



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11TH JANUARY 2017 IN THE SMALL UPPER ROOM IN BO'NESS LIBRARY.

1. Welcome

Madelene extended a warm welcome to the room.

2. Sederunt

Madelene Hunt [Chair], Lennox Ainslie [Vice-Chair], Joan Boyd [Secretary], Ian Don, [Treasurer] Ashley Sneddon [Minutes Secretary], Stuart McAllister, Alex King, Robyn Adamson, Siobhan Sansom, Owen Griffiths, and Councillor Adrian Mahoney arrived at 7.40pm

3. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence.

4. Police Report

Report Presented by: PC Graeme McDougall

The purpose of this report is to provide the local community and local stakeholders with information on policing issues affecting the Bo'ness & Blackness ward area.

Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence & Disorder

There have been 19 incidents of ASB over the previous month. There have been numerous acts of vandalism to vehicles within the Deanfield and surrounding areas. There have been no crimes of serious violence but have been 5 minor assaults reported to Police.

Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse

Over the previous month, there has been no Drug Search warrant enforced within the Bo'ness area. 2 persons have been found in possession of controlled substances.

Road Safety

There has been 8 speeding offences detected, 1 MOT offence, 2 Insurance offences, 2 license offences, and a female charged with numerous offences including drink driving.

Dishonesty Crimes

There has been 1 housebreaking offence relating to residential property, here has been 1 theft of a motor vehicle and 3 thefts from motor vehicles. There is no identified pattern or repeat location. There have been 5 minor thefts.

4 of these relate to thefts of refuse bins from the Castlehill area. Again similarly to last month this is in order to set fires.

Questions to the Police Officer

Q: There is a van parked in Crawfield Road every night, which is both parked near the junction and is very difficult to see in the dark. I am concerned this poses a hazard to drivers, can something be done?

A: P.C MacDougall assures that although it is difficult to judge the level of hazard this van poses without investigating, police will look into it.

Q: Is a taxi parked outside a residential area considered a noise nuisance, if its engine is running for 20-30 minutes? The driver is sitting in the car in this instance.

A: An idle, empty car sitting for that long with the engine running can be ticketed, but if the driver is present, it is very hard to make it a ticketable offence. The car would have to be causing a major noise disturbance in this instance.

Q: Youths are riding quad bikes at very high speeds around the Cadzow area, with no helmets and dark clothing. As they also ride in the evening, when it currently gets dark early, I am concerned they may present a hazard to people walking in the area, as well as to themselves?

A: PC MacDougall assures the police will monitor this area and advise any youths to wear helmets and reflective clothing, as well as the regulations on riding quad bikes in residential areas. Insurance, road tax and a license is also necessary

Community Safety Team in Attendance – Community Safety Report:

Bo’ness Community Council Meeting
11 January 2017
COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

ASB Reports

Please note, figures relate to the previous full calendar month.

Period: 01/12/16 – 31/12/16

Total ASB Reports Falkirk Council Area	Breakdown of 3 geographical areas		
	EAST- Grangemouth, Bo’ness, Braes	WEST-Denny, Dunipace, Bonnybridge, Haggs, Banknock	CENTRAL-Falkirk North and South
95	38	23	34

Hotspot Patrols

Area	Issues	Actions
Kinneil Woods	Youths gathering, drinking and being a nuisance.	We identify hotspot areas through a multi-agency tasking group involving Police, Housing, SACRO, Fire Service and Detached Youth. These are areas experiencing high levels of antisocial behaviour.

Investigations: Period 01/12/16 – 31/12/16

ASB Concern	No of reports
Dog Fouling & Control of Dogs	22
Litter/Fly Tipping	7
Youth related disorder	7
Other	2

Young people have been reported as hanging around in Kinneil Woods, but the team does not go into the woods in the dark because of health and safety. If the youths are causing particular problems, such as starting fires or destructive behaviour, phoning the police is advised to the public in these instances.

Fly tipping has been reported as being ‘extremely bad’ at Nether Kinneil.

At Pennelton Place, the dog bin has been broken off and is now gone. The Safety Team advised that if the bin is being vandalized on a regular basis, it will probably not be replaced, but the team will look into this incident, regardless.

