



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
DRAFT
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th OCTOBER 2019
IN THE SMALL UPPER ROOM IN BO'NESS LIBRARY

Welcome

Madelene extended a warm welcome to the room.

Sederunt

Madelene Hunt (Chair), Lennox Ainslie (Vice-Chair), Joan Boyd (Secretary), Stuart McAllister, Val Spowart, Robyn Adamson, Siobhan Samson, Alan Gilbert and Wendy Turner.

Owen Griffiths arrived from Aberdeen after meeting had started

In Attendance: Councillor Lynn Munro, Councillor David Aitchison, Barry Sheridan Corporate Policy Officer F.C. and members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Ashley Sneddon, Ian Don and Val Ferguson OBE.

Police Report **Officer in attendance: P. C. Greg Cruikshank and P.C. Graeme McDougall**

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.

Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence & Disorder

Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse

Road Safety

Dishonesty Crimes

Questions and Answers - Concerns were raised about fly-tipping. Response – The police can charge anyone caught in the act of doing so, however, incidences of fly-tipping should be reported to Falkirk Council.

A member commented on an elderly person having been scammed out of £100 for work on a wall.

Chief Inspector Chris Stewart, has been appointed Local Area Commander for the Falkirk Area Command, Forth Valley Division.

5. Minutes of Wednesday 9th October 2019

BCC received a presentation from Barry Sheridan Corporate Policy Officer F.C. He has been involved in running focus groups looking at Council/Community Trust Assets, and is looking to seek views on how services in the town can be delivered more efficiently and at a saving whilst continuing to bring in revenue, whilst ensuring the services which continue to be delivered suit the needs of the community.

It was advised that Co-location premises, where multiple services are delivered under one dual purpose building, are going to be the norm going forward. It was raised that there were a number of locations within the town which could have been used as a co-location hub that have now been removed. The current set up in the library of the advice hub is not fit for purpose and as a result under utilised by the public.

Asset transfer of local buildings i.e. Town Hall was brought up during discussion, it was raised that a venue of this magnitude would not be able to run on volunteers alone. The hall itself is vastly under utilised by Falkirk Council where all resources are focused on Falkirk Town Hall. This point was raised at the Council Meeting in June where closures of local buildings were firstly discussed following the joint paper released by FC and FCT.

It was further cemented that the consultation questionnaire which was pulled together to gain views on the proposed closures was extremely biased with leading responses. This concern was raised by BCC but also members of the public. It was also mentioned that the questionnaire was on line only and biased, alienating a huge part of the population.

Three focus groups will be facilitated by Barry in Bo'ness, Grangemouth and Denny. BCC stressed that the BCC meeting could not be considered a focus group and should be considered a meeting along with a previous meeting with Bo'net. It was advised both meetings could not be considered a view of the community. Barry advised that the purpose of the focus groups is to get agreement on the key principals being considered in the consultation rather than agree actions.

Barry suggested that there would be a more specific consultation which is hoped for at the end of 2019/2020, looking at the specific services and assets at risk and what this means for Bo'ness. BCC raised that at no point have the FCT engaged with Community Councils, when approached to see if we could attend a trust meeting this was declined.

BCC raised that it is public opinion that there is an active smear campaign against facilities in Bo'ness, more specifically the recreation centre. Several members of the public have made it known that when booking activities or classes via FCT booking phonenumber, they have been advised to go elsewhere, or that classes are not running when they are.

Barry advised there will be significant funding to look at what assets are fit for purpose and need renovation v's no longer fit for purpose. BCC commented that there has been such poor investment and maintenance in the town historically.

One example was given of Bo'ness Recreation Centre swimming pool, which is a competition sized pool. Any planned swimming galas always take place in Grangemouth pool which, although it has a full size pool, also includes flumes that make it more family friendly.

A further point was made; the view is that FCT are inefficient at running existing services. Falkirk Town Hall isn't selling out top shows which have been booked, money is being focused on Falkirk but it's not being capitalised on. Last year's Christmas Panto lost £20,000.

A question was raised around whether FC are looking at shared service facilities with other Local Authorities. i.e. bin collection?

BCC will hold a public meeting and follow this up by a workshop which would address the focus group questions and be a true focus group rather than a closed meeting.

Again there was a concern raised about collocating Leisure Facilities with Bo'ness Academy – there is no up to date forecast of pupils based on the recent housing developments, and this is not a custom build shared site which poses a security concern

The areas covered in the consultation include:

Property retained – Bo'ness has no new build properties, if investment is spent on property we'd expect that to remain open. Although the Library appears to be being considered for upgrading and therefore a protected service, the view amongst BCC was that it should remain where is, in the town centre, with a good bus service. It is not practical to move it to another location, i.e. Bo'ness Acadmey which makes it less accessible using public transport.

Investment in adapting properties – It was agreed that we would support this, but not if it meant just bringing buildings to code.

