

QDCC Chairman's Report February 2015

Business meeting being held on Monday 23rd February 2015

- On 27th January I was invited and attended a planned consultation at North Queensferry Community Centre about the proposed pontoons to be built at the North Queensferry Pier. Fife Council have received a grant from the Forth Estuary Forum for £3/4m to build the pontoon which will allow pleasure boats to use the pier at low tidal conditions.
- On 28th January I attended the ANP business meeting held in the Rosebery Hall and I will circulate the minutes when I receive them. Matters of interest to council; Community Grants Fund then the £158 reserved for planning application fee for the Hawthorn Bank site will be transferred to GreenFerry Trust as start up fund for the new proposals. The review of the NEPs' project which amongst many things for SQ does include the Harbour signage raised at the January meeting, the Dementia friendly project announced and circulated to you last week, Police and Fire Brigade quarterly statistics. Under AOCB I raised the work presently being undertaken of insulating the former Scottish Homes properties, seeking clarification and the request discussed for the memorial plaque for Jordan MacKay at Stoneycroft Road.
- On the evening of 29th January I attended the QA Business awards. It was a very pleasant evening, well attended and organised. I would like to compliment the organisers and congratulate the businesses who received an award.
- On 2nd February I attended a follow up meeting of the Hawthorn Bank project and assisted by providing information about the site.
- On the 5th February I attended the first meeting in 2015 of the World Heritage Steering Group meeting. Sharon Jeffery TS reported her attendance at our January business meeting and that she had found it engaging and informative. Matters discussed was information about the Forth Bridge for ICOMOS and the business that Sharron covered at our meeting.
- On the 9th February I chaired the meeting with Network Rail about Forth Bridge business - see notes circulated.
- On the afternoon 11th February 15 I met with Henry Coyle ANP Manager to explore some thoughts and ideas about the community facility for the Ferrymuir Site and how the West Team and ANP might support QDCC and the development of a facility.

- On the 14th February I enjoyed a visit hosted by Cala to the former Agilent site to view the infrastructure works and a show house. The first homes will be occupied in the coming weeks.
- I attended the Education sub committee meeting on the 16th February to discuss general education matters as reported by David.

Other business

- LDP2 correspondence, news sheet and exchange of emails with individuals and groups and Ward Councillors and Colin Kier MSP.
- I have been advised by John Murphy about the Queensferry Heritage Trust that they have eventually secured charitable status and now need to have a meeting to ratify the draft constitution submitted to OSCR during the application process.
- A communication with Mr Andrew Ewen Parliamentary Secretary for Colin Kier MSP advising me that the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights Alex Neil MSP is happy to meet to discuss the perceived threat to the application for World Heritage Status of the Forth Bridge!!
- Queensferry play parks will be closed for maintenance painting works as email circulated.
- There is an FRC South Forum planned for this coming Wednesday, might you have any questions then please feed them in to Grant.
- Councillor Paterson advises following the budget meeting the public toilet situation was of concern in Queensferry. The Administration budget that was passed saw a bit of a u-turn from the mooted cuts to the public toilets which should give at least a temporary reprieve to Queensferry.
- QA requested to meet with QDCC Exec members but so far it has not been possible to find a mutually agreeable date and time.

Keith Giblett Chairman 22 February 2015