As the amount of dog bins have been cut, some have been reported to be overflowing, with bags laid at the side of the bin. Members of the public concerned about this should contact Street Cleansing at the Council as soon as possible.

The Community Safety Team can be contacted at the following:

Phone: 0808 100 3161 (Freephone 24/7)

Email: community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/crime-antisocial/antisocial-behaviour/community-safety/community-safety-team.aspx> (which also contains information on who the team is and what they do.)

You can also find interesting information on:

Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FalkirkLitterTeam (please like and share)

Twitter account at www.twitter.com/LitterTeam

5. Minutes of Wednesday 11th January 2017

Minutes read and proposed by Stuart McAllister and seconded by Alex King.

5. Matters Arising

Madelene – The letter of support from the Community Council requested by Ross Jardine and Alan Gow on funding for their project of World War 2 (please see December minutes for full details) has been written and will be given to them promptly.

7. Reports

Ian Don – Nothing to report.

David Findlay – David is a member of the Caledonian Choir which held a Christmas Concert in Falkirk Town Hall, this was very well attended

Owen Griffiths – Nothing to report.

Siobhan Sansom– Siobhan spoke to David Patterson and there is no Ineos Planning Application submitted as yet.

Robyn Adamson – The Christmas trains did very well and were very successful. Madelene noted that public feedback had been brilliant and the Community Council commended Robyn for her work on the trains.

Ashley Sneddon – The town's events group has not met since the Christmas event, but is planning to meet in January to decide and outline their plans for the year coming. Public feedback of the events was good and, in general, members of the public expressed a desire to see more of them and praised the shop owners for their work during the Christmas period.

Alex King – Nothing to report.

Stuart McAllister

Planning Applications

Application No: P/17/0007/FUL

Application Type Planning Permission

Proposal: Alteration and Change of Use from Office to Flatted Dwelling

Location: 56 South Street, Bo'ness EH51 9HA

8. Correspondence. [Secretary] Joan Boyd.

Correspondence E-mails and information forwarded to members since the last meeting: including budget comments from the sub-group.

9. Madelene Hunt [Chair]

Madelene would like to see the bandstand at Bo'ness Town Hall restored and back in regular use, especially during the summer months. She feels this would be a worthwhile restoration project, as it would not only maintain Bo'ness' heritage, but significantly add to the town's spirit, as well as increasing the use of the grounds of the Town Hall. Madelene is currently looking into avenues for funding this project.

Report – Delivered by Councillor Adrian Mahoney

There was a recent meeting about the Bo'ness Buoy, where it was mentioned about the tunnel under the River Forth from Bo'ness to High Valleyfield in Fife. This will be highlighted by IFLI who are carrying out projects around the foreshore revealed. The buoy project is being led by BCC. IFLI are installing special benches and these will tie in with the Buoy seating and information panels.

The Kinneil Estate Beacon has been removed and is due to be replaced sometime soon with a metal sign. There are concerns that this sign may not tie in to the aesthetic of the estate, and somewhat negate the historical aspect of it. The Community Council felt the community should have been consulted prior to this sign being decided.

Councillor Mahoney is looking into this to find out if a more suitable sign could be arranged.

Bo'ness can now be classed as a world heritage site, if the community decides it should be one. As this is a big decision and there are many pluses and negatives, further discussion with the community is required.

At a participatory budget meeting, it was revealed that Bo'ness could get a potential 1% of the £300 million government budget – a total amounting to £30,000. Proposals are required and Councillor Mahoney suggested that the money could be used in projects and investments that will allow that money to grow. The budget itself will be set on the 22nd of February.

10. A.O.C.B.

Stuart – Raised a concern that a member of the public had mentioned: that the Post Office would be closed.

Although the Post Office is currently for sale, no one on the Community Council, or Councillor Mahoney, was aware of an imminent closure. It is assumed it will stay open as normal, when sold, as there has been no notice of closure.

Alex – Raised a concern over people parking opposite each other near the Co-op on Linlithgow Road. This is making driving particularly hazardous at the moment, as there is so little space to manoeuvre. Joan will check this as although double yellow lines have been painted on the east side they are not covering enough length here to stop the double parking.

As there was no further business Alex King proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 8TH FEBRUARY AT 7PM