



QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



CELEBRATING 31 YEARS 1986-2017

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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 24th April 2017

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), Graeme McKinley (Social Media Site Administrator), PC Jim Loosemore (Community Policing), Neil McKinlay (Rotary) Maggie Quayle (PEYC) Fiona Duncan (QBC) June Jansen (Environment Convenor) Ann Mitchell (QHS Parent Council) Jenny Smith (Deputy Head QHS), Councillor Lindsay Paterson, Councillor Alastair Shields, Jennifer Garner (Minute Secretary) Matthew Beaton

1 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed members to the March Business Meeting. He mentioned a few items of interest during the last month.

Buses – still not heard who will be taking over from Stagecoach.

Queensferry Crossing – opening postponed. Suggestion it may now be August.

Forth Bridges Forum – there is a meeting of the Forum on Tuesday, 25th April

The Forts – Network Rail has purchased The Forts to be used as part of the site of the proposed Visitors' Centre.

Road Traffic Orders – there had been a lot of confusion about recent proposed road closures. There seems to be an underlying problem with such Orders and CEC should be held responsible for providing correct information.

Guardian of the Bridges – plinth installed at McIvor's Brae ready for the installation.

2. Apologies

Eleanor Sneddon, PC Aidan Douds, Councillor Norman Work

3. Police Report

There had been 40 crimes reported last month including vandalisms, road traffic offences, shoplifting and abusive behaviour. There had been less antisocial behaviour than in the

previous two or three months.

Anti-Social Behaviour Joint Action Group gave a report on their meeting with High School staff and pupils. Representatives from Police Scotland and the Manager of Scotmid were also present at that meeting. There had been wide ranging discussions on police involvement and what steps they were taking to tackle the problem; retailers' responsibilities in selling alcohol; actions taken by the school staff and parental responsibility. It was agreed that there was only a small number of youths involved in the anti-social behaviour.

Graeme McKinley gave an update on the Queensferry Community Forum. 200 people had signed up. Graeme was trying to get youngsters involved by asking them what activities they would like to see in Queensferry.

Jenny Smith, Deputy Head Teacher QHS, gave a summary of what they had been doing in the school regarding anti-social behaviour. She said working with parents was critical. Pupil support groups had been set up. A drug awareness session had been held in November and the school was working with Police Scotland. It was agreed that there was not a short term fix. Consideration to be given to an awareness session on anti-social behaviour

Two Pupil Councils had been re-established - S1-S3 and S4-S6. Regular meetings were held and there was good feedback from pupils. The Councils were to be involved in the Improvement Plan, involved in interviewing new staff and also involved in discussions at the planning stage for the new school.

The Action Group had met with the two Pupil Councils and had been very impressed

Ann Mitchell (Parent Council) said they had been speaking to 6th year pupils and they had been dismayed by the lack of understanding on safety shown by these older pupils.

The Chairman thanked Neil, David, Graeme, Jenny, Ann and Police Scotland for helping with this issue.

The Chairman introduced Matthew Beaton to members. Matthew was involved with the Ferry Fair and Christmas in Queensferry. He was interested in seeing what was involved in QDCC.

4. Minutes of the last Meeting

There had been no apologies included in the Minutes. Jennifer was to revise the Minutes accordingly. Subject to this the Minutes were approved by David Flint and seconded by Diane Job.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. Chair's Report - circulated

7. Councillors' Reports

Alastair Shields – circulated. There had now been an application by Mr Barry Robertson to run a car sales business from Turnhouse Road. A previous application was for permission to run the business from his home address. This application had been approved. The new application would be dealt with in due course.

The Chairman asked if there was any mechanism for the CEC to inform QDCC of its decision on these applications. There was not.

ACTION: Following the May elections it was suggested that CEC be asked about this, Perhaps somebody could attend one of the QDCC meetings. Expectation on newly elected councillors after May to work closely with QDCC on all licensing matters as the process as it stands is flawed - Terry to follow up.

Lindsay Paterson – circulated. Lindsay thanked QDCC for working with the Ward Councillors over the last five years.

Norman Work - circulated

Keith raised the matter of the pram pushers and local difficulties as raised by Cllr Work. It was pointed out that all of these issues had been raised some 18 months ago during the Placemaking exercise and now form part of the developmental and infrastructure opportunities for Queensferry encompassed in the planning process. This is not a new problem.

Significant sums of money from Planning gain is already being invested.

ACTION After May election newly elected Councillors will be asked for progress updates in relation to issues raised during the Placemaking exercise

8. Treasurer's Report

Accounts are with the auditors. They will be ready for AGM in May.

9. Secretary's Report - circulated

Terry had contacted Crawford McGhee (Acting Operational Head – Communities & Families) regarding plans for QHS, St Margaret's extension and Queensferry Primary School.

He could not attend tonight's meeting but gave an update.

New Queensferry High School – to be completed by March 2020.

Queensferry Primary School – plans drawn up for four new classrooms.

St. Margaret's Primary School – new hall – work underway - to be completed by August 2017.

10. Sub-Committee Reports

Planning – circulated.

Decisions on Builyeon Road, Scotstoun, Dalmeny, Mission Hall deferred till 7th June

(after local elections). If not discussed then it will be August.

Old British Legion building – Planning Department not heard from Agent.

QDCC had received e-mail notification from Galliford Try regarding the siting a telecommunications mast and cabinets on the Loan next to East Coast Tyres.

It was agreed that mobile phone reception is bad in Queensferry but it was felt that the Loan was not the best place to site a mast.

ACTION: Diane to email Galliford Try regarding this matter

Transport – circulated

Airport Airspace consultation. There was a great deal of discussion on the proposed new flight path

QDCC had received one objection to the plans but are aware that this has roused local feelings.

However QDCC do not intend to sign the multi-Communication Council statement generated following a meeting at Holyrood last week.

ACTION: QDCC to reply before 30th April asking for restrictions on night flights and giving QDCC preference for a flight path between D0 and D1, say D0.5

Buses – CEC had had favourable indication that a bus company would run a service from Queensferry to the City Centre. Details will be circulated when available

Education – David Flint had circulated notes from the meetings he had attended. There had been an inspection of the Rosebery Hall and the officials carrying out the inspection had been impressed with how much it was used. However they had no knowledge of the other Community Centre buildings.

Environment – nothing to report

Communications – Graeme McKinley has brokered a mutually agreeable arrangement between the Stoneyflatts Residents Association and CleanFerry, enabling the dog waste bins to remain in situ.

Rotary – Their big fundraising event was an Abseil on 28th May.

Port Edgar Yacht Club – Still waiting to hear about property lease. Development work is continuing at the Marina. There is to be an “Open Weekend” on 6th May.

Queensferry Boat Club – Boats are back in water after the winter. They are soon to be celebrating 60 years of QBC. Nothing else to report.

11. Any Other Business

Neil McKinlay wondered if something could be done about the boarded up Deaf Action shop and Leslie Deans. He felt that it gave a bad impression to visitors from liners etc. Keith said he would speak to Queensferry Ambition and contact Leslie Deans.

The Town Clock is being mended.

Repairs were required to the handrail at Jacob's Ladder before visitors from liners started using it.

Dalgaty Bay Community Council produce a community newsletter.

Keith suggested that Queensferry & District Community Council should put out the annual newsletter after the May elections.

He asked that Executive, convenors and local interest group members provide a short piece to be included in the newsletter.

Keith thanked Lindsay, Alastair and Norman for their regular attendance at the QDCC meetings over the last five years and wished them well in the future.

Date of next meeting

Monday 22nd May 2017 – the business meeting will be preceded by the AGM