



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12.12.18 IN THE SMALL UPPER ROOM IN BO'NESS LIBRARY.

1. Welcome

Madelene extended a warm welcome to the group,

2. Sederunt

Madelene Hunt (Chair), Lennox Ainslie (Vice-Chair), Joan Boyd (Secretary), Ashley Sneddon (Minutes Secretary), Siobhan Samson, Alex King, Stuart McAllister, Alan Gilbert, Owen Griffiths, Robyn Adamson, Valerie Spowart and Gail Nash.

3. In Attendance

Alex Orr Managing Director Orbit, Charles Church from AWG and Nigel Nicol from Mactaggart & Mickel.

4. Apologies for Absence

Ashley Sneddon, Ian Don and Wendy Turner.

No Members of Public in Attendance

5. Police Report - Officers in attendance: PC Graeme McDougall & PC Greg Cruickshank

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. See Appendix 1

Questions and Answers to the Police Officers

“Is there any awareness of groups working the area who are targeting homes” There is an awareness of groups out with the area targeting homes. This is not related to the incidents of doors handles been tried in Bo'ness, a male has been identified in relation to that and an arrest will be made. Overall the number of vehicle thefts has reduced in the Bo'ness area.

Query raised over the pop in shop in Falkirk Howgate Shopping Centre. This is a temporary measure over the festive period to highlight shoplifting with a number of parties involved including Scottish Fire and Rescue and local safety groups, including Bo'ness Community Safety Group.

A parking enforcement question was raised. PC McDougall confirmed that the police can only ticket drivers parked on zig zag lines out with school and disabled bays. All other parking offences would now come under the remit of Falkirk Council.

Chief Inspector Damian Armstrong has been on annual leave which is why there has been no response to the idea submitted to have a community police hub in Cowdenhill Community Hall. We look forward to having a response in due course.

6. Crawfield Road Proposed Development Presentation

Presentation from Alex Orr, Charles Church, Nigel Nicol in relation to a proposed development at Crawfield Road, despite this area not being in the local development plan. Decisions on this area for development would not be decided until likely the end of 2019. No proposal of application has been entered by Mactaggart & Mickel, the decision on whether to submit or not will be made after community consultation. The proposal is for an initial development of 225 homes, 70 of which would be affordable housing. Two consultation events have already taken place in Bo'ness, one in Bo'ness Recreation Centre on Monday 3rd Dec and the other in Tesco Bo'ness on Wednesday 5th December, 89 residents submitted good feedback during these events.

Questions

“Are you able to define affordable housing?” The response was no and that this would be determined by Falkirk Council following, most likely, a survey by the housing department on demand to determine what is suitable for the area.

“The plan would be for a lot of greenspace and play areas within the development, who would pay to maintain that long term.” This would not be taken on by Falkirk Council, so it would need to be picked up under factor fees for the site.

“Location, the concern is that the proximity of the site is very close to Linlithgow and would not commercially benefit the town and businesses in Bo'ness” One proposal would be a local shop within the site, but this is not favorable based on experience of doing this on past sites. A voucher scheme could be implemented in the homes as an incentive for home owners to use businesses in the town.

“Concern about flooding in the area.” Preliminary engineering works has already been undertaken and AWG are assured that they can manage the water passing via the site. 3 suds ponds have been built into the site plans to help address this. These should be maintained by Scottish Water going forward but there are issues with adoption of this practice.

Query raised over whether the housing will be eco-friendly, i.e. include solar panels, thicker insulation etc. The buildings will be built to Scottish Government building standards. The demand of people willing to pay for the additional costs which come with building an eco-home is low, but this could be looked at. Generally building regulations require all new houses require a renewable energy, this could be either solar panels or air source heat pumps.

7. COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

No report this month.

8. Minutes of Wednesday 7th November 2018

Corrections: Page 3 Planning – first paragraph, after place insert ‘regarding containers at the old coal yard.’ Second paragraph, insert ‘old’ between the and building.

Matters Arising

The Marcus Strachan memorial - The final bill for the slab will be paid by the end of this month. Applications for funding related to planned seating in the area has been submitted. There is also

a suggestion for a memorial to the animals that lost their lives in WW1. This will be looked at in the New Year.

Joan sent a further update to BCC members on the email from Maria Montinaro relating to BCC support for the submission on behalf of Scottish Community Councils to the Scottish Government Strategic Environmental Assessment of Unconventional Oil & Gas Fracking. A decision needs to be made on how BCC will respond to this when a copy of the submission is received.

Joan has written to Mandy Brown who passed her on to Lesley Sweeney in relation to bins on the John Muir Way. Lesley confirmed that bins could not be placed on the John Muir Way and that Forth Ports did a clean up twice per year. We have also been advised that Lesley is willing to assist with a community led project. The main concern still comes from mess coming from the businesses onto the John Muir way and the Council have no authority to enforce this. BCC will progress this further, to see how we can get around this and improve the appearance of the path. Lesley suggested we have something happening on the 21st April which is John Muir's birthday.

