 **BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th DECEMBER 2019**

**IN THE SMALL UPPER ROOM IN BO’NESS LIBRARY**

**Welcome**

Madelene extended a warm welcome to the room.

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Chair), Len Ainslie (Vice Chair), Joan Boyd (Secretary), Stuart McAllister, Val Ferguson, OBE, Alan Gilbert and Robyn Adamson.

**In Attendance:** Councillor David Aitchison

**Apologies for Absence**

Ian Don, (Treasurer), Siobhan Samson, Joan Lamazon, Ashley Sneddon and Val Spowart.

**Police Report Officers in attendance: P.C. Gary Deans**

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**

Q. Member of the public reported via email that HGV’s are going down Douglas Road causing congestion and neighbours are concerned about damage to cars.

Q. Response – As there are no enforcements on the road it is difficult to police as there is no criminality.

Q. Any idea how the crime figures in Bo’ness relate to the rest of Falkirk Council for this year, is there an increase from 2018?

Q. Response – Would need to research to give a definitive answer but the information is available on the Police Scotland site.

**5. Minutes of Wednesday 13h November 2019**

**Proposed by Stuart McAllister and seconded by Robyn Adamson**

**6. Matters Arising**

Planning petition will be carried over to the January meeting.

**7.** **Reports**

**Len Ainslie –** Madelene noted that Len was presented with lifetime membership to Bo’ness Fair Committee for his commitment to the Bo’ness Childrens’ Fair Day. Len commented that it was a very well run evening with a further two committee members Linda Clyne and Fiona Burns also being presented with the award. The three have over 70 years service between them.

Len and Madelene attended the Salivation Army Carol Service on Tuesday 3rd Dec in Bo’ness Town Hall and praised the high standard of the concert.

Madelene, Len and Joan attended the Stewart Milne planning predetermination hearing relating to the development at Muirhouses on 25th November. There were a large number of objections raised from members of the public.

Len and Madelene also attended the CVS AGM which takes place 13/1/20

**Val Ferguson, OBE** – Val commented on a question from a member of the public in terms of buying a disabled accessible bus. A bus could be leased but this increases costs due to the restrictions on mileage, so it is overall more cost effective to raise funds to buy.

The Community Bus is looking to implement CCTV on the buses due to a number of aggressive exchanges in relation to the bus being blocked into the bus stop outside the Four Marys Pub in Linlithgow by members of the public cars and taxis.

The Christmas Raffle draw takes place Sunday 15th at The Corbie Inn, Bo’ness. A good amount of ticket sales have taken place to date.

The bus have had a recent speight of issues due to the increased traffic in Edinburgh. A recent breakdown resulted in the service temporarily running later than normal.

Alan Gilbert – Commented that perhaps a hand free phone could be issued to drivers on the buses so that commuters who are booked onto the service can contact the driver to have a status update on the service. This is being looked into by the Community Bus. The issue is contacting people who are a ‘walk on’ commuter rather someone who has booked a place. Alan said that the bus is a great local service and the recent issues have been a once in a blue moon incidents.

**Alan Gilbert** – Cowdenhill has been undergoing some work. A new exterior light has been fitted and they have installed hand driers for waste reduction. Also further sockets have been installed in the meeting room to allow a tea and coffee station.

The Committee is currently sitting at 4 members so there will be a push in the new year for more members. There was a suggestion that they could advertise this opportunity on the Community Bus.

**Councillor Aitchison** – Miller Homes have lodged an appeal to the Scottish Government (SG) on the second phase of their development. The SG Reporter has an unaccompanied site visit planned. Borrowstoun Road is closed until 20th Dec for work undertaken by Scottish Power.

**Robyn Adamson** – Social media has been busy; the sharing of Police Scotland Consultation and the meeting on Monday 16th December (7pm) at the Avondale Waste Management Site in relation to the planning application for the Incinerator.

**Stuart McAllister** –

Q. From member of the public in relation to the broken defibrillator at Thomas Cuthell and Sons at the bottom of Bridgeness Road.

Response – this will be looked at and reported back.

**Joan Boyd**

**Correspondence. (Secretary) Joan Boyd.**

**Madelene Hunt (Chair) –** Madelene attended the CVS older peoples forum where it was expressed how important libraries are to the 50+ community.

Madelene, Joan, Maria Ford (Bonet) and Adrian Mahoney (Bonet) met with Pete Reid and Jacquie McArthur regarding the Falkirk Town Centre Capital Fund and proposed alterations, previously discussed with FC Officers, around the Library and the reduction in the allocation of money being directed to Bo’ness.

