



## **BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 JANUARY 2019 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), Siobhan Samson, Alex King, Stuart McAllister, Valerie Spowart, Wendy Turner, Ian Dawn and Gail Nash.

#### **3. In Attendance**

Councillor Lynn Munro, Councillor David Aitchison and a member of the public.

#### **4. Apologies for Absence**

Ashley Sneddon, Alan Gilbert, Owen Griffiths and Robyn Adamson.

#### **5. Police Report - Officers in attendance: PC Graeme McDougall & PC Steven Cruikshanks**

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**

The recent incident of windows being smashed in the town was discussed.

“What about the people trying doors? One person was charged related to this and an ASBO was applied. What about the theft of Christmas gifts? One person has been identified for the Christmas thefts”.

“Can something be done about the damaged camper van parked on the main road as you come into town? There appears to be a part loosely connected and moving. There is potential for damage to passing cars or for the van to be being struck again. Could the owner be asked to kindly remove the loose part? “The debris on the road has been removed. We will have a look at this”.

“Have you heard anything further about the suggestion to use Cowdenhill as a Police base? No further details yet.

A letter has been received from a member of the public who is concerned about the level of crime in the town and that the Police station should be re-opened. “Whilst there has been a recent increase in crime in the town it is now back to its normal level. Bo'ness experiences less crime than most towns in Forth Valley. The perpetrator responsible for the recent thefts has been caught”.

#### **COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM**

See Appendix 2.

## **6. Minutes of Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

Corrections: Page 2, first paragraph, spelling of Mactaggart.

Minutes approved: Proposed by Len Ainslie. Seconded by Stuart McAllister

## **7. REPORTS**

**Madelene Hunt** – Marcus Strachan project bill, £3600 for the stone, has been settled with Cuthell's. Madelene commented on the support and assistance received from Cuthells during this project. It was agreed that a letter of thanks and appreciation would be sent to Cuthells.

**Ian Don** - Current Balance £864.53. We are expecting £500 towards the Marcus Strachan project seating. The ICO fee related to Data Protection Regulations is now paid automatically from the bank account. The fee will be refunded by Falkirk Council.

**Wendy Turner** – The Barony Theatre had a very successful season which has enabled the Theatre to pay off the Bill for the new heating. 2020 is in the planning and Falkirk Community Trust has helped with marketing.

In relation to the 'Church at the Barony' (St John's Church, Linlithgow and Bo'ness Churches), there are 50/60 people attending regularly.

**Valerie Spowart** - 110 toys and gifts for children and families were distributed by the Salvation Army. 20 people living on their own had Christmas Dinner in the Salvation Army Hall.

**Stuart McAllister** – The following applications were discussed and can be viewed on the following link: <http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/planning-building/development-management/planning-applications-decisions/>

Planning: P/180711/LBC - Conversion and Alteration of Woman's Refuge to form 3 Flatted Dwellinghouses – Seaview Place, Bo'ness.

P/18/0691/FUL – Demolition of class 1 shop unit and Erection of 3 Units – 66 Linlithgow Road, Bo'ness.

P/18/0744/FUL – Change of use and Conversion of Shop (Ground floor) to form 4 flatted dwellings – 88 North Street, Bo'ness.

### **Project Research:**

The member of the public present has been undertaking social research about Bo'ness using historic data, census information etc. He is now moving on to qualitative research and asked the Community Council to assist with contacting groups in the town as he wishes to now conduct interviews with members of the community. He plans to make a presentation of the results and to produce a book giving perspective from his point of view. It was agreed that we would put a link to his survey on our website. Joan explained that due to Data Protection Regulation we no longer use distribution lists, nor can we pass on any we had, as we do not have permission to do so. Our website is now GDPR compliant. We suggested Bo'ness Matters and Bo'ness Natters might be a useful way of getting the message out to the community. The link to the survey is as follows:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/5S7PTN9>

## **Joan Boyd - Correspondence**

**E-mail** – from Graham Gristwood relating to his orienteering club's desire to hold an event in Bo'ness in June. Their plan is to have a training day on the 21st, which would be a smaller number of people (50-100), and then have some bigger events at the weekend, which they would hope to attract around 250 people to. Its courses would mostly link up the green spaces around Bo'ness, and use public footpaths and parks. The activities will be fully insured by British Orienteering (the national federation), and the club has already contacted the Recreation Centre and a couple of schools about using these as possible venues for the events (parking/registration etc). The Police will be contacted about the event, but in previous years they have never had any concerns.

The club feel this event would bring a decent number of people into the town, and often have people travelling from a long way away (some from overseas), and so hopefully Bo'ness would see some economic benefit from the event as well. It would also like to promote the event to locals, and would love to get our assistance in spreading word about the event so that local residents are aware of what is happening, and also know that they are welcome and can come and have a go. Mr Gristwood asked if we could please let him know if we have any questions or concerns about the event and asked if he should also contact Falkirk Council.