Early disposal of buildings – the strong opinions was that FC/FCT should not be getting rid of buildings if there is no back up plan. We would expect that disposal of buildings in the town and the money retained for land to be kept in the local area. A full explanation of disposal also covering community asset transfer.

Community asset transfer – previous experience with Cowdenhill Hall was that there is little to no support from FC. A one year hand over period from FC to volunteers is unrealistic. Fairytale view of the community running their own assets but there are few people available to maintain a service.

Adrian Mahoney raised that the Historic Buildings Trust might be worth contacting to help support with funding and a vested interest for historical buildings. Might be worth a conversation.

6. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

7. Reports

Len Ainslie – Bo'ness Fair AGM takes place Thursday 10th October in St. Mary Church Hall.

Siobhan Samson – Siobhan reported that surveyors have been seen at the junction of Inchyra Road and Wholeflats Road. She suggested that it may have something to do with the Ineos consent that requires an upgrade to the junction whereby the roundabout is to be replaced with traffic lights. Siobhan suggested that the CC contact Bernard Whittle for an update on the Ineos consent. The CC resolved to contact Bernard.

Siobhan also reported that some people from Warwick University are looking for participants on Monday 21st Oct in the Leapark at 6pm to give their experience of living beside the industrial strip in Grangemouth. The 21st is also the date of the planning meeting re AWG at Bo'ness Academy. It was suggested that perhaps we split up and send members to both.

Siobhan submitted the correspondence re our petition to the Petition's Committee at the Scottish Parliament prior to the meeting and the correspondence was circulated with the minutes. It was agreed that Siobhan should bring the actual petition to the November meeting for approval before submission to the committee.

Madelene Hunt – Madelene raised concern over the planning application from Stewart Milne for a residential development east of Carriden Brae. A motion was agreed that BCC would write a written objection on the development on the matter of safety from the traffic both vehicular and pedestrian on Carriden Brae.

Val Ferguson OBE (emailed report)

Boness Community Bus - The new F49 route between Bo'ness, Blackness and Linlithgow is running well, with no major problems. Passengers on the C19 direct service to and from Edinburgh have welcomed the faster transfer times on this route.

As intimated previously, we are running our first major fundraising event this month. On 18 October we have organised a Race Night in Bridgeness Club, to raise funds towards getting a wheelchair accessible vehicle, to assist those in our community with mobility issues.

Whilst we have secured Sponsors for each race, have sold many of the horses, have sold some of the jockeys; there are still plenty of entry tickets available for the evening. There are superb prizes for every winning horse and jockey, plus prizes for the funniest named horse and jockey – all donated by groups, businesses and individuals in Bo'ness & Falkirk.

We are obviously keen to make this a superb evening and would ask BCC members if they could support the event individually or maybe get a group together to join us for a fun evening. Tickets are £5 for entry. If you wish to name a horse or jockey those are £5 also. Even if you are unable to attend, it would be appreciated if you could share the information with friends or other groups with whom you have contact. Please help us to get this off to a good start, so that we can pursue a successful campaign for wheelchair accessible transport. (I wondered if it would be appropriate to share with the McLaren family, given the award to the Community Bus this year? I will take BCC advice on that, but I don't personally have their contact details). Any help anyone can give to push the tickets for this would be really appreciated. I have attached a flyer for the evening, with contact details.

Stuart McAllister – Planning –

Application No	P/19/0558/FUL Earliest date of decision 4 October 2019
Application Type	Planning Permission
Proposal	Demolition of existing building and erection of Care Home (Class 8)
Location	Bo'ness Care Home 11-11A Bridgeness Lane, Bo'ness, EH51 9LQ
Applicant	Atlantis Medicare Ltd
Case Officer	Julie Seidel (Tel. 01324 504880)
	e-mail Julie.Seidel@falkirk.gov.uk

Application No	P/19/0567/FUL Earliest date of decision 25 October 2019
Application Type	Planning Permission
Proposal	Formation of SUDS Pond
Location	Land to the North of 44 Drum Park Lane, Bo'ness, Harbour Road, Bo'ness
Applicant	Ogilvie Homes
Case Officer	David Paterson (Tel. 01324 504757)
	e-mail David.Paterson@falkirk.gov.uk

Application No	P/19/0579/FUL Earliest date of decision 11 October 2019
Application Type	Listed Building Consent
Proposal	Installation of Catering Pod and internal alterations
Location	Hippodrome 10-12 Hope Street, Bo'ness, EH51 0AA
Applicant	Falkirk Community Trust
Case Officer	Julie Seidel (Tel. 01324 504880)
	e-mail Julie.Seidel@falkirk.gov.uk

There were real concerns raised over the above plans to Bo'ness Hippodrome. It was felt that the proposals were garish and tacky. Bo'ness Hippodrome is a period cinema and an experience, not a chain cinema whose concern is a concession stand. The design is not in keeping with the architecture of the building. There is also the safety aspect for the staff with the new location of the lighting desk, in relation to drink spills or items dropped from height. It was also the suggested placement of the bar would be disturbing for customers.

