

North Queensferry Community Council

Minutes of Community Council Meeting on Thursday 12 September 2013.

Members Present: Iain Mitchell (IM), Christina McKenzie (CM), Jim George (JG), Jan Short (JS), Marisa Di Fillipo Ferrier (Mdf), Mary Findlayson (MF), Lin Collis (LC); Simon Tate (ST) Cllr – Douglas Chapman (DC), Mike Shirkie (MS)		
Agenda Reference	Description	Action
1. Apologies for Absence:	Barbara McKechnie (BM);	
2. Minutes of previous meeting	Minutes of July 2013 meeting were approved and are available on NQ Community Council website. There was no Community Council meeting held in August 2013.	
3. Matters arising.	No matters arising.	
4. Network Rail – Plans for Forth Bridge Visitor Centre	Ian Heigh and Craig Bowman delivered a presentation on behalf of Network Rail – see http://www.forthbridgeexperience.com for full details. Network Rail committed to 24hr security for this high quality planned facility, anticipated to become a significant visitor attraction in Scotland. Following concerns expressed regarding access for traffic and pedestrians, Network Rail confirmed they will work with involved communities and Fife Council for an infrastructure solution eg ‘Park and Ride’ that will work for all. The Feasibility Study is to be completed by January 2014 with completion in the late 2015 timeframe. The development of the facility will include a high level of landscaping with free access to the Visitor Centre.	
5. Forth Bridge World Heritage Steering Group	MF attended the last meeting reporting that the photographic competition had positive response. South Queensferry has applied for and has been granted a planning impact assessment. NQ has applied for an impact assessment but no reply as yet from Fife Council. Full details of the World Heritage application : http://www.forthbridgeworldheritage.com	
6. Forth Road Bridge Festival	MF attended launch of the planned Festival.	

	James Lawson is contact on Steering Group. Proposed Festival Lunch in NQ – 13/09/14 in Battery Road Carpark – possible road closure from corner at Albert Hotel. Details of the Forth Bridges Festival are available at : http://forthbridgesfestival.com	
7. Forth Replacement Crossing	Forth Crossing Bridge Constructors have circulated an information flyer to nearby NQ residents (B Armstrong confirmed receipt by residents) re the piling taking place on the North Tower from 12 th to 30 th September 2013 between 8am and 7pm. A copy of the flyer is posted on the Information Boards in North Queensferry. LC attended meetings. Full background information at : http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/road/projects/forth-replacement-crossing	
8. Battery Road Car Park	Letter from M A Low detailing background to installation of gates on the Battery Road Car Park had been circulated to Community Council members. F McNaught represented views of 6 residents of Pierhead Buildings who believe there is unacceptable disturbance in an area with 'no parking' allowed caused by evening closure of Battery Road Car Park gates. The results of a local survey questionnaire carried out by the Community Council were read out to the meeting. Issues appear to be threefold – parking for tourists, anti-social behaviour by certain groups and traffic management. The possibility of resident passes for the village was also mentioned as an option. MS stressed the antisocial behaviour issues are a police matter and should be consistently reported to them. MF agreed to collate individual complaints to the Community Council and forward a monthly letter to the police inspector at Dalgety Bay. IM will send letter to police asking for positive action in North Queensferry. Fife councillors present at the NQCC meeting will request immediate reinstatement of the double yellow lines in the vicinity of Pierhead Buildings. A NQ resident attending the NQCC meeting indicated that antisocial activity is now occurring at the Boat Club area.	* * *
9. Fife Councillors' Reports	MS reported that great progress has been made on the redevelopment of the railway station	

	<p>premises. There will be report available on 10th October 2013 re the development of West Bay. MS suggested a feasibility study be requested to Fife Council including the authorities from all 3 bridges. A snagging list is to be prepared on village issues, eg damaged wall opposite the Battery Road Carpark entrance, prior to walk round the village by Ian Jones in early October. Additional rubbish bins have been requested for the Coastal Path and an additional rubbish bin was also requested for Battery Road near the car park. (With the car park closure there has been an increase in litter out with the car park and there are no bins there.) Further information will be provided at the next Community Council meeting regarding planned recognition of the work of Iain Banks with funding from Scottish Book Trust. In recognition of 100 yrs of North Queensferry Primary School, a list of events will be published for Summer 2014.</p>	
10. Planning Applications	<p>JG advised of one private retrospective planning application for #1 East Bay. Other reports had been received of issues with this application but as no mention of complaint is on the Fife Council website, the Community Council regard the issue as a private matter.</p>	
11. Community Group Reports	<p>As mentioned above, MS advised Fife Council report on West Bay will be available on 10th October 2013.</p>	
12. Treasurer's Report	<p>CM advised total funds and working balance available – the figures were approved by the Council</p>	
13. Floral Enhancement	<p>JS requested funds for winter planting of village boxes – this was approved. MS, Fife Council, is to investigate if Christmas Tree lights could be powered by connection to the street lighting in NQ.</p>	*
14. Police Issues	<p>As before in respect of the Battery Road Car Park issues. IM will write to the Inspector at Dalgety Bay and MdF will contact the police to re-establish contact with Community Council and Police.</p>	* *
15. Correspondence	<p>BM, prior to meeting, circulated lists of correspondence posted on the members</p>	

	<p>section of the Community Council website. IM circulated advice of meeting regarding Fracking in Fife. Bruce Finlayson, with specialist knowledge, will attend the meeting on 30th October 2013 and advise of any issues of import to North Queensferry Community Council.</p>	
<p>16. Any other competent business</p>	<p>MdF advised of Ferry Barn resident complaints of anti-social behaviour. This is noted by the Community Council with regard to the request for police assistance with anti-social issues in NQ.</p> <p>MF did request that new keys be cut for the NQ notice boards but as the keys have been located, this is no longer necessary.</p> <p>B Armstrong will co-ordinate the Remembrance Commemoration. CM has the Wreath.</p> <p>LC is in the process of inquiring from Fife Council about an archiving policy for community councils.</p>	

Next meeting: Thursday 10th October 2013, 7.30pm at the NQ Community Centre