



## QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Education/recreation sub committee meeting. Tuesday 21 January, 2pm at QHS.

The meeting was attended by ; Anne Fernie, June Jansen, Juliette Summers and David Flint  
Jim Ferguson attended briefly.

Apologies from Cllr Shields.

### Emails received

1.

I think the young people attending the meetings are gaining valuable insight into the many facets of political life and are experiencing first hand how people of diverse views and interests can work together for the benefit of the community. It is also an ideal opportunity for them to report back to their peers and enthuse their peers about community projects. I would be disappointed if their attendance stopped.

Anne

2. My thoughts on the gap year funding application are,

1. I'm not sure we can give out funds on this, as we don't have criteria for which final year students we would pick over any others. Many students undertake gap year activities, ranging from a few weeks to 12 months.

2. I would rather that the students wrote to us themselves, rather than letting their parents do it. Part of the preparation for a gap year is the responsibility of raising the funds themselves.

Juliette

3.

A letter and Cllr Work's response regarding litter were circulated and it was agreed that some effort must be made to tackle it.

From previous meeting.

Anne will liaise with QHS over the Fair Trade Fortnight, 24 Feb – 9 March.

Groups could be involved in planting – will address this in March

John Wood's address to QDCC had been circulated and the only item discussed was the attendance of pupils at QDCC meetings, we all felt that was important that they could attend but that the pupils should be given the opportunity to participate much earlier in the meeting than at present. They have a long wait till their turn comes around.

David and Keith had attended a meeting with John Wood and Jim Ferguson. There was a general discussion about facilities and communication between QHS and the community. John Wood asked that a QDCC representative should attend the next pupils' council meeting on Friday 31st January, Keith will attend and give a presentation to the pupils about the Community Council and answer questions. (David will not be able to attend)

QDCC has had an invitation to the next meeting of the Parents' Council on 4<sup>th</sup> February. David and Keith have agreed to attend to discuss communication between the two Councils.

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The sub committee then had a very lengthy discussion about the present facilities in Queensferry.

Various surveys etc have produced requests for:- Cinema, swimming pool, community centre, theatre, cultural centre, recreation and training facilities etc.

The lifespan of the High School building was questioned.

It was felt that a serious long term plan is essential to bring together the requests/requirements with the possible future land development, at present it is all housing and no infrastructure to support it. There really needs to be a limit to the number of houses being built before all the suitable land is swallowed up.

Jim Ferguson joined the meeting at about 2.45 pm.

He became involved in the discussion about the school building, class sizes, number of rooms and the opening hours for a community school.

He also thought that it was unlikely that the building would be replaced in the near future.

The leisure facilities are under-used and this is under the control of Edinburgh Leisure.

There are difficulties in staffing and janitor provision to allow for extended hours.

Jim pointed out that similar facilities on the continent are open in the evenings at weekends etc when people are free to use them.

Provisional date and time of next meeting

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1.30 pm at QHS