Joan Boyd

7. Correspondence.

ReRoute has been working with Scottish Natural Heritage and Young Scot to explore and implement ways of engaging young people in Scotland's nature. There is an Invitation from to an event in Edinburgh on 17.10.19 from 1pm -4pm. This interactive event will offer insight into the impact of ReRoute's work over the last 12 months. It will also offer valuable insights into the role young people are playing and can play in Scotland's natural environment.

Madelene received a letter from Brian Greenlaw representing the residents Association regarding P/19/0566/ppp – East of Carriden Brae Housing proposal. The six pages set out the objection and statements related to that. They are asking for our support in supporting their objection.

Letter from Miller Homes stating their disappointment related to the planning application for Northbank Farm.

E-mail from Chris Cox, Falkirk Council, notifying us of the Falkirk Area Bus Stakeholder Meeting on 24th October 2019 at 7.00pm in the Municipal Buildings, Falkirk.

A Letter of introduction from Chief Inspector Chris Stewart, Local Area Commander, Police Scotland Falkirk Area Command has been received. He has previously policed in Bo'ness and is aware of how important Community Policing is in the Town. He stated he is really looking forward to working with local communities across Falkirk to address local concerns.

E-mail from the Licencing Unit Falkirk Council, notifying us of a Public Procession and Parade Application from the British Legion Bo'ness on 10th November 2019. (Remembrance Service). Any comments about this application to be forwarded by 24 October 2019.

Invitation to the Convenor from CVS Falkirk to attend the AGM on 21 November 2019 at St Francis Xavier Church Hall, Hope Street, Falkirk at 1.30pm.

Falkirk Council Falkirk Development Plan Newsletter which was sent out to members today.

POLICE REPORT

APPENDIX 1

Name of
Community
Council:

Monthly ward report: Bo'ness Community Council
Date of meeting: 09/10/2019
Author of report: PC Graeme McDougall
Report presented by: PC Graeme McDougall
Reporting period: 01/09/2019 – 30/09/2019

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 38 crime reports raised by Police this month.

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

There have been 17 crimes of ASB over the previous month.

7 of which were Vandalisms, there is one repeat location for two Vandalisms. The others relating to disorder offences.

There were no crimes of serious violence such as Attempted Murder, Serious Assault or Robbery. There have been 6 minor Assaults.

Other offences relate to minor disorder offences.

- **Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse**

Over the previous month, no Drug Search warrants was enforced within the Bo'ness area.

There have been 1 offences in relation to possession of controlled substances detected over the past month.

- **Road Safety**

There was 1 offence for drink driving, 1 offence for driving whilst unfit, 1 offence of failing to name the driver, 4 offences of Dangerous driving, 1 offence of Careless Driving, 1 offence of Racing and 1 fail to stop

- **Dishonesty Crimes**

There has been 5 Housebreaking offences over the previous month. 1 HB offence relates to a commercial premise and 4 relate to residential properties. Cadzow Crescent and the surrounding area have been targeted, enquiries are ongoing. There has been 6 minor Thefts.

There was 4 offences relating to Theft from a Motor Vehicle, one relating to the Cadzow Crescent area. Vans have been targeted on the same night regarding the 3 other offences. There was no offences for Theft of a 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

Feedback from meeting:

Bo,ness Community Council Meeting
 Wednesday 09th October 2019
COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

ASB Reports Please note, figures relate to the previous full calendar month.

Period: 01/09/19 – 30/08/19

Total ASB Reports Falkirk Council Area	Breakdown of 3 geographical areas		
81	EAST -Grangemouth, Bo'ness, Braes	WEST -Denny, Dunipace, Bonnybridge, Haggs, Banknock	CENTRAL -Falkirk North and South
	30	23	28

Hotspot Patrols

Area	Issues	Actions
NONE		We identify hotspot areas through a multi-agency tasking group involving Police Scotland, Falkirk Housing, SACRO and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. These are areas experiencing high levels of antisocial behaviour.

Investigations: Period 01/09/19 – 30/09/19

ASB Concern	No of reports
Dog Fouling & Control of Dogs	5
Litter & Fly Tipping	25
Youth related disorder	0
Other	0

Current CST activities in the area

The Community Safety Team continues to monitor for Litter, Dog Fouling, Fly- Tipping through patrols and reports received from the Local Community. We are monitoring and patrolling a number of streets and parks in relation to dog fouling, litter and fly tipping. If you have any information relating to those responsible in the areas (or any other), then please do not hesitate to get in touch via the details below. All calls are confidential

Contact Us

Phone	01324 506070	
Email	community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk	
Online	Falkirk Council Website	www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today