



QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



CELEBRATING 29 YEARS 1986-2015

MINUTES OF MEETING - MONDAY 23rd March 2015
Council Offices, High Street, South Queensferry

ATTENDEES

Keith Giblett (Chair); Diane Job; Grant Sangster; David Flint; Eileen Case; Anne Fernie; Maggie Quayle; Laura Sexton, Councilors; Work, Shields and Paterson, Michelle Hunter QHS PC, Neil McKinlay SQ Rotary and QA,

Guests; Gillian Tee Director of Children's and Families CEC, Crawford McGhie Asset Planning Manger,

Apologies

Terry Arlie, Ross Martin, Fiona Duncan. June Jansen, George Moore, Ed Kelly Diane Brown.

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everybody to the March business meeting of QDCC and proceeded with introductions of the guests and members of QDCC. It had been previously planned and agreed to devote this evenings meeting to Educational matters.

2. Police Report

No Police report had been received. (post meeting note. QDCC were subsequently advised that the wrong date had been entered in the Police Diary for issuing the monthly reports.

3. Education

Gillian Tee (GT). Recalled a previous meeting where she had been particularly impressed by the attendance of school students at QDCC meetings and the role they were playing in local affairs.

(See note by DF)

Crawford McGhie (CMc). Issued tables showing the present and projected school roles copy attached to the minute. For the purpose of estimating future needs, the pupil numbers are converted into numbers of classrooms required. The figures did not include LDP2 projections.

GT. Explained how they prioritised catchment areas to encourage pupils to attend schools within their area.

CMc. They are looking at overall catchment areas throughout the city.

Keith Giblett (KG). Are you only looking at the Agilent site or are you including other sites? Ferrymuir, Corus. Could the Agilent site pupils go to Dalmeny?

GT. They are putting the priority forward for the new QCHS to be a replacement, 'like-for-like'. Funding is available from the government on this basis and the council will add to this. A time scale of 2.5 years was mentioned. The projected roll for planning is 1000 pupils.

Information on planning gain was provided.

GT. As rolls are rising throughout the city there will be less spare space in classrooms so this will reduce parental choice. The priority will be given to children within their own catchment area.

The fact that QCHS is already a Community High School should help in the provision of 'like-for-like'. Existing facilities would be replaced.

Neil McKinlay. Questioned the provision for vocational education - the actual structure will be open for discussion and will take account of future needs.

CMc. Regarding a possible extension of Queensferry Primary School, a working party would be set up and stakeholders would be part of the consultation.

GT. Emphasised that consultation has greatly improved and they value community engagement.

KG. If LDP2 is agreed, what effect would this have on catchment areas?

CMc. They will look at how much each school can be extended, can existing schools cope? Are new/extra schools required? - This will progress into asking to set up appropriate consultations.

Planners have to preserve land for a school should it be needed. Eg Builyeon Road site.

GT. Local schools are for local children, there is a policy in place to avoid 'bussing' wherever possible but the freedom of choice will become reduced as schools become fuller.

GT. Siblings -try to prioritise to keep siblings in the same school - but cannot guarantee that this will always be possible.

Cllr Paterson. Asked about provision of playing fields etc while the new building was taken place.

There are spare open field areas available in SQ which could be used in the short term.

(Cllr Paterson left the meeting at this [point])

CMc. They try to keep the same design team together for the planning and building of new schools, to utilise their existing experience and expertise. Morrison Construction has been involved.

They will look at the overall provision of facilities and include early years provision. The use of breakfast clubs and after-school activities is to be encouraged.

CMc. Emphasised that consultation will be a top priority and he expressed willingness to come back to us on request.

LS. asked about the risk of over demand versus supply of school places and sought assurances- which were given- that our children would not be bussed out of Queensferry to other parts of the city. Gillian Tee assured us that this will not happen and that places will have to be made available for local children in local schools.

This part of the meeting completed with a vote of thanks to our guest speakers.

Our guests, Neil McKinlay and Michele Hunter left the meeting and we progressed to the monthly business meeting.

4 Minutes of Meeting

Proposed Anne Fernie, seconded. David Flint.

5 Matters Arising from Minutes

Councillor Work gave an update regarding the condition of the road surface area around Scotstoun Shopping Centre. Formal written letters are to be sent to the proprietors about works required to be done. **Councillors to seek action.**

Grant Sangster provided information about buses and time tables.

The sculpture 'Guardian of the Bridge' provoked considerable discussion. Where should it be sited? There was an emphasis on the lack of real discussion on this matter. McIvor's Brae was a suggestion as the sculpture would be visible to visitors to the Hawes area. Councillor Work asked if QDCC had been consulted about the planning applications and the locations being consider and was advised that QDCC hadn't been.

6. Chair's Report

Report Circulated.

7. Secretary's Report

Report circulated.

8. Treasurer's Report

Report circulated.

9. Councillor's Reports

Reports circulated.

10. Group reports

All Reports circulated electronically

11. A.O.C.B.

Eileen Case reported that some trees had been felled in the Back Braes area, why and was it legal?

The proposed Safety Forum was discussed and a request was made for comments and/or suggestions to be sent to David Flint for collation in time for the forum.

The police situation regarding frequent staff changes was discussed because it is creating problems regarding the building up of relationships with the police.

Sergeant Philippa Campbell has been in touch with David Flint and the plans are for the forum to be held in Rosebery Hall, early in May - details to follow.

11. Questions from the floor

None

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 27th April to be held in the QDCC meeting room commencing at 7.30pm.

Minutes taken by David Flint and Keith Giblett