



QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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CELEBRATING 30 YEARS 1986-2016

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28th NOVEMBER 2016

ATTENDEES: Keith Giblett (Chair), Neil McKinlay (South Queensferry Rotary Club), Diane Job (Treasurer/Planning Convenor), Grant Sangster (Transport Convenor), David Flint (Education Convenor and Community Safety), Fiona Duncan (QBC), Maggie Quayle (QYC), June Jansen (Environment Convenor), Anne Mitchell (QHS Parent Council), Councillor Norman Work, Councillor Alastair Shields, 1 member of the public

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the final meeting of 2016 and remarked that the year seemed to pass very quickly. Over the past month a public meeting regarding the proposed Taylor Wimpey development had taken place and the Christmas in Queensferry event had passed successfully, aided by favourable weather. The Jutland plaque had recently been placed in the museum and the associated reception event was well-received.

2. Apologies

Jennifer Garner (Minute Secretary), Cllr Lindsay Paterson, Terry Airlie (Vice Chair/Correspondence Secretary), Nicky Service, Laura Sexton (Governance Advisor)

3. Police Report for October

Although outside the period of analysis, initial indications suggested no serious issues had arisen from the Christmas in Queensferry event.

235 calls had been received during the period regarding 41 crimes, of which 11 were considered solved.

Housebreaking with intent had taken place at Queensferry High School (nothing stolen). The suspected youths were still being identified.

3 assaults were recorded.

A large drum with cable was stolen from a construction site and enquiries were ongoing.

Fake £20 and £50 notes were being circulated in the area, with a common transfer method being youths presenting counterfeit notes for low-value goods in busy shops and accumulating large amounts of change. The people involved often pass quickly through various towns and become difficult to trace.

School link officers are still in place, with a single PC covering both Queensferry and Royal High Schools, however additional support is readily available when necessary.

Non-emergency contact methods were highlighted, with the mailbox being monitored and the 101 phone number allowing access to local officers. Three officers are presently based at South Queensferry and tasked with supporting community work and the position is reviewed every 6 months.

4. Minutes of last meeting – It was noted that the draft minutes contained an incorrect title and names of attendees who were not members of QDCC should not be listed. Subject to these minor amendments the October minutes were approved.

Proposed – Fiona Duncan

Seconded – David Flint

5. Matters Arising

Hawes Calendar: Cllr Shields completed this action and a meeting arranged for early December.

Meeting between QDCC and CEC's Director of Place: Cllr Shields completed this action, although it was unfortunate that the Chief Executive declined to attend. A follow-up will be necessary but this will probably be after the 2017 elections.

Sub-Committee Membership: Volunteers for each sub-committee were as listed below

Planning – Diane, Fiona, June, Grant

Transport – Diane, June, Grant, Laura, Terry

Education – David, Eleanor, Anne, Maggie, Neil, June, Laura

Environment – June, Laura

6. Chair's Report – circulated

There was some discussion regarding the usefulness of reporting attendance at meetings without background of anticipated outcomes and achievement gained. However it was clarified that community council representation can often be at a consultative or awareness level rather than part of a continuous campaign. Over time, experience gained and networking potential offered by such meetings can prove helpful to the wider community.

7. Councillors' Reports

Councillor Alastair Shields reported that he had recently met with Fr Deely at St Margaret's Church. There is a desire to erect a statue of St Margaret somewhere within Queensferry. No location is yet determined but a High Street venue is presently quite a popular proposal.

Councillor Norman Work reported that Burnshot Road would be closed for at least a week following disintegration of the A90 flyover. The brewery at Bankhead Farm had requested a licence because part of its tour involves an opportunity for sampling. Following adjustments required by the government reporters, CEC's LDP2 was approved by full council. However the plan still had a shortfall of over 7000 houses. Extensive discussion ensued regarding this number and possible impact on Queensferry High School catchment together with the relevance of an attachment to Norman's report which set out reasoning and costs for a proposal to rebuild QHS with a nominal 1000-pupil capacity.

ACTION: Norman to check the situation with a perceived housing shortfall in LDP2 and its effect on QHS catchment zones.

