 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2022**

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

1. **Welcome**

Madelene welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Ros Gibbons of Sustrans and Greenways.

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Lennox Ainslie, Stuart McAllister, Val Spowart, Brian Laird, Stephen Baird

**In attendance**: Councillor Stacey Devine, Councillor David Aitchison, Ros Gibbons (Sustrans), Adrian Mahoney

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Owen Griffiths

Non-attendance: Gaele McFarlane, Ashley Snedden

1. **Minutes of the 8th June 2022 meeting**

Minutes were accepted as read.

1. **Presentation by Ros Gibbons of SUSTRANS**

Ros Gibbons attended to give a presentation about the new Foreshore Playpark. She reported that there was a list of complaints about the workmanship. The CEO of the installation company had visited the site and agreed to make good the poor work. However, there had also been vandalism of the Whale Tail. He agreed to resolve this too as a sign of good faith. Ros listed all the work that was to be done and they agreed to fence off the area during the work and to clean up the site after completing the work. Ros explained there is an annual maintenance contract and a 5 yearly overview check. She also explained there will be Interpretation Panels and a listening post at the double bench. Councillor Devine explained that she had received direct complaints in particular about the location of the park and accessibility issues. Ros explained that the site chosen was the only one available after thee planning applications. She also explained that a number of the play pieces are accessible. She reported that it is already being well used and its anticipated that it will receive a lot of use once completed. Ros agreed to send details to Madelene Hunt so accurate information can be loaded onto Bo’ness Natters. Adrian Mahoney asked for an update on Foreshore signage. Councillor Devine and Aitchison are dealing with this matter. Ros explained that the community had asked for a picnic bench and more benches at the Playpark. She would like to hold a Community Event to celebrate the completion of the Playpark.

Ros also reported on the Seawall Mural Project by Scott Gilbert and asked for support in getting the Community involved. Stephen Baird suggested getting local schools involved in the design work. Madelene Hunt reported on the Roman Mural, which she has been working on with Danny Thallon of Falkirk Council.

Ros reported on funding by Artworks for community art projects. Ros will send the link to Madelene Hunt.

1. **Matters Arising**

**Cars4U –** Val Spowart reported on a meeting about this group. They are currently struggling for drivers and need admin support. Rod is speaking to local groups to see if he can recruit drivers. Councillor Devine offered to create a more eye-catching design for the poster and publicity. Val reported that they need 10 drivers.

**Cemetery Roads** – Councillor Devine that she is now responsible for Cemeteries and will report on progress.

1. **Police Report**

PC Graeme McDougall presented the Police Reports. There was discussion of the South Street Building. It is believed Falkirk Council have c.£500k earmarked for the Town Centre including refurbishing this building. It is believed that the fire may have been arson and not an accident. He also reported the people responsible for the vandalism at the Railway had been arrested.

1. **Reports**

**Madelene Hunt –** reported on the Community Council elections and explained that Brian Pirie wanted to make a promotional video to raise awareness and encourage nominations. This would feature successful BCC Projects.

Bike Parking **-** Madelene reported that are a number of places to park bikes in the Town Centre**.** Stephen asked if the Electric Bikes could be placed elsewhere but Councillor Devine reported that they are intended to be used to explore the John Muir Way. Stephen asked if the number of bikes could be increased. Brian Laird reported that the bikes are being well used. Councillor Devine reported that currently Blackness is being looked at for development.

Madelene reported on the placing of inappropriate stones around the Harcus Strachan Memorial. Councillor Devine agreed to speak to Bloomin Bo’ness about this. She also suggested inviting Bloomin Bo’ness to a future meeting so that their plans could be shared.

All BCC meetings are open to all residents in the area and anyone can address the meeting with permission of the Convenor.

**Stephen Baird –** asked about the £6.2m Prosperity Fund. Councillor Devine agreed to look into this and report back. Councillor Devine reported on the Community Choices Funding which is currently available.

Stephen reported that the noise from the Miller site was still excessive. This is happening 6 days a week, 12 hours a day. Councillor Aitchison offered to follow this up and raise it on behalf of the Drum Residents.

Stephen reported on the need for litter bins in the Drum Estate as well as the new Miller Homes. Councillor Devine reported that this is the responsibility of the factor. She recommended speaking directly to them and if its not clear which Factor should be contacted to send the email to all three and to copy in the Councillors.

**Wendy Turner** – reported that she has stepped down as Chair of The Barony Theatre but will continue to be involved.

**Lennox Ainslie –** reported that Fair Day and the Fair Day Dinner were very successful. He reported that having to get three quotes for everything to satisfy Council funding is challenging. Bo’ness Town toilets were not opened but Falkirk Council gave £2k for hire of Portaloos as part of Falkirk Council funding for the Fair Day. He reported that the clean up of the Glebe and Douglas Parks had gone well and the Bo’ness Community Clean Up Group had less to do than they thought.

**Brian Laird** – reported that Miller Homes are building on the Public Right of Way. Councillor Aitchison offered to follow this up.

**Val Spowart** – reported on parking in the Market Square. Car are being parked on the paved pedestrian area. Councillor Aitchison offered to follow this up. Val reported that Branches would be prepared to buy a bench to help prevent parking.

**Stuart McAllister** – reported that there were no new Planning Applications and that the Ogilvie Homs application was for a re-design of five of the houses.

1. **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence to report on. However, scam emails are being received.

1. **AOCB**

Adrian Mahoney asked about the budget that had been set aside for the upgrade of the building that burnt down. Adrian agreed to email Councillor Devine to ask for an update on this funding and funding for the Library Project. Madelene Hunt suggested that a meeting with Jackie McArthur should take place. Wendy Turner asked about the Strategic Property Review. Councillor explained that as this was completed by Falkirk Community Trust it would be re-examined under the new Falkirk Council structure

Lennox Ainslie proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 10th August 2022 at 7pm in the small room at the Library**