 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2022**

**Conducted via Digital Media**

1. **Welcome**

Madelene welcomed everyone to the meeting. She then went onto to explain why she had not spoken to the Community Councillors before speaking to the winners. She apologised for this oversight. She explained that Siobhan Samson had resigned on the basis of this oversight.

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Owen Griffiths (Vice Convener) Brian Laird, Robyn Adamson, Stuart McAllister, Val Spowart, Len Ainslie, Wendy Turner

**In attendance**: Councillor David Aitchison,

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

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Asley Sneddon

Non-attendance – Austin Reid, Gaele McFarlane, Councillor Lynn Munro

1. **Minutes of the 9th February 2022 Meeting**

Amendment to attendees – Owen Griffiths was not at the meeting. With exception of this amendment the minutes were approved by the Committee.

Madelene Hunt thanked Robyn Adamson for adding the minutes to the website

1. **Matters Arising**

Falkirk Council Budget

Madelene Hunt reported that the gap in the Falkirk Council budget had not been discussed. Councillor Aitchison reported that this will not be discussed before the elections. The full proposed Budget is available from the Council meeting held on 2nd March. The Strategic Property Review has not been published. Any closures will not take place until 2023. Stephen Baird asked why the Bo’ness Town toilets are being closed. Councillor Aitchison reported that they are now art of the Education section and are being closed due to lack of use. Toilets in other facilities in the town will be available and it will save £135k per year. Stephen Baird responded that the money is not the real issue and that the lack of such facilities should be addressed.

1. **Reports**

Brian Laird reported that the laybys on the way out of town towards Linlithgow are very untidy with fly-tipping and the detritus left behind by lorries spending the night or taking breaks there. The lorries are ripping up the kerbs as they come into the laybys. The Community Clean Up group had dealt with this area some months ago but it is full of litter again. He also mentioned the signage which states “No Overnight Parking” but it is so small many won’t see it. Councillor Aitchison agreed to raise this with the Roads Department.

Val Spowart reported that she will be listing details of Holy Week services on the Churches Together website.

Owen Griffiths reported on the article on Facebook about the Drum Park Playpark and lack of clarity on whose responsibility it is. It is not clear which of the Factors companies are responsible. Councillor Munro agreed to investigate and take this forward.

Planning

Stuart McAllister reported on the Miller Homes development of 215 houses on the south side of The Drum. It is believed this is Cadell land and this will not be a mixed use development but just houses.

He reported on the Robertsons development at Crawfield Road. This is Phase 1 of what will become 450 houses. There was discussion about the lack of Doctors, and local shops. However, there is public transport from Pennelton into the Town Centre.

Stephen Baird reported that the noise from the Borrowstoun Road development continued to be unacceptable.

Councillor Aitchison reported that there is provision for 1000 new houses in the Local Development Plan.

Madelene Hunt reported that funding from Developers in Bo’ness was still not coming into use in Bo’ness but was being used more broadly in the Falkirk Council area.

Bandstand

Robyn Adamson reported that the delay to completing the bandstand refurbishment was caused by historic Environment Scotland not signing off the colour of paint to be used. Some of the work that has been completed is temporary to make it safe. The gate is being stored at Kinneil. Stephen Baird asked about using the bandstand in the future. Robyn reported that the work would need to be completed before this could take place. It w reported that responsibility for the Bandstand would be moved to the Parks department after Falkirk Community Trust ceases to operate. Richard Bradley and Danny Thallon will be seeking funding for Phase 2 of the project. Madelene Hunt will ask for an update.

Churches

Len Ainslie asked if there is any update on the closure of Churches in Bo’ness. Val Spowart reported that there are no plans as one of the churches had objected to the amalgamation

Councillor Aitchison reported on the Champany junction. A survey of the area is being undertaken to establish what will be done. He confirmed the money for this work is in this year’s budget. He also reported that the CCTV in the town had been upgraded to a digital system. It is not monitored 24/7 but it records 24/7.

1. **Correspondence**

Madelene Hunt had received information from Crawfield Road development via Robertsons. This was circulated prior to the meeting.

Madelene Hunt reported on a Glasgow University student who is researching Bo’ness Library. Madelene had sent the information requested.

Madelene Hunt had received an email asking about the uploading of BCC minutes and agendas. This has now been resolved.

Madelene Hunt reported that she had received tickets for the HippFest Silent Movie Festival and invited any BCC members to use them.

1. **AOCB**

Madelene Hunt reported that she is speaking to Anne Travers about the presentation of the McLaren Trophy and it is likely this will take place at 1pm on 15th March.

Madelene Hunt had made enquiries about the Platinum Anniversary Pack without success. Wendy Turner agreed to follow this up.

Wendy Turner asked about the Community Choices funding awarded in to Friend of Kinneil in the first round. This funding will be managed by Falkirk Council.

The Friends of Kinneil are pursuing planning gain funding from the Crawfield Road development.

No update on twinning project as their Parish Council had not met before this meeting.

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 13th April 2022 at 7pm in the large room at the Library**