It has been has been proposed that the accessibility to Bo’ness Library will be improved. There was also suggestion of an additional meeting space which could be accessed out with opening hours on the ground floor. Hub facilities are to be improved also as the current positioning is not private. At the moment these are proposed improvements and have yet to be agreed by Falkirk Community Trust. We are therefore not sure that the Library is safe in regard to the Transforming Services Agenda.

It was suggested by FC Officers that this work would not be covered within the Town Centre Funding. However, since the meeting, examples have been found of other Local Authorities using the same fund to improve Library facilities and the community engagement within Libraries.

There was discussion around the allocation of the Town Centre Fund to Bo’ness and the figure coming to Bo’ness being less that promised. Funding to be allocated by March 2020.

There is a rumour that Bo’ness recreation centre café may be closing. It is being suggested that this is running at a loss and will be closing from February. Menu items are not available e.g. no milk for milkshakes and no cheese for toasties or chips. I ask the question is this closure by stealth? Has anyone heard of a café with no cheese?

**9. A.O.C.B.**

BCC was saddened to hear that the blood donation session was closed early due to water coming in the roof at the Town Hall. The roof has been reviewed and the leak was due to the magnitude of water which fell rather than the roof being in a very poor state. It was noted however that the state of the Town Hall needed addressing.

Also the Bandstand has had no maintenance in recent years or health and safety checks either as a large chunk of cast iron would not have fallen off it a few days after Bo’ness Fair. BCC are working with Falkirk Council Officers towards getting funding. An estimate for restoration of the Glebe Park Bandstand has come in at £150,000. This cannot be included in the town centre fund as the structure is out with the town centre.

There was some discussion about comments in regard to the recent Falkirk Herald article regarding the Transforming Services Consultation. - 1. It was felt there was misleading information in relation to the focus group held in Bo’ness and 2. A third of people have said they would be prepared to volunteer. However, there was no information about what they would be volunteering for in the consultation. People don’t fully understand what they are committing to in terms of taking over and running a Community Asset.

Falkirk Junior Bike Club – There was a question asked about the disabled toilet next to the walled garden at Kinneil as the plumbing is already in place but it has been closed for a number of years so may not be in a usable condition for use at events.

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The meeting was closed with a vote of thanks for the Chair.

**Date of Next Meeting 8th January at 7pm.**

**APPENDIX 1**

**POLICE REPORT**

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| Name of  Community Council: | **Monthly ward report:** Bo’ness Community Council  **Date of meeting:** 11/12/2019  **Author of report:** PC Gary Deans  **Report presented by:** PC Gary Deans  **Reporting period:** 01/11/2019 – 30/11/2019  Force Production  Register No: |

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| --- | --- |
| 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. |
| Ward Priorities | **There has been a total of 36 crime reports raised by Police this month.**   * **Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence & Disorder**   There have been 18 crimes of ASB over the previous month.  7 of which were Vandalisms, none of which were repeat locations or part of a pattern. The others relating to disorder offences.  There was 1 crime of serious violence such as Attempted Murder, Serious Assault or Robbery, namely a Robbery. There have been 11 minor Assaults 4 of these were on Police Officers.  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 no offences in relation to possession of controlled substances detected over the past month.   * **Road Safety**   There has been 1 offence relating to driving without Insurance, 1 offence relating to Speeding and 1 offence relating to Fail to Stop at a Road Accident.   * **Dishonesty Crimes**   There have been 4 Housebreaking offences over the previous month. 3 relate to residential properties. 2 of these have occurred in the Deanburn area over a similar period. There are no other patterns or repeat locations. There has been 4 minor Thefts.  There were 4 offences relating to Theft from a Motor Vehicle. There was 1 offence for Theft of a Motor Vehicle.  Other offences relate to minor and miscellaneous crimes. |

**APPENDIX 2**

Bo’ness Community Council Meeting

Wednesday 11th December 2019

**ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT TEAM**

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

**Period: 01/11/19 – 30/11/19**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total ASB Reports**  Falkirk Council Area | **Breakdown of 3 geographical areas** | | |
| **108** | **EAST-**Grangemouth, Bo’ness, Braes | **WEST-**Denny, Dunipace, Bonnybridge, Haggs, Banknock | **CENTRAL-**Falkirk North and South |
| **29** | **34** | **45** |

**Hotspot Patrols**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **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 01/11/19 – 30/11/19**

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| --- | --- |
| **ASB Concern** | **No of reports** |
| Dog Fouling & Control of Dogs | 6 |
| Litter & Fly Tipping | 21 |
| Youth related disorder | 0 |
| Other | 2 |

**Current EE activities in the area**

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| **The Environmental Enforcement 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**

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| **Phone** | 01324 506070 |  |
| **Email** | community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk |  |
| **Online** | Falkirk Council Website | [www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today](http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today) |