 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 10th August 2022**

**Bo’ness Library – Small Meeting Room 7pm**

1. **Welcome**

Madelene welcomed everyone to the meeting. Madelene wished Councillor Devine a swift recovery from her leg injury. Councillor Devine explained that as she is on crutches her movement is restricted but she is hopeful of still being able to attend her surgeries.

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Owen Griffiths (Vice Convenor) Lennox Ainslie, Stuart McAllister, Val Spowart, Austin Reid, Wendy Turner

**In attendance**: Councillor Stacey Devine, Councillor David Aitchison, Lorna Weir (Bloomin Bo’ness), PC Graeme McDougall

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Brian Laird, Stephen Baird, Ashley Snedden

Non-attendance: Gaele McFarlane

1. **Minutes of the 8th July2022 meeting**

Minutes were accepted with approved amendments.

1. **Matters Arising**

**Cars4U –** Councillor Devine reported that there has been a surge in requests for this service and it is now standing at 64 for the coming month. There is still a need for additional drivers however 10 new drivers have been recruited. Austin Reid reported as part of the induction for drivers they are taken to the three hospitals so they know the route. Councillor Devine had not had a n opportunity to work on the poster due to her accident.

**Bench for Outside Branches Shop –** Councillor Aitchison reported that the relevant person from Falkirk Council would contact Branches directly about a bench.

**Updating Website –** Madelene Hunt asked about updating the website. Owen Griffiths agreed to create a tutorial for updating the website.

**Bloomin Bo’ness** - Lorna Weir attended the meeting to update on the work of the group and their fundraising via sponsors for the Bo’ness flowerbeds. She confirmed that the group is a Charity and has a Management Committee. Lorna explained that she had contacted Bo’net about joining but had not heard anything.to answer questions about the stones placed at the War Memorial and at Harcus Strachan’s Memorial. Madelene Hunt explained that she had received a complaint about the stones at the War Memorial and Harcus Strachan Memorial. Lorna Weir explained that she had received 100s of messages congratulating the group on their work. The War Memorial stones will be returned for November 2022. Lennox Ainslie suggested speaking to the Royal British Legion about this. Austin Reid congratulated Lorna and her team for all their hard work and described it as Bo’ness Community working at its best.

1. **Police Report**

PC Graeme McDougall presented the Police Reports. Madelene Hunt raised the issue of parking in Jamieson Avenue. She has spoken to Robert Sneddon of Newtown Park about this. There is double-parking when the football is on in Douglas Park. PC McDougall reported that driving on a pavement is illegal but parking isn’t currently a crime. It was agreed that educating the public to understand the importance of finding a safe places to park is important. Councillor Devine reported on the issue in Ochilview Terrace where there are many children affected by poor parking. PC McDougall agreed to look into doing a leaflet drop to remind residents. There are insufficient patrols to do a handheld radar check.

1. **Reports**

**Austin Reid –** reported that Cars4U is expanding dramatically and more volunteers are needed**.**

**Wendy Turner** – reported on the noise from various factories. It is difficult to pinpoint where the noise is coming from. Councillor Aitchison recommended keeping a diary and also to see if it’s possible to pinpoint where the nose is coming from. She also reported on the new Litter picking boards and equipment at Kinneil and involvement of the Primary School. She reported on the Bo’ness Community Forum which is now meeting monthly. The first meeting was at McMoos.

**Lennox Ainslie –** reported on the situation with Town Centre toilets being closed. Toilets are available in Tesco, Library and Town Centre cafes. The toilet at Kinneil Walled Garden is also now open. There was discussion about the cost of re-opening the toilets and whether the Community could take this on; as well as whether this is discriminatory under the Disability Act. Councillor Devine agreed to get the details for the cost of re-opening the toilets.

**Stuart McAllister** – reported that there were no new Planning Applications. Madelene Hunt reported on a new house being built at Catherine Grove.

**Owen Griffiths –** Nothing to report. Agreed to create tutorial for website updating.

**Councillor Devine –** reported that her surgeries are busy and she is dealing with many issues. She is taking calls and Teams meetings as well as in person meetings. There are complex issues to be resolved. She reported that the rubbish at the back of Pozzo’s Newsagent has been cleared away.

**Councillor Aitchison –** reported on the local Community Council elections.

**Madelene Hunt** – reported that the library budget is now overspent due to inflation of costs. Work has been postponed again and an update is awaited.

1. **Correspondence**

Madelene Hunt reported that she had received communication from Brian Pirie about the Community Council elections.

1. **AOCB**

Madelene Hunt spoke about the Community Council Elections. There will be social media posts to encourage people to nominate themselves for the elections. Madelene

Hunt reported that the Code of Conduct and Constitution require updating. All households will have the opportunity to vote for 10 Community Councillors. The current Councillors remain until the elections.

Lennox Ainslie proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 14th September 2022 at 7pm in the small room at the Library**