It was agreed that this was a good idea and should be supported, however there were concerns about the event being so near to the Fair given the level of activity going on in and around the Fair. Also, the Kirking of the Queen is on the 21st. It was suggested that perhaps links could be made with the Fair Committee. We can assist with contacts at the local schools, with Buzzness and Falkirk Council. Events taking place at Kinneil should also be looked at for any clashes. Joan will respond accordingly.

**E-mail** – from one of the Police Scotland Community Policing Team Sergeants related to the concerns of business owners and the community regarding the damage caused to shop premises in South Street. As a result, community policing officers are carrying out enquiries in an effort to identify the person(s) responsible. The Police Constables attending the meeting tonight will be able to address any concerns that may be raised.

A letter from Miller Homes, confirming they would like to donate £500 to the Community Council, with a view to it helping towards the purchase of seating and creating a small sensory garden at the Marcus Strachan VC commemoration site.

## **8. A.O.C.B.**

The results of the e-mail vote on supporting the Falkirk Community Group response to the SEA (Scottish Governments' Environmental Assessment of UOG):

**Background:** The Scottish Government is consulting on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of its preferred policy position, that the Scottish Government does not support the development of unconventional oil and gas in Scotland (Fracking for shale oil and gas and Coalbed Methane extraction). This assessment is necessary before the policy position can be finalised and are the latest steps in the evidence-led approach the Scottish Government has adopted on this issue.  
<https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/preferred-policy-position-on-uog/>

VOTE: 8 for, 1 against, 1 neutral and 3 members did not vote. The motion was carried to support the response.

**Discussion:**

A discussion took place related to our practice of voting by e-mail where a meeting cannot be arranged due to a tight deadline around the response. A motion was put forward, the result of which was a tied vote. Following the utilization of the Convenor's casting vote, it was agreed that with issues such as this, they would be fully discussed around the table and not conducted by e-mail.

**Planning Meeting:**

It was agreed that the Convenor would check the availability of the room and depending on that we will fix a date. Councillor Munro asked if the local councillors could come along and there was no objection to that.

We still need to agree who wishes to be involved in projects and also what type of projects the community would like to be taken forward.

McLaren Trophy 2019 – Forms for nominations were passed out by the Convenor for completion prior to discussion at the next meeting.

**The meeting closed at 9.00pm with a vote of thanks to the Chair.**

**Next meeting is on 13th February 2019 at 7pm in Bo'ness Library Small Meeting Room**

**POLICE REPORT**

Name of  
Community  
Council:

<b>Monthly ward report:</b>	Bo'ness Community Council
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	09/01/2019
<b>Author of report:</b>	PC Graeme McDougall
<b>Report presented by:</b>	PC Graeme McDougall
<b>Reporting period:</b>	01/12/2018 – 31/12/2018

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 39 crime reports raised by Police this month.**

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

There have been 11 crimes of ASB over the previous month.

9 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. There have been 5 minor Assaults.

- **Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse**

Over the previous month, no Drug Search warrants were enforced within the Bo'ness area. There have been 2 offences in relation to possession of controlled substances detected over the past month.

- **Road Safety**

There has been 1 offence for careless driving and 4 offences relating to Fail to Stop.

- **Dishonesty Crimes**

There has been 4 Housebreaking offences 2 relating to residential property and 2 relating to commercial premises, these were on two shops which were next to each other on the same night. There has been 9 minor Thefts, 5 of these are related to each other, the suspect has been identified and reported to the Procurator Fiscal. There has been 1 Theft from a motor vehicle. There has been no Thefts of Motor vehicles.

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](http://www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts)

## Appendix 2

Boness Community Council Meeting  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
**COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM**

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

**Period: 01/12/18 – 31/12/18**

<b>Total ASB Reports</b> Falkirk Council Area	<b>Breakdown of 3 geographical areas</b>		
<b>58</b>	<b>EAST</b> -Grangemouth, Bo'ness, Braes	<b>WEST</b> -Denny, Dunipace, Bonnybridge, Haggs, Banknock	<b>CENTRAL</b> -Falkirk North and South
	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>20</b>

### Hotspot Patrols

<b>Area</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Actions</b>
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 01/12/18 – 31/12/18

<b>ASB Concern</b>	<b>No of reports</b>
Dog Fouling & Control of Dogs	12
Litter & Fly Tipping	5
Youth related disorder	3
Other	0

### Current CST activities in the area

<b>The Community Safety Team continues to monitor for Litter, Dog Fouling, Fly Tipping and Anti-Social Behaviour through patrols and reports received from the Local Community. We currently have no reports for your area.</b>
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### Contact Us

<b>Phone</b>	01324 506070	
<b>Email</b>	community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk	
<b>Online</b>	Falkirk Council Website	<a href="http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today">www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today</a>