

North Queensferry Community Council

Minutes of Community Council Meeting on Thursday 11 February 2016

Members Present: Iain G Mitchell (IGM), Jim George(JG), Christina McKenzie (CM), Peter Selbie (PS), David Shields (DS), Barbara McKechnie(BM) Cllr Mike Shirkie Representatives from Bay Travel Coaches Ltd: Iain Robertson (IR), Niall Douglas (ND) Mino Manekshaw (MM), Sheila Foggon (SF), Duncan Foggon (DF)		
Agenda Reference	Description	Action
1. Apologies	Lin Collis (LC), Mary Finlayson has Leave of Absence,	
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting	With the addition of Apologies from Sheila Foggon, Minutes of January 2016 meeting approved.	BM
3. Matters Arising	None	
4. Police Report	None	
5. Discussion on Bus Services	<p>IR outlined the recent history of Bay Travel and the challenges of co-ordinating bus services for School, Public Service and recreational use. Bay Travel now has 48 employees, all resident in Fife and has invested over £300k in development of the business. IR gave a heads up on potential alterations to bus timings due to Fife Council prospective changes to High School closure times and by 2020 school busses to be incorporated into service timetables.</p> <p>On confirmation of complaints received by the Bay Company in respect of overly long engine idling, PS gave further specific detail and received assurance of investigation. The Bay Company is keen to work with the Community and left contact details while advising that their telephone number is available on the side of their busses. The NQCC thanked Mr Robertson and Mr Douglas (Operations Manager) for their attendance and willingness to discuss issues. IGC suggested that the invitation to attend a NQCC meeting be reissued to Stagecoach.</p>	CM
6. World Heritage Management	No representative from NQCC was able to attend the last meeting. DS was advised by an attendee that scoping is still under discussion. MS will endeavour to forward the Meeting Minutes for that meeting to BMK. In MF current absence, IGM asked that another Member plan to attend the next meeting on 10 May 2016. DS agreed to put in his diary.	MS DS
7. Tourism Project Group	No update	
8. Forth Bridge Visitor Centre	Network Rail has advised in a press release that funding is currently discussion. MS confirmed that Fife Council had been unaware that any issue had arisen and are seeking a meeting at Ministerial level to discuss. DS queried existence of Plan B option. Discussion followed on possibility of re-instatement of original viewing area. No action will be taken until the meeting (request for which was only notified to MS on 5 February) takes place.	
9. Forth Replacement	Traffic light sequence has been changed at junction of B981 and Ferry Toll Road. Sequencing is better but MM commented that still	

Crossing	restricted timing for NQ traffic exit. JG has comments for North Community Forum Meeting on 17 February.	
10. Network Rail Scotland Route Study Draft	Review of this Study was DS action item from previous meeting to determine potential effect on NQ. Ongoing electrification of lines is outlined and to reduce erosion risk, the railway line north through Fife may be rerouted to adjust routes close to coastline. Electrification of lines over the Forth Bridge will involve World Heritage Sites discussions.	
11. Community Group Reports	<p>Boat Club: IGM, with 'CT hat' confirmed the licence to occupy the premises is essentially complete and an updated plan is due for next Monday meeting. A potential Facility Manager has been identified. JG advised that toilet block location has been identified and 3 month program of works is being planned. Once complete, costing will take place before plans can move forward.</p> <p>Heritage Trust: Last meeting was focussed on organisation of 2016 walks and talks. Discussions have taken place as to plaque site for UNESCO World Heritage Site. MS suggested there may be a plaque at both North and South Queensferry. No progress on siting of Light Tower. MS advised drawings could be completed by end of March/beginning of April, planning could go ahead with projected work start date of September. CM queried cost – original figure was £50k. JG queried if nearby landscaping was included and if there would be lighting of the Light Tower. MS believes original attention was to light the site. DS mentioned still evolving possibility of including memorial mention of the surrender of the German Fleet following the Battle of Jutland.</p> <p>NQ Church: recent lunch for Hohoe fundraising raised over £900.</p> <p>Community Centre: Members agreed recent redecoration has improved the entrance to the Centre. Next projects to plan include the refurbishment of the toilets (necessary for event planning) and review of plumbing installations on roof. CM collates usage of the Centre for the completion of Rate Rebate forms and the Centre is currently used by 17000 + users in a year.</p> <p>HONQ: SF confirmed response from Fife Council in respect of the Open Letter from HONQ. An approach will be made to local MSP Willie Rennie for further discussion. Following the Network Rail funding issue statement on the Visitor Centre, HONQ will prepare a further Press Release. See HONQ January update in NQCC website correspondence.</p>	
12. Fife Councillors' Reports	<p>MS advised of great concern relating to future cuts in the Fife Council budget. £38m to be saved in 1 yr, £91m over next 3 years. No reserves are available to mitigate the necessary cuts.</p> <p>MS confirmed that a revised framework for the Rosyth waterfront should be available by end of this month. Scarborough Muir will then have consultations. Plans for 100yr Rosyth celebrations are underway for next year. Symbolic visit by a RN frigate is planned for May 2016 and VIP will be involved with revealing plaques for the World Heritage Site. Main events for Jutland commemoration will be</p>	

	<p>the week of 28 May. Main focus of the events will be at Scapa Flow. Amalgamation of NHS Fife and the Social Services will go ahead from 1 April and initial issues may be encountered by Fife residents.</p> <p>Forth Bridge Champions are going to meet last week of February/1st week of March with role to enhance knowledge of the bridge. They will form a Forth Bridge Trust – includes MS, Cllr Sharon Wilson, representatives from South Queensferry, Scottish Heritage and Scottish Government. MS will confirm date to Members.</p> <p>DS queried upcoming boundary changes – MS advised little or no change to NQ/Rosyth area.</p>	MS
13. Planning Applications	<p>JG had circulated a copy of planning application for 21 Ferryhills Road. No comment has been raised to the council by local residents and therefore, NQCC will not comment on the Application. JG and MS had discussion how Planning Meeting Dates could be advised to the Public. JG to write to Mary Stewart, Service Manager, Major Business and Customer Service, Fife Council re possibility of dates that applications are to be presented at Planning (following requisite number of objections).</p>	JG
14. Treasurer's Report	<p>CM requested approval for cheque to Salvation Army following the Remembrance Sunday commemoration in November 2015. This was approved by Members.</p>	
15. Floral Enhancement	<p>MS advised of reasonably priced bulbs in B&Q; DS set out options for Wild Flower meadows in the NQ area. MS advised contacting John McQueen/Fife Council for planting options if cost of seeds etc can be met by the NQCC. MS advised of Rosyth Community Council contact with Dobbies.</p>	
16. Correspondence	<p>BM advised correspondence was up to date and queried insurance query from Fife Council to CM. Letter will be copied to IGM for comment.</p>	CM/ IGM
17. Any other competent business	<p>Following clearance of most boats from East Bay, seeding work will commence in March and then progress to West Bay.</p> <p>DS queried if anyone had heard of timetabled trains not stopping at North Queensferry in order to maintain terminus schedules. Please note if this happens.</p> <p>Sheila Foggon queried approval of HONQ co-opted member – this will be on next Agenda.</p>	All IGM

Next Meeting: Thursday 10 March 2016, North Queensferry Community Centre 7.30pm