



## QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS 1986-2016**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016**

**QDCC ATTENDEES:** Keith Giblett (Chair); Terry Airlie (Vice Chair/Correspondence Secretary); Diane Job (Treasurer/Planning Convenor); Grant Sangster (Transport Convenor); David Flint (Education Convenor and Community Safety); June Jansen (Environment Convenor); Stuart Ridge (Rotary Club of South Queensferry); Eleanor Sneddon (Queensferry Heritage Trust); Fiona Duncan (Queensferry Boat Club); Eileen Case (QCCC); Constable Jim Kelly (Police Scotland); Councillor Norman Work; Councillor Alastair Shields

**GUESTS:** Daniel Young (Queensferry High School); Amy Rankin (QHS); Dave Sinclair (CEC West Environment Manager); John Bury (CEC Transport & Environment Head); Chris Connor (Queensferry Resident)

#### **1. Chairman's Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the May business meeting, highlighting the purpose of Dave, John, Amy and Daniel attending this particular meeting.

#### **2. Apologies**

Apologies received from Nicky Service, Laura Sexton, Maggie Quayle and Councillor Lindsay Paterson

#### **3. Police Report (for the month of April 2016)**

Constable Jim Kelly provided an oral presentation of the monthly Police Report for April 2016. Overall statistics for the QDCC area were 39 crimes recorded, of which 14 had been solved. Breakdown of crime numbers were roughly in line with the familiar pattern, with single figure cases of theft, breach of peace, road accidents, assaults and drug crimes. A relatively high number of assaults last month (nine) was skewed by a single incident at Hopetoun Crossroads, which also contributed to shoplifting statistics. Two assaults involved primary school pupils.

Three additional questions were asked relating to matters observed outside the report period. Firstly regarding concerns about the road speed of blue light response vehicles on Kirkliston Road. As this coincided with the Flying Scotsman visit, the vehicles involved may have been British Transport Police. Secondly, a recent spate of graffiti in common stairs and external walls of Atheling Grove properties. The police have considerable experience and some success in tracing perpetrators employing certain tags so this is always worth reporting. Thirdly, an abandoned car was spotted in Scotstoun Avenue, however there was speculation it was involved in an accident.



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#### **4. John Bury and Dave Sinclair**

Three main topics were covered, namely the High Street surface rebuild, the Forth Bridges Forum and last year's Placemaking exercises.

Key points covered during the High Street discussion:

- Money in 2016-17 capital budget for High Street rebuild is around £1m
- Schedule has been protracted due to CEC transformation from neighbourhood to locality model
- Dave will secure resources via a framework agreement, which includes both design and project management. Resources should not be an issue because these can readily be subcontracted if unavailable in-house at CEC
- Consultants and sub-contractors (eg Atkins) have been engaged and the scope considered
- Choice of materials, long-term traffic control, parking and construction phasing will be communicated through the QIIG
- A degree of local consultation against an outline design can be expected but this is unlikely to become extensive and is intended as a 'health check' rather than a starting point
- Local concerns regarding impact of vehicle axle load and dimensions on both the mainline and diversion routes are well understood. The lack of turning facilities for tour buses at the Hawes is also understood
- The surface specification is likely to mirror the Royal Mile's High Street as a starting point
- Project is anticipated to become 'shovel-ready' around September 2016, with delivery ideally in 2017
- As the budget falls under capital resource, if necessary it can be carried forward into 2017-18. There is not necessarily a hard deadline for the full amount to be spent by a financial year-end
- The project scope would take ideas for The Loan to a detailed design stage to ensure compatibility. However little would be progressed outside the High Street locus from the existing budget

Key points from the Forth Bridges Forum discussion:

- Ewan Kennedy represents CEC on the Forth Bridges Forum
- The World Heritage Management Plan has been successfully produced, containing around 50 action points



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- Visitor centre ideas from Network Rail had looked promising for a few years but progress has latterly stalled
- There may be a need for the Forth Bridges Forum to refocus its attention following successful nomination of the Forth Bridge and imminent opening of the Queensferry Crossing

Key points from the Placemaking discussion:

- Encouraging experience in Queensferry and an expectation this method of opinion analysis would be extended to other areas of Edinburgh
- A few concerns exist on mechanisms for addressing some of the lower-scoring aspects
- The new Localities structure is expected to embrace Placemaking

#### 5. Minutes from last meeting (April 2016)

The Chair sought approval from QDCC for the minutes from last month to be confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

**Proposed: Eleanor Sneddon**

**Seconded: David Flint**

#### **Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting (April 2016)**

##### **CLOSED ACTIONS**

- **Request for meeting from Chris Waite (Amey).** Closed. Meeting held on Wed 4<sup>th</sup> May
- **Almond Ward Councillors to write on behalf of QDCC to John Bury (CEC) to confirm progress on High Street refurbishment.** Closed, action complete
- **Secretary to write to John Bury (CEC) with invitation to attend May Business meeting**  
Closed, action complete
- **David Flint to post copies in Library.** Closed. Minutes will now appear in the library when available for approval at the next business meeting
- **Chair to obtain copies of Builyeon Road Masterplan and arrange follow up meeting with Alan Farningham.** Closed. Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May
- **QDCC to circulate introductory letter to current Craighall residents. Volunteers to contact Chair with availability.** Closed. Introductory letter circulated
- **Further consultation with neighbouring CC's on the proposals for Craighall will be arranged.** Closed. Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May



