



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 8th February 2023

St. Catharine's Church Hall 7.30pm

1. Welcome

Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed us that Dandara hoped to attend our next meeting. Madelene also explained that until further notice, this would be the meeting place for future meetings whilst renovations were being carried out at the Library and the meeting room would be unavailable meantime.

Sederunt

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Jaine McLean (Secretary), Brian Dempsey (Treasurer), Owen Griffiths (Vice Convenor), Lennox Ainslie, Stuart McAllister, Val Spowart, Stephen Baird, Brian Laird, John Ogden and Gordon Clark.

In attendance:

Councillor David Aitchison and PC Graeme McDougall

2. Apologies for Absence

Matteo Petrozzo, Wendy Turner, Councillor Stacey Devine, Councillor Anne Ritchie

3. Minutes of the 11th January 2023 meeting

Minutes were accepted with approved amendments.

4. Matters Arising

Dealt with in minutes.

5. Police Report

PC Graeme McDougall presented the Police Report for crimes that had taken place locally over the last month.

6. Reports

John Ogden reported that he had noticed fly-tipping had been taking place again near Nether Kinneil.

Brian Laird fly-tipping is also still a problem at the layby on the outskirts of Bo'ness where lorries park, sometimes overnight and also at the Murray's again.

After some discussion we agreed a possible solution may be to introduce large skips for refuse to try and reduce fly-tipping and number of council van journeys and man hours to clear. Find the hot-spots and locate cameras to deter as well encouraging members of the public to report others anonymously online etc.

Councillor David Aitchison The Falkirk Council Budget is going to take place in a few weeks. Then we will find out what else they propose to cut back on and which resources are going to be affected.

Presently, the Council Tax makes up approximately 20% of the Falkirk Council Budget.

Stephen Baird believed that once all of the prospective contractors planning permission to go ahead with their projects, we are looking at something in the region of 1,200 new homes, the majority of which are private and only a small minority affordable being built in the next few years.

Jaine McLean mentioned that they were grateful to have been donated a greenhouse which will be put to good use. Also, discovered that she may be able to apply for funding from both the Bo'ness Common Good Fund and Tesco Funding.

4000 bulbs are being planted around the Orchard by Friends of Kinneil. The Hidden Heritage is at the next stage of being able to put a Lottery Bid forward.

Drains have now been cleaned at the bottom of Carriden Brae, however there have been reports from residents regarding heavy vehicles causing a disturbance in the early hours of the morning.

Also, some are not following the correct route along Dock Street avoiding the town center but following Sat Nav directions. Maybe better signage is required and another one earlier to inform them as they approach.

Brian Laird asking for more clear stop signs at road junctions.

Owen Griffiths attended along with several other BCC members the meeting in Bo'ness Academy regarding the closure of Bo'ness Recreation Centre, Bo'ness Town Hall mainly and the reasons why and when from FC officers. The meeting was well very well attended. Everyone had an opportunity to let FC know their feelings when completing an online questionnaire.

Owen has also submitted a Freedom of Information Request to FC regarding the matter and also forwarded a list of questions for which he should expect a reply within 20 working days.

Billy Horn keen to re-investigate the possibility of the public toilets re-opening again, this must happen. I've been in contact with Arthur Berg, i/c Third Sector Life. Health and Safety have also been contacted and Billy strongly believes that with Community Group Ownership, this project could be opened for £6k per annum.

According to Billy, as far as he believes there have been no discussion between BCC and FC officials to resolve this matter.

Brian Dempsey "Fresh Air Fitness" Similar to indoor gyms at leisure centres, there are already more than 3500 outdoor gyms in 15 years. Click on link to find out about it:

www.youtube.com/c/FreshAirFitnessOutdoorGymEquipment

Lennox Ainslie fly-tipping on the Flints and near the Golf Club.

7. **McLaren Trophy** the recipients this year are Bo'ness Community Football Club

8. Correspondence

Madelene Hunt details of the meeting at the Scottish Parliament. If anyone is interested, please let me know.

I have a letter from Miller Homes - Northbank Farm (Planning Permission Appeal)

There was site visit by the reporter on 28 April 2022

Date of Appeal Decision is 03 February 2023

9. **Madelene Hunt** both Madelene and Jaine complained to Owen Griffiths that the current Mailbox system is not easy to access. He reminded them that they shouldn't be using personal email addresses for external correspondence, and he concluded that he could resolve that matter.

Lennox Ainslie proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 8th March 2023 at 7.30pm at St Catharine's Church Hall