



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2021 **Conducted via Digital Media**

1. Welcome

Madelene extended a warm welcome to Steph Miles, a member of the public attending the meeting. The meeting observed a minute's silence for Prince Philip and those who have lost their lives to Covid.

Sederunt

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Stuart McAllister, Joan Boyd, Owen Griffiths, (Vice Convenor), Siobhan Samson (Vice Convenor), Valerie Spowart, Lennox Ainslie, Robyn Adamson, Austin Reid, Brian Laird, Chloe Whyte, Gael Macfarlane, Ashley Sneddon, Wendy Turner (Minute Secretary)

In attendance Councillor Lynn Munro

Madelene Hunt invited Steph Miles to speak to the meeting. Steph asked about the crossing of Dean Road at the top of Cadzow Crescent. There is a dropped pavement and bumps but it is difficult to use if there is no crossing person present. She asks if it could have white lines painted to indicate it's a crossing place. Parked cars on both sides of the road make visibility very challenging. It is believed this is exacerbated by parents for Public School pupils parking there rather than on Braehead. Lynn Munro suggested speaking to the Roads Officer and agreed to bring back the response to the next meeting. Madelene Hunt suggested meeting there with the Roads Officer and Lynn Munro to discuss. Madelene Hunt will send Steph Miles email address so they can connect.

Madelene Hunt asked that Wendy Turner be added to the info@email. So she can support with correspondence.

2. Apologies for Absence

None received

3. Minutes of the 10th March 2021 Meeting

Minutes read and proposed by Joan Boyd and seconded by Brian Laird

4. Matters Arising

No Matters Arising to be reported on.

5. Reports

Val Spowart reported that a number of Chromebooks are available for low-income families. Val has the phone number for the contact who is Laura Walker of The Bethany Trust.

Wendy Turner reported that good progress is being made with litter picking with a growing number of volunteers going out around Bo'ness.

Brian Laird reported on the amount of litter in Bo'ness Cemetery and that the litter bins need to be emptied; and also, the pot holes at the Dundas Street entrance. Lynn Munro agreed to pursue both these issues.

Stuart McAllister reported on Planning Applications – Eskbank Control Panels have applied to construct an industrial unit on Grangemouth Road 16m x 5 m x 4m. An application has been received for an illuminated sign for a new Indian restaurant. He also mentioned the Library Project which would be reported on later on the agenda.

Chloe Whyte reported that she had not received the minutes of the meeting. Wendy Turner checked and confirmed that she had the correct email address and that minutes had been sent.

Siobhan Samson reported on the FOI response about funding from Building Companies. A number of sums of money had not been spent on the items listed e.g. maintenance of school buildings. The group discussed how this funding should be spent and agreed it should be spent where health is being affected. Lynn Munro agreed to speak to Council staff about this. Robyn Adamson suggested the results of the FOI should be shared with local schools. Madelene Hunt will send the FOI results so that Lynn Munro can use this information when speaking to Council staff.

6. Correspondence

An email has been received from Falkirk Council confirming that the Litter Strategy has been finalised and published.

A meeting about the Falkirk Plan for Bo'ness and Blackness will take place on 15th April. A number of Community Council members will attend.

BEAR Scotland have written to confirm their responsibility for trunk roads.

7. Community Conversations

Joan Boyd reported on the response to the Website and Twitter campaign about the Falkirk Community Conversation. There had been 1307 website hits and 129 responses posted on the website. Many respondents had negatively commented on the idea of two schools merging. Lynn Munro reported that it was likely the “Super Junior School” was likely to be located at the Braes as there is an understanding of the feelings of Bo'ness people on the potential merger.

Joan Boyd had asked for information on the usage and income generated by the Recreation Centre and Town Hall but this information was not forthcoming because of Covid reductions in staffing. Joan had also asked which buildings would be mothballed and sold. Lynn Munro reported that she believes that all buildings could be saved. The Recreation Centre is viable. A case may need to be made for the Town Hall, alongside a discussion of the uses it could be put to. The BUFC want to take over the Murrays Playing Fields via Community Asset Transfer.

Owen Griffiths is quantifying and gathering the comments. The majority of comments are about the schools, little comment received on Town Hall, Recreation Centre, Library and Cowdenhill Community Centre. Joan Boyd will send a copy of the comments received (anonymised) to Falkirk Council for information and also to our Councillors. Lynn Munro suggested adding a piece on the comments in the Bo'ness Journal.

The consultation with the Community will take place in May after the next Falkirk Council meeting.

Madelene Hunt reported that the Bo'ness Schools Group had asked for a BCC member to attend their next meeting. It was agreed that this should be someone from Falkirk Council instead.

8. Library Project

Madelene Hunt reported that the new lift is being installed and an application had been made to the Community Choices Fund for new flooring and decoration.

9. AOCB

Joan Boyd thanked the Community Conversations Group; and Robyn Adamson and Owen Griffiths for their work on the website and gathering of data.

Lennox Ainslie gave a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 12th May 2021 at
7pm on Zoom**