

**Bo'ness Community Council**  
**Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 11th November 2015**  
**In Small Upper Meeting Room, 19:00 Bo'ness Library**

**Present:** Madelene Hunt [Chair], Len Ainslie, David Findlay, David Aitchison, Joan Boyd, Tom Sargent, Robyn Adamson, Liliias Snedden and Alex King.

**Apologies:** Ian Don, Maria Ford, Robert Snedden, Stuart McAllister and Adrian Mahoney,

**In attendance:** Community Police Officer Greg Cruickshank

Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone and brought the meeting to order.

**Police Report**

There were a total of 62 incidents this month of which 37 have been detected.

**Anti-Social Behaviour:**

There has been no single significant incident of A.S.B over the previous month. There were 6 Breaches of the Peace. There are no repeat or priority locations in terms of A.S.B Disorder and Violence.

**Road Safety:**

During this period there have been 29 offences, 7 speeding and 22 other.

**Dishonesty Crimes:**

There has been 9 Acquisitive Crimes (Shoplifting) of which 5 have been detected.

**Other Local Issues and Events:**

The Convener has been invited to a meeting with Inspector Christopher Stewart, Area Inspector, Grangemouth Sub-Area Command.

**REPORTS**

### **Lennox Ainslie**

Nothing to Report.

### **David Findlay**

David thanked everyone who came to the Church and Cenotaph. David, Madelene, Lennox and Joan represented the Community Council at The Remembrance Festival held by Falkirk Council. Although poignant, this was an excellent, thoroughly enjoyable event.

### **David Aitchison**

Newton Park Association has been successful in achieving Stage 1 of the grant funding process from Falkirk Community Trust.

### **Tom Sargent**

Tom commented on this being Book Week Scotland and that it was Robert Louis Stevenson Day on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Robyn Adamson**

Nothing to Report

### **Alex King**

Alex commented on an article relating to the Fracking Debate in Scotland. Stirling University suggests that Scotland can lead the world in assessing the public health aspects of unconventional gas extraction, including fracking. The Scottish Government's moratorium on unconventional gas extraction (UGE) processes will continue until a full report on the technology is published. New research at Stirling University suggests there are serious problems in making that assessment. The paper published in the New Solutions Health Journal, has outlined the complexities such an assessment presents and how Scotland can set the bench benchmark for other nations.

Alex also commented on the repair work being carried out to the house that was burned out and how quickly the damaged interior has been removed and the work started.

### **Lilias Snedden**

IT training has started in Dean Court and Craig View on a Monday (Duke of Edinburgh Award) and on a Thursday (Life Long Learning Skills). ICT training is available at the Academy on Wednesday mornings. The Academy is running stress control sessions, mainly aimed at pupils to help with exam stress. Members of the community can go along. This will be running for the next two weeks.

Lilias attended the Sweden Youth Congress related to social sustainability. She found it very interesting talking to individuals from Germany, Italy and Sweden, learned and confirmed a lot. She offered to send us a copy of her report.

### **Joan Boyd**

Joan mentioned that the Scottish government has temporarily agreed to include a ban on UCG in the current moratorium. However, companies are still to be allowed to undertake test drilling and can apply to do so through the Planning Application process. We will have to keep an eye on that. The whole question of whether the moratorium will hold is not clear. The SNP has stated it will review this after the health impact assessment however there is concern that it will be removed. 14000 people (38 degrees members) sent e-mails to their MPs about voting to include UCG in the moratorium.

The UCG event on the Forth Road Bridge was deemed a great success by the organizers and some newspapers. Cars honked in support, and bikers joined in too. There were groups from other parts of the country at the event. There was also quite a bit of concern raised about INEOS having been given the go ahead to start test drilling for unconventional gas in Scotland.

I attended the consultation feedback presentation made by Falkirk Council to residents of Salmond Court about potential improvements. One of the issues raised by the residents attending was that they feel unsafe crossing the road and wanted a crossing put outside the building. Some mentioned that they cannot see cars coming into the road at the corner because of parked vehicles. I did explain that we have raised the issue of

parking, had agreed improvements to the yellow lines at the other end and that the police are aware of the issues in relation to parking.

The resident's suggested that they would like some entertainment at the complex and there was a suggestion that perhaps local schools might somehow be involved with that. The matter of entertainment will have to be discussed with all residents before any decisions are made. It was felt that the residents, themselves, need to lead and arrange this aspect.

The exhibition about the consultation on proposed woodland management at Deanburn Glen was very interesting. The map shows the position and size of the area. The proposed work will include improving steps and paths where appropriate/needed and clearing the woodland area where required. This could be a 'little gem' within Bo'ness and the grassland was bigger than I had imagined. I mentioned dog poo bins and asked about any plans for ongoing maintenance. There will be a plan for maintenance initially but it is not clear how this will continue after any period of maintenance agreed finished. Volunteers to pick litter would be welcomed.

Bo'ness Community Safety Group: The Portacabin in Boundary Street has been painted and signage will be put in place in due course.

Potential Project. – Initially, a meeting took place between interested parties in regard to issues facing young people in the town who need support. The level of support available at present was identified, who provides this, the availability of that support and the ease of access by young people. We then met last month to discuss where the gaps in provision are, what might need to be provided, how realistic this is and whether there is a joint collaborative project that can be worked on/supported. Avenue is interested in free training that has been offered. We also heard from three young people regarding their experience and now wish to consult further with a wider group of young people in the town.

### **Correspondence**

Emails:

Alistair Shaw of Falkirk Council sent an e-mail related to the Local Development Plan. The Council is holding Stakeholder Workshops as part of the consultation process to help the preparation of the Main issues Report. Responses are required by 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016. It also mentioned a training session on Local Development Planning which Madelene, Lennox and Stuart are attending.

### **Planning**

Bakkavor (Caledonian Produce) has been granted permission for 3 temporary buildings in which refrigerated Units will be housed.

Robyn Adamson raised a question about sheds at Anderson's and Madelene will check this out.

There being no other AOCB the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.