



QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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CELEBRATING 31 YEARS 1986-2017

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 27th March 2017
(Contact and Education Centre – Forth Road Bridge)

ATTENDEES: Keith Giblett (Chair), Terry Airlie (Vice Chair and Secretary), Diane Job (Treasurer/ Planning Convenor) Grant Sangster (Transport Convenor), David Flint (Education Convenor), Laura Sexton (Advisor to Community Council), Eleanor Sneddon (Queensferry Heritage Trust), Graeme McKinley (Social Media Site Administrator), PC Aiden Douds (Community Policing), Councillor Alastair Shields, Councillor Norman Work, Rev. David Cameron (Chair Queensferry Ambition), Sunil Varu (Project Manager QA), Alex Cole Hamilton (MSP), Craig Bowman (Network Rail), Jennifer Garner (Minute Secretary) and seven members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Maggie Quayle (PEYC), Nicky Service (SRA) Neil McKinley (Rotary) Fiona Duncan (QBC), June Jansen (Environment Convenor) Councillor Lindsay Paterson.

1. Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the March Meeting and thanked Transport Scotland for the use of their premises for the meeting. He introduced the guest speakers, Craig Bowman of Network Rail and Alex Cole Hamilton MSP.

Because of another commitment, Mr Alex Cole Hamilton was asked to speak first.

Transport: He said he was very concerned at the withdrawal of the Stagecoach bus service from South Queensferry. Lothian Buses ran out to towns in East Lothian where residents do not pay CEC rates. Queensferry residents pay CEC rates but do not get the buses. He was meeting with Lothian Buses representatives next week and said CEC had to recognise that this was a serious issue.

Airport Flight Path Re-design: The original design plan was for flights to be over West Lothian. There had been lots of complaints about this so the plan was changed to fly over Queensferry. The Airport Authority had not received any complaints from Queensferry – due to the fact that people in Queensferry were not affected by the flight path over West Lothian. The Airport Authority were using the 2011 Census for numbers of houses and residents.

Housing Developments: There was a huge increase in housing in the area and many local services were being stretched to their limit – particularly health centres.

The Chairman thanked Mr Cole Hamilton for his input.

Presentation by Craig Bowman, Network Rail

Mr Bowman gave a very informative and interesting presentation on the proposed Visitors Centre/ Experience. The visitors' centre would be built under the rail bridge, at the top of Jacob's Ladder, on the old storage site. There would be a car parking area and access would be provided via an

improved and re-designed Jacob's Ladder and the path from Dalmeny Station. The “experience” would take about three hours and tickets would have to be booked in advance.

The Chairman thanked Craig for his presentation.

Police Report

There had been two break-ins and three minor thefts. There was an ongoing problem with youth anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

There had been between 40-50 youths involved in incidents last weekend.

PC Douds was pleased that more people were actually reporting incidents directly to the Police rather than just posting comments on Facebook and other social media sites.

Queensferry Community Forum

Graeme McKinley explained about the new Forum which he and other members of QDCC had set up on Facebook.

It was felt that as often people could not commit to attending meetings they could contribute ideas over a “virtual” forum. It was stressed that this Forum was for constructive ideas and not for people to have a moan. 150 people had already signed up.

Anti-Social Behaviour

David Flint had attended a meeting of the Joint Action Group which was looking at issues of anti-social behaviour in South Queensferry.

He had circulated Minutes and Notes from this meeting to members of QDCC but was happy to send them to anyone else who would like copies.

Minutes of last meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th February had been circulated.

Proposed – Diane Job.

Seconded – David Flint.

Any Other Business

Mr Barry Robertson had applied for a licence to sell cars from his home address. He gave a brief outline of what this would entail. The Planning Sub-Committee of QDCC would consider this matter and report back in due course.

Date of Next Meeting confirmed as Monday 24th April at 7.30 in QDCC Offices.

The Chairman thanked people of attending and closed the meeting.