

## North Queensferry Community Council

### Minutes of Community Council Meeting on Thursday 9 April 2015

<p><b>Members Present:</b> Iain G Mitchell(IGM), Lin Collis (LC), Christina McKenzie(CM), Barbara McKechnie(BM), Jim George(JG), James Lawson(JL), PC K Chandler(KC), Cllr Mike Shirkie (MS)</p> <p><b>Mike Low(ML), Peter Selbie (PS), Elizabeth Serviour (ES), Brian Armstrong (BA) Fiona George (FG), J Di Ciacca (JDC), Chris Wheeldon (CW), Laura Malcolm (LM), Dan Trotter (DT), Karen Trotter (KT), PC unnamed from Kirkcaldy station.</b></p> <p><b>Items 1, 4, 2 and part 3 only, chaired by Lin Collis (IGM unavoidably detained)</b></p>		
Agenda Reference	Description	Action
<b>1. Apologies</b>	IGM for possible late arrival at meeting. No other apologies.	
<b>4. Police Report</b>	<p>BM had circulated notes to Members for the Community Engagement Meeting on 240315.</p> <p>KC advised the meeting that recent housebreak in NQ is still under investigation and police are still following lines of enquiry. Re the War Memorial damage, a Polish haulage has been contacted but no reply as yet. KC will ask PC Bob Drummond (BD) to contact JG, with police reference number; JG confirmed that Fife Council has been fully advised of damage. Re 'boy racers', KC confirmed that police were aware of scheduled meet on 210315; 6 marked and 1 unmarked police car attended. Police believe warning has been given but asked that the public, if further incidents, do not speak directly with targets but try to capture the registration numbers. JLL suggested the lighthouse webcam on the pier could be used to capture still of incidents.</p> <p><a href="http://www.northqueensferrylighttower.com/webcam.html">http://www.northqueensferrylighttower.com/webcam.html</a></p> <p>MS confirmed 6 residents had complained of speeding at his Surgery held on 080415. KT asked that police monitor the 20mph limit on Ferryhills Road and possible placement of illuminated warning sign. KC will take all points back to the area sergeants.</p>	KC
<b>2. Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	MF had circulated. LC confirmed item 9 still to have information added and BM will communicate with LC to complete. CM later advised reference to request for representative from Stagecoach to attend the NQCC meeting had been omitted.	LC, BM
<b>3. Matters Arising</b>	<p>Christmas Lights: MF gave synopsis of discussions to date to attendees. MF has applied for the maximum Lottery grant of £5000 to cover the estimated cost of £2.5k for lights plus cost of installation of electricity supply to selected areas.</p> <p><i>IGM took over chair from LC</i></p> <p>Coat of Arms: IGM confirmed permission was in progress for the design to be used for a flag.</p>	
<b>5. Pontoon Consultation</b>	<p>IGM has just received the reply from the CEO of Fife Regional Council re the lack of consultation prior to funding for the pontoon being announced. This will be posted on the NQCC website by BM and residents will be solicited for feedback.</p> <p>DT and KT advised of attendance at meeting with Lesley Laird, Depute Leader and Executive Spokesperson Economy and Planning, at Inverkeithing in relation to the proposed pontoon. The</p>	IGM, BM

	<p>main purpose of the pontoon was stated as reception area for tender boats from cruise liners anchored in the Forth . DT and KT believe that as the harbour area is not secure for custom/immigration purposes, this will not be possible. Further investigation is required on review of hardcopy due diligence documents for the project. MS confirmed that he would arrange to meet with Councillor Lesley Laird(Deputy Leader), Sandra Montador-Stewart(Service Manager Economy/Tourism/Town centres) and the Senior Technical Officer as a matter of urgency to discuss these potential problem areas. MS added that, following the meeting, he would arrange for a briefing to the Community Council. MS also advised that an Environmental Impact Statement would have to form part of any planning application and there was the separate issue of a Marine Licence. He then advised on the various planning processes/timescales and formal objection procedures. KT stressed the environmental costs to the SSSI areas are not outweighed by the benefits. DT will send link to document highlighting environmental dangers. BM will circulate.</p>	DT, BM
<b>6. Forth Replacement Crossing</b>	No Meetings but weekly updates continue to be posted to the NQCC website.	
<b>7. Forth Bridge Visitor Centre</b>	<p>As NQCC will comment on the Network Rail planning application on behalf of all village residents, JDC provided BM with a copy of the results of the exit poll conducted by HONQ on 24/25 March at the North Queensferry Community Consultation by Network Rail. The exit poll suggests 85% of the 95 participants of the exit poll were in favour of the World Heritage Status application for the Forth Rail Bridge and 61% of that group were against/other/undecided on, the Network Rail Visitor Centre. MS confirmed when queried, that Fife Council do have co-ordinated Transport Strategy plan which will be offered at a public meeting, originally planned for January 2015 but now delayed to July due to Network Rail holdups. MF will request from Craig Bowman, Communications Manager, Network Rail the latter's feedback from the March public consultation including the points raised by visiting members of the public. On DT querying possible community benefits, IGM stressed that the NQCC should be made aware of 'the full package' offered to the village and region by the development prior to being asked for planning comment. BA raised the possibility of 'false hopes' but ICM reaffirmed that NQCC would be looking for firm commitment prior to the planning comment.</p>	MF
<b>8. World Heritage Steering Group</b>	<p>JJL confirmed one meeting held during the week commencing 300315 and there is one more meeting of the Steering Group to be held in June prior to the announcement of whether the WH Status has been successful. If successful, the Steering Group will 'morph' into the Management Group, continuing the present representation. The Management Group will be responsible for adherence to the Management Plan as outlined in the WH application. See <a href="http://www.forth-bridges.co.uk/images/forth_bridges_forum/documents/Forth%20B">http://www.forth-bridges.co.uk/images/forth_bridges_forum/documents/Forth%20B</a></p>	

