

North Queensferry Community Council

Minutes of Community Council Meeting on Thursday 10 March 2016

<p>Members Present: Iain G Mitchell (IGM), Jim George(JG), Christina McKenzie (CM), Peter Selbie (PS), David Shields (DS), Barbara McKechnie(BM), Following Co-option on behalf of HONQ: Sheila Foggon (SF) Cllr Mike Shirkie Janet Halcrow (JH), Elisabeth Seviour (ES), Brian Armstrong (BA), Duncan Foggon (DF)</p>		
Agenda Reference	Description	Action
1. Apologies	Lin Collis (LC), Mary Finlayson has Leave of Absence,	
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting	Approved	
3. Matters Arising	<p>No comment/objection having been received, co-option of Sheila Foggon on behalf of HONQ was proposed by IGM and seconded by BM.</p> <p>Apologies received from Stagecoach re attending the NQCC meeting. PS confirmed issue of lack of considerate manoeuvring by Stagecoach busses in the Battery Road turning circle. CM will inform Stagecoach of the issue.</p>	CM
4. Police Report	None	
5. Electricity sub-station	<p>BM followed up on an initial contact by ES with Scottish Power re replacement housing for the electricity substation in Battery Road Car Park. Spenergynetworks have offered a choice of construction materials and it was decided that NQCC will take advice from Fife Council Planning Department (MS recommended contacting Kevin Treadwell) on appropriate housing bearing in mind the location in a conservation area and proximity to Forth Bridge World Heritage Site. Scottish Power will be invited to attend the NQCC meeting on 14 April following feedback on the choice of materials.</p>	BM BM
6. World Heritage Management	No Update	
7. Tourism Project Group	<p>IGM asked BM to inform Forth Estuary Group of the dates of NQCC meetings and request public meetings are not held on these dates. MS advised of meetings for the Champions of the Forth Bridge and concerns that the number of groups relating to the Bridge risks duplication of efforts. IGM stressed that the Forth Bridge Management Group is the official group but to date has not met very often. MS suggested the Management Group is a strategic group while the Champions are more of a 'doer' group. It was agreed that meetings and functions require co-ordinating.</p>	BM
8. Forth Bridge Visitor Centre	<p>In view of the Network Rail current lack of funding for the Visitor Centre, NQCC will not ask Network Rail to present any updates until movement on the issue is noted. However, in view of the current state of Network Rail property adjacent to the Bridge, BM will invite Ian Heigh to the next NQCC meeting to advise on plans to tidy up the current site (fallen railings, overgrown areas and old unused portakabins). This will tie in with Scottish Power advising on the</p>	BM

	<p>substation refurbishment.</p> <p>MS advised that on last query to Sandra Montador-Stewart, the Traffic Management Plan is in progress and it still stands that there will be a public meeting when the Plan is published.</p>	
9. Forth Replacement Crossing	<p>JG attended last meeting and advised that the plan is to sell St Margaret's Hope at some point in the future; there is no plan to replace crocus plants on the new NQ approach road; road cleaning bowser has been requested on 'as needed' basis but no change so far (creating wet mud on an otherwise dry day); strip lights on the Education Centre on the South side of Road Bridge will in future be switched off at 11pm. The meeting strongly disapproves of the lack of duty of care to the community of North Queensferry by FCBC. MS suggested inviting the three Directors of the new bridge organisations to the May 2016 monthly meeting. BM will draft letter and forward to IGM prior to sending.</p>	BM/ IGM
11. Fife Councillors' Reports	<p>MS expressed extreme concern over the forthcoming Fife Council Budget and delivered warnings on the initial performance in FY15/16 of the combined NHS and Social Services in Fife. Budget meetings attended by Fife Councillors had resulted in very vigorous debate. MS advised that the decentralisation of the budgets in Fife was ongoing; that compensation was being sought by Fife Council relating to the Forth Road Bridge closure; separate compensation is being sought by the Road Haulage Association in Scotland; with the anticipated lack of funds from local/central government, NQCC should be considering potential benefits from commercial sources in return for the disruption suffered by the residents of North Queensferry due to the surrounding construction sites.</p>	
10. Community Group Reports	<p>Community Centre: CM advised next project is refurbishment of the toilet facilities. Earning potential of the basement area is under consideration.</p> <p>Heritage Trust: No co-opted member as yet but DS confirmed the vegetation clearance at top of steps up from the Forth Road Bridge has been completed.</p> <p>St Margaret's Marsh: Committee is in stage of 'getting to know you'. Next meeting and high tide inspection will take place on 22 March.</p> <p>HONQ: Sheila Foggon had been welcomed as new co-opted member for HONQ. The pontoon issue is to be referred to the Ombudsman.</p> <p>Boat Club: IGM confirmed that agreement had been signed with the Community Trust. JG advised this was still to be advised to the Boat Club members.</p>	
12. Planning Applications	<p>JG confirmed one application in retrospect – for the above ground display area at Deep Sea World.</p>	
13. Treasurer's Report	<p>No change at present but CM had cheque book for IGM signature of accounts to be paid eg website charges. CM and IGM will also discuss the completion of the Fife Council compulsory insurance form.</p>	CM/ IGM
14. Floral Enhancement	<p>DS had circulated information to Members in respect of reseeded options for overgrown area above The Brae. NQCC approved in principle the payment for reseeded from the Floral Enhancement</p>	DS/ LC

	grant and DS will discuss with LC.	
15. Correspondence	BM confirmed correspondence circulated. IGM queried the circulated email to members regarding grants for Paths for All. DS will follow up with Colin Bell re paths in the village. BM confirmed any organised litter collection could be picked up by Fife Council until 19 th April under 'Clean for the Queen' initiative.	DS
16. Any other competent business	It was queried whether the SNH had completed their survey of the deer in the NQ area. DS commented on the amount of rubbish on the beach visible from bend under the bridge on B981 (under the Forth Road Bridge before Ferrycraigs House). JG confirmed Beach Cleans are still carried out by the Community Payback teams. JG advised members of the public had queried the lack of clear marking for car parking outside the Community Centre. CM confirmed issues in conflicting marking for play area and queries could be forwarded to the Facilities Manager at the Community Centre.	

Next Meeting: Thursday 14 April 2016, North Queensferry Community Centre 7.30pm