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- **Councillor Work provided an update on latest situation with Garden District development plans.** Closed. Explanation provided during tonight's meeting
- **Laura Sexton to provide Chair with details, timings & pictures (overflowing bins in Hawes area).** Closed. No further action required

#### OPEN ACTIONS

- **Councillor Work to obtain a quote from CEC for cost of sign for Bowling Club.** Action continues

#### 6. Chair Report

Circulated. Draft plan now available for the Jutland commemoration on weekend of 28-29 May. This will be accompanied by a TTRO in due course

#### 7. Councillor Reports

**Cllr Paterson.** No report available

**Cllr Work.** Circulated. Painting of Burgh Chambers building as part of preparations for the Jutland commemoration event was highlighted. The Chair thanked Dave Sinclair and his team for this effort along with bollard replacement. Also noted was the Development Management Sub-Committee's recommendation that the Garden District planning application should be submitted for acceptance by full Council, against the advice of planning officials. The hope is that this application can be used to offset the number of houses built in the LDP2 sites around Queensferry.

**Cllr Shields.** Circulated. Discussion on upcoming B800 closure in Kirkliston (around Milrig Cottages)

#### 8. Treasurer Report

Circulated.

#### 9. Correspondence Secretary Report

Circulated. In line with the Scheme for Community Councils, the new QHS representatives needed to be registered. Formal adoption of Daniel and Amy into QDCC was unanimously accepted.

#### 10. Sub Committees



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#### **Queensferry High School**

Establishment of a forum for reflecting issues similar to those arising in the community council may take a couple of years. This might be through formation of a junior community council through the existing Student Council, which has representation from each year group. A communication subgroup within the Student Council is already quite active and has succeeded in setting aside tutor time so that issues of concern relating to the school can be aired. Recent examples relate to upkeep of facilities.

Questions:

Involvement with Rotaract (a service-based organisation, inspired by Rotary International, but for members aged 18-30) – no plans at present but may be considered in due course. Post-meeting note – the Interact Club, for ages 12-17, may be of more immediate relevance

Consultation with users on design of new school (construction expected over the next few years) – nothing heard to date but CEC process would normally demand feedback from existing users as an important input to a requirements review

You(th) Decide – Groups with members aged 11-18 can apply annually for funding to assist with pursuits which increase opportunities in the fields of arts, sports, media, outdoor education and community participation. This is usually done via the Almond Neighbourhood Partnership. QHS pupils have benefitted in previous years.

**Action – Cllr Shields to liaise separately with Daniel and Amy on the You(th) Decide process**

#### **Planning**

Report circulated. The Builyeon Road application is to be revised following meetings this month between Farningham and CEC, so QDCC will not be submitting formal comments for the time being. The Craigiehall application is considered rather speculative because it does not appear in the proposed LDP, so is a slightly lower priority.

#### **Transport**

Report circulated. Upcoming FRC South Community Forum highlighted. A meeting with Amey had been held. Most Bustracker displays are now showing live times for Stagecoach buses.

#### **Education and Safety Forum**

The next ANP Safety Forum will be held in June.



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Parent council meetings at both QHS and Queensferry Primary had taken place. A very detailed travel survey was conducted by QPS and results could be circulated amongst QDCC. This was mainly prompted by concerns about vehicle traffic around Burgess Road.

Little progress was visible at the interface of St Margaret's School to Station Road, where conflicting positions of gates and railings had occurred and a defined loading space for the school bus was awaiting establishment.

**Action – Cllr Paterson already investigating the gate/railings conflict but update required.  
Cllr Work to resolve the school bus parking situation**

#### **Heritage Trust**

Nothing to report this month.

#### **Rotary**

In line with the tradition of post rotation, the president will be changed shortly. The QDCC rep after the summer will be Neil McKinlay.

The abseil event is now sold out, with the maximum number of 350 participants. Last year's event raised £43,000.

It was disappointing to note that vandalism had taken place around the viewpoint on the Back Braes footpath between The Loan and the Ferry Glen.

#### **Queensferry Churches Care in the Community**

The Haven is now operating at its full capacity of around 20, although a single space is available in Kirkliston if necessary. The Supper Club now has a waiting list. Four new volunteers have been recruited recently for Kirkliston. Volunteers from Queensferry High School are still participating.

Opportunities are available for people wishing to become befrienders, who would visit clients in their homes for 1-2 hours per week. Interest in befriending can be registered with Lorna Russell, who provides necessary training.

The Memory Café continues to provide advice and support for carers and allows exchange of particular information on services for older people, for example financial issues.

#### **Environment**



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Report circulated. A highlight of recent business had been CEC's Open Space Strategy Meeting on 18 May.

#### **Queensferry Boat Club**

A new secretary is still being sought

#### **Port Edgar Yacht Club**

A meeting will shortly be held to discuss the implications of the new restaurant which is the subject of a recent planning application

#### **Questions from the Floor**

None

#### **Any Other Business**

Damaged barriers around Ferrymuir Roundabout were identified by June. Although some supplementary damage may be recent, the topic already appears on Annie Bent's action list. Complete removal of the barriers was thought a retrograde step, although there was no evidence that removal was actively being considered by the West Team.

The prospect of recruiting a QDCC minute secretary was raised. This will continue to be pursued.

An A-board relating to chip shop fare had appeared at the bottom of The Loan, however this was thought to be non-freestanding.

**Action: Cllr Work to investigate legality of A-board relating to chip shop**

**Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 27th June at 7.30pm