Councillor Lindsay Paterson – report circulated, introducing Graham Hutchison as a prospective candidate for the next CEC election

8. Treasurer's Report – circulated

An omission from a previous report was that the Echline Community Woodland petrol money had been paid in August 2016 but not reported at the time. This has now been corrected. Two separate donations of £100 were proposed and accepted. These were to Christmas in Queensferry as an annual community event and lighting amenity, and to Echline Community Woodland on their 25th anniversary.

A request had been received for QDCC to subsidise naming of the Port Edgar to Dalmeny Cycle Track, which would cost at least £175. Although the path can be identified quite easily by relevant authorities, public confidence in reporting incidents might be increased if the route had a more

familiar name. This was felt inappropriate for QDCC to tackle at present but the general matter could be raised at ANP level.

ACTION: Norman to include street naming of non-residential tracks at a forthcoming ANP meeting

9. Secretary's Report – no report this month.

10. Sub Committee Reports

Planning – report circulated. Highlights were:

St Margret's Primary extension application

Dundas Estate Worship Hall application

Adoption of LDP2 by CEC

Builyeon Road – There was some discussion at the meeting regarding changes to the road layout, which QDCC generally supports due to the idea that it will lever cohesion between the old and new housing schemes. CEC are supportive of a gateway feature near Echline Corner, but maintain that a footbridge to Ferrymuir should be retained in the site's design principles. A response from the Urban Design Panel on the new proposal is anticipated around Spring 2017.

Development of 5 Houses at Former Legion Building – some queries being raised regarding retention of old frontage, originally identified for demolition in the plans.

Transport – report circulated

Plans for High Street refurbishment were discussed. The latest thinking is that the project will most likely take place from September 2017 but neither a firm design nor timescale had yet been determined. There was some confusion amongst members that a clear plan was not being reported, despite QDCC attending an exploratory meeting with CEC officials.

Education A sub-committee would be set up shortly at Queensferry Primary School to discuss the traffic issues around Burgess Road. If necessary, David would liaise with Grant to identify a QDCC position on the subject.

The Rosebery Hall had been repainted and looked remarkably good following this investment.

Another Safety Forum meeting would take place on 7 December. However this forum was being adversely affected by CEC's Transformation Programme.

Some prospect of Queensferry High School involvement in QDCC business now seems more possible, but not yet secured.

Queensferry High School The next Parent Council meeting would discuss the catchment review proposal in more detail. With the ongoing illegal drug activity, assistance and support has been offered to parents but the take-up rate has been low.

Environment A shortage of leaf-sweeping equipment and staff within CEC was thought to be causing problems locally, and discouraging use of paths as an active travel alternative to driving. Street lighting is a cause for concern and will be tackled by the sub-committee in the near future.

South Queensferry Rotary Club Santa's sleigh has been well-used recently and intensive activity is expected over the next couple of months. Significant work has taken place behind the scenes to continue the sleigh tours which are usually received favourably by the public.

Queensferry Heritage Trust The regular Thursday evening meeting venue has been changed to the Masonic Lodge, and membership is steadily increasing

Queensferry Yacht Club Further dialogue is anticipated with Property Services regarding the

future of the area used by the Sea Cadets.

Queensferry Boat Club A new committee was formed at the beginning of November

11. Questions from the Floor

Questions arose regarding the prospect of a new manager being appointed for Queensferry Ambition during the run-up to a ballot in 2017. It was agreed that the new manager should be invited to speak at a QDCC business meeting in the new year.

ACTION: Terry to request that QA's new manager attends a monthly QDCC business meeting prior to the next ballot

12. Any Other Competent Business

Diane mentioned that QDCC had received a query from a resident regarding adoption of a particular area of paving on Lovers' Lane. A newspaper report from 20 years earlier had been produced which appeared to support the resident's claim, but it was known that more recent studies had been undertaken.

ACTION: Norman to establish the situation with responsibility for maintenance of a particular area of paving on Lovers' Lane

13. Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 23rd January 2017 at 7.30 in the Council Offices