

Report circulated.

The Chair delivered a summary of the business QDCC had been involved with over the last period of office.

- Changes affected to CEC affordable housing policy, including the proportion designated to those with special needs – in conjunction with Councillor Work. Special mention was given to Ian McPhail from CEC for his support
- Efforts to secure business facilities use as part of the Agilent development
- The legal agreement secured by QDCC on the commitment to deliver Community Facility at Ferrymuir via Evans of Leeds
- The impact of Facebook on and through QDCC – going back to the winter of 2010/2011 – and more recently the launch of the re-vamped website
- Disability Forum, Queensferry Churches Care in the Community
- The Dave Anderson visit, the infrastructure development and the efforts of QDCC with CEC which unfortunately has delivered little return
- Forth Replacement Crossing – and the relationship between QDCC, FCBC and Transport Scotland. This whole process started back at the last election period for the current Community Council

- BIDS/QA – the initial setting up of the process in conjunction with QBA, the support and facilitation of the process including the use of QDCC offices for the BID both before and after the election itself
- Liner Visits – and ongoing dialogue with CEC Officials
- The sterling work done by Grant Sangster and the Transport Sub Group in generating the Dalmeny Station Car Park Survey
- Condition of the High Street and surrounding infrastructure
- Active participation in the World Heritage Status Committee for the Forth Bridge and Forth Replacement Crossing (Queensferry Crossing) naming Committee

Other items touched upon included planning gain associated with the Agilent Site Development, the impact of the Kirkliston development on Queensferry schools, the re-alignment of catchment areas for denominational schools – including the challenge to Almond Ward Councillors moving forward on the capacity planning, safer routes to schools, and the CEC budgetary process affecting Queensferry schools in general.

The major downside discussed was the workload, expectations and the need for all Community Councillors in the next Council to become more active, not just attend meetings but to fully accept the responsibilities associated with the role of a Community Councillor

An update on the current situation with the Planning Application Notice for the Corus site was given. This included background, dialogue with Councillor Ian Perry from CEC, the link to the West Rural Plan and Core Pathways requirements

8. Treasurer's Report

Report circulated.

CEC annual grant has been received – now based on population rather than electoral role – leading to an increase in £14

Annual accounts now confirmed. Largest outlay at approximately 40% is for insurance of office and accounts.

Acceptance of QDCC annual accounts proposed and initiated via June Jansen and seconded by Terry Airlie

9. Councillor's Reports

Councillor Peterson report circulated

Councillor Shields report circulated

Councillor Work report circulated

10. Secretary's Report

Report circulated.

A discussion ensued regarding current status of Queensferry Museum and the closure of the Provost Room and a question regarding correspondence between QDCC Secretary and CEC on this matter and whether this should have been circulated to all of QDCC.

A number of different views were expressed and it was agreed that the issue of the Provost Room and the long term future of Queensferry Museum should be a priority issue for the new Community Council

It was noted that the Queensferry History Group must be consulted before any final decisions on the future position of QDCC is finalised

The issue of communication between the QDCC Executive and QDCC in general as well as those between QDCC and QA was raised.

Laura, Juliette and QA asked about who should be circulated sensitive information and what was QDCC policy on communications. This will be followed up with the new CC. The Chair was asked to get involved

Ongoing communications will be a matter for the new Community Council to determine. However it was agreed that this has to be a two way process

Action: Chair to contact CEC regarding status of Queensferry Museum Provost Room deliberations and follow ups for new CC

11. QDCC Sub Committees Reports

11.1 Transport

Report circulated.

Items discussed included

- Dalmeny Station Car Park Survey – circulated to CEC, MSP's and stakeholders
- Halcrow Study – meeting between QA and QDCC to agree common responses

Action; Transport Convenor and QA (Diane Drown) to arrange meeting

11.2 Queensferry Ambition

Diane delivered a verbal report

Items highlighted included Cruise Liners, dialogue with Mike Crockart, Rosyth Seminar, visit to Hamburg, Planning away day, Schools projects, Forth Bridges Festival, BIDS Scotland, Ancestry event, Scottish Government Conference, Community Market, AGM and public meeting in Rosebery Hall on 30th September.

A short discussion on the current state of public toilets followed

11.3 Port Edgar Yacht Club

Maggie indicated 2 bids were under consideration on the sailing school and a decision was likely before next QDCC meeting

11.4 Community Safety Forum/Rosebery Hall

David delivered a verbal report

Items discussed included concerns over BIDS levy, dog fouling and obscured road signs and

11.5 Queensferry High School

Eilidh brought to the attention of the meeting the following activities

- War Memorial at Queensferry Cemetery
- PE block renovations
- Positive destinations at QHS
- Senior School elections and S6 prefects

Mark spoke to ongoing Community activities, the Partnership “Youth Decides” initiative and the Royal Lyceum Theatre initiative

Jim expanded on the Community projects from a curricula based perspective and asked if there was any update with regards to the First Bus situation regarding a local Outstation

Action: Transport Convenor to follow up with First

11.6 Planning

Report circulated

11.7 Environment

June delivered a verbal report which included the local community plan, core pathways, Agilent development and shared a number of photographs with the meeting

11.8 Queensferry Boat Club

Fiona indicated that the crane to lift the boats out from the harbour was due on 18th October

12. Any Other Business

Juliette raised the issue of the CEC online portal associated with the Agilent Development had closed early

Action: Diane to follow up and report back

Laura raised the issue of superfast broadband. Councillor Work responded on behalf of CEC relating to funding issues. This will be a matter for further discussion with new Community Council

Ross highlighted the condition of the playpark in Dundas Park

It was noted that the nomination period for Community Councillors had now close and as it currently stands there have been 9 applicants for the 9 available positions, so Councillor Work as returning Officer declared that no election would be required

The Chair also indicated that Willie Hardie had previously indicated that he would not be standing for re-election on health grounds.

Action: Chair and Secretary to write to Willie Hardie and formulate a suitable recognition for his service to not just QDCC but Queensferry in general

13 Questions from the Floor

None

14. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 30th October 2013 at 7.30 – this will be the inaugural meeting of the new Community Council

**Terry Airlie
11th October 2013**