	<a href="#">ridge%20World%20Heritage%20Nomination%20Management%20Plan.pdf</a>	
<b>9. Tourism Project Group</b>	No meeting to report	
<b>10. Community Group Updates</b>	<p>Community Trust: The lease for West Bay has been agreed with Fife Council and will be signed with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 but is still subject to completion of a Conditions Statement to create the base line for the agreement. In charge of day to day management will be the West Bay Users Group. IGM confirmed that the reporting to various authorities about the appearance of a digger (see February NQCC minutes to repair a mooring block) did not relate to the Community Trust. LC queried when the newly arrived pontoon would be removed. JG confirmed that date was not yet known.</p> <p>Community Centre: CM confirmed new windows had been fitted and roof insulated.</p> <p>Railway Station: The renovations are almost complete with a few tasks to complete including realignment of entry path improving disabled use. It is planned to reopen the cafe on 28 April 2015. A new franchise holder is required for the cafe in approximately 3 months. DT confirmed that a community led cafe is under discussion. JLL confirmed following a question that it had been noted that the access steps to the south bound line are too narrow and that there is no bench for sitting on the north bound platform. JLL confirmed that Scotrail is still the owner of the Railway Station and Abelio is the current operating franchisee only so there will be no change to the Station colour scheme.</p> <p>Heritage Trust: The Beamer relocation project is currently in the hands of Fife Council Estates department. Planning and funding will follow when possible.</p> <p>125 Festival: This refers to the celebration of 125 years of the Forth Bridge. On 18/19/20 September, it is planned that the Station will be converted to an Indian train station by the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway Society (this Railway has been a UNESCO site since 1999).</p>	
<b>11. Fife Councillor Reports</b>	MS confirmed the Family Days organised by the Forth Bridges Education Centre in South Queensferry on 10 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> April. The Outlander Project is up and running at Culross and JLL confirmed there is increasing interest in film locations. MS advised of a new Visitor Centre at the Aircraft Carrier in Rosyth.	
<b>12. Planning</b>	No new planning applications had been advised this month. JG does have CD of Consultation information for Fife Council Planning. JG will circulate relevant points.	JG
<b>13. Treasurer's Report</b>	CM advised £8.12 remains as unassigned following cheques to the Community Centre contributing to the Ferry News, Webmail etc. CM will notify LC when the annual Floral Enhancement grant of £370 is received. Current bank balance including assigned amounts is £1070.10.	

<p><b>14. Floral Enhancement</b></p>	<p>Volunteers are urgently required to help with maintenance of the flowers in the village. See contact details for Lin Collis on the NQCC website: <a href="http://www.nqcc.co.uk">http://www.nqcc.co.uk</a></p> <p>MS confirmed he has followed up on the repairs required to the War Memorial.</p> <p>MS mentioned the success of the EATS (Edible and Tasty Spaces) project in Rosyth – see <a href="http://www.fifedirect.org.uk">http://www.fifedirect.org.uk</a> and search EATS. Additional funding is available out of the Community Chest. CM will contact Lyn Hoey to ask for the funding quoting the success of Rosyth and Inverkeithing.</p>	<p>CM</p>
<p><b>15. Correspondence</b></p>	<p>BM has updated webmail received to the NQCC website. BM outlined additional hard copy mail items including letter from Colin Bain relating to a First World War Commemoration at Port Laing beach. BM will scan and circulate the letter to the Council members so that a response may be formed. Re the letter from Mr Foggon enquiring about tidying up the bays and the derelict boats, Mr Foggon is to contact the Sailing Club.</p>	<p>BM</p>
<p><b>16. Any other competent business</b></p>	<p>Cruiks Quarry – LC attended a public update meeting on the revival of the Quarry operation. The plan is to dig deeper not over a larger area and the Coastal Path will be altered slightly to allow for removal of the aggregate by ship. Community Payback payments should be made to the villages, Inverkeithing and North Queensferry, but historically payments only appear to have been made to Inverkeithing. (LC advised £5000 is set aside so far; funding levy is 5p per ton of extracted stone; blasting trials currently underway). On query from BA, LC will follow up on looking closer at the Undertaking document and compilation of the Trustees.</p> <p>LC highlighted poor state of BT telephone box on Main Road. LC will contact BT re possible painting/adoption of the Box.</p> <p>CM, following contact with Stagecoach, it has been agreed that they will attend the next NQCC meeting.</p> <p>Forth Bridges Forum held a public consultation attended by some village residents.</p>	<p>LC</p>

Next Meeting: Thursday 14 May 2015, North Queensferry Community Centre 7.30pm