9. REPORTS

Gail Nash – A lot of activity from the cluster group in relation to how the Falkirk Council budget impacts schools in the area. The cluster group have been working closely with the headteachers who have lettered parents asking for engagement on where the cuts could be implemented. Although this cannot be progressed until budget decisions are made by Falkirk Council in January. The cluster group are now working to get a common message out to parents to ensure that all parties are kept up to date with the same information.

Bo'ness Academy have won a national Renaissance Award in relation to work they are undertaking related to reading and attainment levels in the school.

Stuart McAllister – Planning:

Following the last meeting there was discussion and some concern around the coal yard plans submitted for a storage unit site and where the entrance the site would be located, it was confirmed that this would be an unmanned entry gate which would likely be a fob system for entry. This causes great concern to an already dangerous junction that there would be additional traffic sitting waiting to gain access. An email was sent to David Patterson with no reply, this will be followed up. I am looking into this and will report in January.

CORRESPONDENCE

Joan Boyd

E-mail. – Parking Enforcement Scotland - The enforcement of Parking Offences in Falkirk has now become the responsibility of Falkirk Council. A number of local enforcement officers have been trained and will deploy throughout the Falkirk area. Local Police Officers no longer have the ability to issue tickets for vehicles parked on single yellow or double yellow lines, amongst other offences. Issues regarding parking can be brought to the attention of Falkirk Council by calling 01324 506070

E-mail – Confirmation from Alex Orr of Orbit that they will be attending the Community Council meeting on 12th December 2018

E-mail – Edinburgh Airport Advisory Board - The Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board is an independent body set up as a focal point for communities, through which airport noise related issues may be raised and potentially resolved with the Airport Operators.

We note that, the representative of Bo'ness Community Council has not attended the last six monthly meetings of the Board and in accordance with our Terms of Reference is to be removed from our membership listing.

We would be pleased to receive your confirmation or otherwise, that the Bo'ness Community Council no longer wishes to be represented in the Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board.

Owen is our current representative and he suggests that they should only contact us when something immediately and directly relevant to the Bo'ness area comes to fruition. Additionally, if anyone else feels inclined to take it on board, they should feel free to do so.

E-mail – Christmas card from the Provost Buchanan, Falkirk Council.

10. A.O.C.B.

Falkirk Council Budget

There were no comments received back from members on the budget document issued by Joan to BCC members. This document details potential cuts which Falkirk Council Members will vote on in February. It appears that it may be likely that the following could affect the Bo'ness community if these cuts go ahead: it will hit hardest within schools in regard to the withdrawal of breakfast clubs and music tuition. Approx 50 Full Time Equivalent posts are earmarked for cuts across Falkirk district, which will have some affect on Bo'ness Academy. These are likely to come from ASL posts. Bo'ness public toilets are once again earmarked for closure and Social Care provision, specifically with young people. A charge for Brown Bin collection and changes to the timetable is also being considered. Additionally, another issue could be the removal of the current bus subsidy from Falkirk Council, specifically in relation to the Bo'ness-Linlithgow Service. We will not know until February what potential cuts will be approved.

Planning

The BCC planning meeting will be scheduled for February. We need to agree who wishes to be involved in projects and also what type of projects the community would like to be taken forward.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm with a vote of thanks from Len Ainslie to the Chair, who then wished everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

Next meeting is on 9th January 2019 at 7pm in Bo'ness Library Small Meeting Room

POLICE REPORT

Name of
Community
Council:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monthly ward report: | Bo'ness Community Council |
| Date of meeting: | 12/12/2018 |
| Author of report: | PC Graeme McDougall |
| Report presented by: | PC Graeme McDougall |
| Reporting period: | 01/11/2018 – 30/11/2018 |

Foreword:

This monthly report is intended to provide the local community with information on local policing issues and local police activity. Following consultation with the local community, the local priorities for the Bo'ness & Blackness ward area are:

- Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence & Disorder
- Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse
- Road Safety
- Dishonesty Crimes

Please note that any data presented within this report has been extracted from internal systems within Police Scotland and should not, in anyway, be interpreted as official Scottish Government recorded crime statistics.

There has been a total of 45 crime reports raised by Police this month.

- **Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence & Disorder**

There have been 26 crimes of ASB over the previous month. 15 of which were Vandalisms, the others relating to disorder offences. There was no pattern or repeat location.

There were no crimes of serious violence such as Attempted Murder, Serious Assault or Robbery, this was an attempted Murder, victim known to accused.

There have been 9 minor Assaults.

- **Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse**

Over the previous month, no Drug Search warrants were enforced within the Bo'ness area. There have been no offences in relation to possession of controlled substances detected over the past month.

- **Road Safety**

There has been 1 offence for driving with a revoked licence and 2 offences relating to Fail to Stop. 2 hours of Hand Held Radar were carried out with 2 Fixed Penalty tickets issued.

- **Dishonesty Crimes**

There has been 2 Housebreaking offences relating to residential property. There has been no minor Thefts. There has been no Theft from a motor vehicle. There has been 1 Theft of Motor vehicle.

Other offences relate to minor and miscellaneous crimes.

Community Engagement and Reassurance



Police Scotland is launching a new process for public consultation. The aim is to widen the existing consultation process by making the consultation survey available online and accessible all year round. The survey can be found via the Police Scotland website; www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

