



QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



CELEBRATING 29 YEARS 1986-2015

MINUTES OF MEETING – MONDAY 24th August 2015 **Council Offices, High Street, South Queensferry**

ATTENDEES

Keith Giblett (Chair), Terry Airlie (Vice-Chair); June Jansen; George Moore; Councillor Norman Work; Councillor Lindsay Paterson; David Flint; Diane Job (Treasurer); Ross Martin; Constable Michael McGill

1. Chairman's Welcome

Keith welcomed everyone to the monthly meeting, especially Michelle Thomson (MP for Edinburgh West) and Constable Michael McGill.

Keith also welcomed a number of residents attending including John Murphy.

There has been a lot of activity in the town today, the 125 year celebration for the Forth Bridge, 3 liner visits, the start of the new school term, and also the Ferry Fair.

The Ferry Fair Committee were congratulated on the organisation of the event.

Keith mentioned that Henry Coyle was instrumental in having repairs carried out in the High Street and Rosebery Hall.

The Placemaking event was well attended.

Grant Sangster was also thanked for compiling the final draft and the hard copies of the QDCC Newsletter which has now been distributed.

2. Police Report

The report has been circulated.

Diane Job mentioned the report relating to the fire at the Underground Car Park, which Constable McGill was not aware of at that time.

Constable McGill mentioned that drink-driving has reduced since the change in legislation.

There was no major issues reported during the Ferry Fair week.

3. Apologies

Laura Sexton; Fiona Duncan; Ed Kelly; Maggie Quayle; Eileen Case

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Proposer: June Jansen
Seconder: David Flint

Grant has been unable to set a meeting with Transport for Edinburgh.
The Almond Neighbourhood Partnership are pursuing the Bustracker displays. The meeting on 1st September is dedicated to Bustracker.
There is still the wider issue of TfE proposal for Queensferry

ACTION: Grant to update.

The update on Pedestrian Signage is that Paul Hogarth is conducting the signage strategy for Queensferry, which will take in the Jacobs Ladder area, with the trunk road network and the new Road Bridge also involved.
The cost of the strategy in South Queensferry is £75,000 and the funding has still to be secured.

George received a reply about the possibility of Queensferry twinning. There is no capacity at present for QHS to take this on.

Keith spoke about the liner visits and the correspondence from Peter Wilson, Cruise Forth Project Manager.

ACTION: Correspondence to be posted with the June Minutes

Keith confirmed that the 'No Through Road' sign has still not been installed at the Junction of the High Street with Gote Road. This is still a Work In Progress on the West Team Action List.

Keith has asked for volunteers for the QDCC stall at Ferry Fair.
This was undertaken successfully.

5. Chair's Report

Report Circulated.

6. MICHELLE THOMSON MP

Michelle mentioned that she has received 5600 emails since entering office on 8 May 2015., and has hosted 20 surgeries, mainly relating to welfare and immigration issues.

Michelle also launched an Early Day Motion to celebrate the Forth Bridge.
She also made her maiden speech through the Queens Speech.
She mentioned that she spends 4 days in London and the Friday is designated for constituents, otherwise she works from her office in St Johns Road

Michelle met with Brendan Dick of BT Scotland and asked Digital Scotland for a status meeting on Broadband & Connectivity.

Michelle also met with the Chief Executive of Edinburgh Airport, the expansion of the airport is to be celebrated but work needs to be done with regards to community engagement.

Keith mentioned that following the meeting with Alex Neil MSP, we are now at the stage where we need strong political representation to make headway with funding revenues, especially now that the Forth Bridge has World Heritage Status.

John mentioned about the difficulties in getting a meeting arranged with Transport Scotland & Amey.

Michelle noted that there are going to be massive budget cuts to council and Scottish Parliament over the next few budget years.

Keith pointed out that Queensferry are dealing with city centre being prioritised over areas like Queensferry. QDCC has a good relationship with West Team in Edinburgh.

Michelle will be meeting with the new Chief Executive of City of Edinburgh Council and she will try and raise the issues raised about Alex Neils meeting.

7. Secretary's Report

Report circulated.

8. Treasurer's Report

Report circulated.

9. Councillor's Reports

Councillor Shields report was circulated.

Councillor Shields made comment on the level of engagement in the Placemaking exercise.

Councillor Paterson confirmed that no one from FETA has been in touch with her. It is hoped that a meeting can be arranged with QDCC & AMEY/Transport Scotland.

ACTION: Grant to look into this.

The Ferrymuir meeting was also discussed.

Diane Job asked about the level of complaints about air traffic.

Councillor Shields will be setting up a meeting to iron out any issues

Councillors are averaging a couple of complaints each from residents in Queensferry.

Colin Keir MSP has had no complaints so far.

Councillor Work mentioned the Ferrymuir site in relation to the care home Provision, and that QDCC were working with Evans and Ryden for a partner to build the care provisions.

10. QDCC Sub Committees Reports

10.1 Transport

Report circulated.

10.2 Port Edgar Yacht Club

No report.

10.3 QCCC

Report circulated.

10.4 George Moore

No report

10.5 Planning

Report circulated.

Taylor Wimpey – it is well know that part of the proposal is in the BP blast zone. Keith was told in the Taylor Wimpey meeting that representations will be in PAN81 for future planning applications, and not part of a public consultation and application for development
Keith looking for Ward Councillors support that QDCC object to the plans.

Corus – there are plans to build 120 homes on the site.
David Flint feels that we should do utmost to block application to build houses on the site and wonders in the World Heritage Status would change the application.
Keith and Terry both think that government funding would be required to buy the land back from Corus.
Keith mentioned that this was debated at great length previously with QDCC seeing the site being for mixed use development with houses and quality retail.
Terry asked if we have any idea if the value of the land.

ACTION: Keith to enquire on cost of land

There was an enquiry from Will Scarlett regarding access at Ferrygait.

ACTION: Keith will ask the question again

Councillor Paterson mentioned about a potential caveat in relation to the adoption of the road.

Queensferry Placemaking Exercise – results can be facilitated by QDCC and other local groups.

Grant pointed out that the initial outlook was of worry and negativity, but the people came away from the meeting in a better frame of mind.

Councillor Shields would like to see the results from the report.

10.6 Environment

Report circulated.

10.7 Queensferry Boat Club

Nothing further to add.

10.8 Education/Recreation

11. Any other business

Diane has asked for judges for the Ferry Fair arches.

Diane also asked if Councillor Work has had any further word on the Mosaic and did they have any general planners consent?

Councillor Work said there was no update as yet

ACTION: Keith and Councillor Work to enquire and update

David Flint confirmed he will attend QHS meeting, which is the AGM for the PTA on Tuesday 25 August.

June Jansen will circulate the talk relating to the Cramond Roman Fort.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 28th September 2015 – 7.30pm at QDCC Offices

Ross Martin

20th September 2015.