

Grangemouth incl. Skinflats CC

Minutes of Public

Held Within the Community Education Unit part of the Sports Complex

Date 20th April 2023

Time 7pm

Attending

CClrs W.Inglis, S.Aitkenhead, A.Ross, D.Higgins, K.McIntosh, D.Bellingham, M.Pacitti, K.Porter Police Scotland, J.O'Donnell, M.Randells, J.Reid, L.Carr MoP, A.Nimmo, R.Spears FC Cllrs.

Apologies

CClrs .A.Mullen, M.Richards, M.Tully, M.Tripney, A.Gillies, D.Cameron

Data Protection and meeting recording warning given

Police Scotland Report

Circulated to colleagues prior to meeting and read out by M.P. for the benefit of attending members of the public.

MoP attending raised concerns with regard to youth disorder in relation to the actions of a specific individual. The individual concerned is known to various agencies however there appears to be a breakdown in coordinated responses to effect a resolution to issues caused and ongoing. MoP were advised to keep reporting any instances of disorder to the authorities as a means of establishing a body of evidence that would support action to resolve what is an ongoing issue. R.S. recommended maintaining a diary of events.

Further concerns were raised with officers attending in relation to slow response to calls to PS for assistance when reporting issues.

W.I. acknowledged that slow response was frustrating to those experiencing the problems but as referred to earlier encouraged people to continue to report incidents as a means of providing evidence to support requests for increased police resource to resolve the problems being reported. W.I. also highlighted the limitations on what the CC can do in terms of solving the problem. The attendance of MoP at the meeting was welcomed and they were encouraged to return to future meetings. In this instance their concerns have been directly reported too PS but in the absence of a PS representation at future meetings the CC would forward any issues raised to PS on behalf of the MoP.

W.I. sought clarification as to whether the individual being referred too was already known to the authorities and if so what is the status of any intervention? W.I. requested that officers attending take away a request for an update and provide feedback to those affected by the actions of the individual. From a CC perspective all we are seeking is a

response from all the authorities relative to a specific and escalating issue that is becoming a wider community issue.

MoP asked if PS were aware of local shops selling vapes to children.

SEPA Report

Circulated to colleagues prior to meeting. W.I. read out report for the benefit of MoP attending.

D.H. and K.Mcl. both reported lack of response from SEPA in relation to Fish Odour within the Town Centre. W.I. requested confirmation of dates to facilitate further enquiry.

R.S. noted that there was an ongoing enquiry by FC environmental health reference potential leakage into the River Carron.

W.I. advised that he had attended a SEPA workshop to discuss the establishment of a Regulatory Hub for Grangemouth. This is a developing process based around operators applying "Ethical Standards" rather than being policed on a rules and punishment basis. It is very much an embryonic approach based on a principal of do no harm.

Presentation Slot (none scheduled)

Minutes of Previous Meeting

As none of the attendees at the previous meeting were in attendance at the current meeting the previous meeting minute acceptance will be deferred to the next meeting

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting Minutes

R.S. provided feedback reference a matter raised in the course of the previous meeting that had been causing concern for some Town Centre businesses. A report has been provided by FC Environmental Health clarifying the situation.

Correspondence

Circulated to colleagues prior to meeting

Planning/GFIB/Greener Grangemouth Project

No significant applications noted.

A.N. advised that the HMO application at the Ellwyn had been called in by him for planning committee consideration and had subsequently been referred for an unaccompanied site visit. R.S. expressed concern that an unaccompanied site visit fell short of providing an opportunity for local elected members to attend and express the views brought to them by MoP who had not initially been aware of the application. S.A. raised a further concern that Grangemouth does not have an elected representative on the planning committee, given the raft of projected developments within Grangemouth, including: Grangemouth Flood Protection Scheme, Falkirk/Grangemouth Growth Deal incorporating the Greener Grangemouth Project and the potential for Green

Port developments. Given the significant impact of these developments on the community of Grangemouth specifically, this is seen a potential democratic deficit.

Further concerns were expressed about the number of planning applications that are being granted under delegated powers.

A.N. also highlighted the high number of HMOs within Grangemouth when compared with other Falkirk council locations. It was highlighted that over provision is not a valid reason for objection under current planning legislation.

S.A. posed the question how can we address the issue of over provision within a community that has 5 areas of multiple deprivation and low health profile. The plethora of fast food and drinks licensed premises within the community is doing nothing to address the associated issues and is clearly sending a mixed message to those most in need of support.

W.I. advised that although the planning system would not appear to be reflecting the communities view on HMO applications there does remain the Licensing process that would offer opportunity for further comment.

W.I. raised the opportunity to develop a Place Plan for Grangemouth and posed the question to those present:

Would you or anyone you know be willing to participate in developing a Place Plan?

W.I. explained in outline how that process might work, tentative contact has been made to planning officers to further understand how a Place Plan will fit in with all of the other proposed initiatives proposed for Grangemouth.

Local Community Plan

CAP Coordination Group meeting scheduled for May the 23rd.

Treasurers Report

No change since last meeting, current balance £2962.52

Matters raised by MoP

Fly tipping by council contractor staff related to Portal Road upgrades.

S.A. requested that the council in general needs to be encouraged to use the name change of the Kingseat Ave. bridge to the Children's Day Bridge in all of their communications.

Next Meeting

May 18th @ 7pm

Community Education Unit

