



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2021 **Conducted via Digital Media**

1. Welcome

Madelene extended a warm welcome to everyone and explained that Chloe Whyte would be stepping down from the Council, as she is moving to a new job in Glasgow. Everyone wishes Chloe the best of luck in her new venture. Madelene Hunt will write formally to thank her.

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, Wendy Turner (Minute Secretary)

In attendance Councillor Lynn Munro, Councillor David Aitchison

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

2. Apologies for Absence

Chloe Whyte, Ian Don (Treasurer)

3. Minutes of the 14th April 2021 Meeting

Corrections: website hits were over 1600 with 105 comments received. BUCFC are considering taking over Murray's Playing Fields – not BUFC

Minutes read and proposed by Joan Boyd and seconded by Siobhan Samson with corrections above to be made

Police report to info@ email and will be sent out with the minutes

4. Matters Arising

Madelene Hunt reported that she had passed details to Councillor Lynn Munro so that she could contact Steph Miles about the crossing. Councillor Munro had discussed this with Steph Myles.

Madelene Hunt reported that school children have received iPad and dongles in response to Val Spowart's report on availability of laptops from the Church Group.

Councillor Lynn Munro reported that litter in Bo'ness Cemetery had been collected and should be collected on Mondays and Thursdays in future. The potholes within the Cemetery Roads have not been dealt with yet. Other locations were mentioned in particular Dean Road, Stewart Avenue, Blair Avenue and the roads within the Town Hall. Councillor David Aitchison explained that potholes can be reported directly to Falkirk Council. He agreed to contact Elaine Caldwell about the roads at the Town Hall.

The FOI re: the Section 75 monies had been received. Councillor Munro reported that Robert Naylor and Ian Dryden could attend a Community Council meeting to discuss this.

5. Reports

Owen Griffiths – nothing to report.

Madelene Hunt – it was reported by Danny Thallon of Falkirk Council that Madelene Hunt had approved the location of the Antonine Wall Mural on the Library Wall. This is incorrect. Madelene Hunt did not give approval and has written to Danny Thallon to confirm this. She had made suggestions for alternative locations including the sea defences and a gable end at Grangepans. Joan Boyd agreed to check back through past minutes to see if there is any mention of this matter. Madelene Hunt asked Officers and BCC to remain alert to this.

Madelene Hunt reported that Lottery Funding for the Antonine Wall had been unfairly distributed and does not promote Bo'ness and its place on the Antonine Wall. There has been a lack of consultation and reporting to BCC. Joan Boyd reported that she recalled writing to Brian Pirie to remind him that correspondence with BCC is not happening. Kenny Gillespie and Jen Kerr should be invited to a future meeting to discuss this.

Madelene Hunt reported on the Community Choices project funding. The bid for funding for the Library was reported as not being Capital funding and as yet there is no news on the Foreshore Project. Wendy Turner offered to provide support for this. Maria Ford of Bo'net had reported on a Levelling Up Fund which would see communities and MPS collaborating. Councillor Munro will follow this up.

Siobhan Samson – nothing to report but to note that INEOS has been fined £400k.

Robyn Adamson – Art Berg of Falkirk Environmental Trust reported an update on the Bandstand work. The tender for the work was to be released on 23rd April on the Public Contracts website. It is important that we let Ballantines Foundry know about this tender. It is believed that Ballantines are on the Falkirk Council Procurement List and therefore should be eligible to tender for this work. BCC should let Ballantines know about this work.

Val Spowart – nothing to report but to note the change of days and times for the Post Office Collection Office. She felt it was important to let people know about this change.

Austin Reid – nothing to report but to note the suggestion of a celebration in Bo'ness for coming out of lockdown. It was suggested that three members of BCC might get together to discuss this further. Funding is available for end of Covid celebrations. £10m public liability insurance would be required.

Stuart McAllister – Planning Applications to note – The Corbie Inn has applied to extend the kitchen facilities and also to create a garage to keep the tri-shaws in. he also reported that the street-lamps are on constantly in Shafto Place. Councillor Aitchison will make enquiries. Stuart reported that he had received calls about the Community Choices Project.

Councillor David Aitchison – nothing to report

Councillor Munro reported that there will be a full Council Meeting on 18th May. Item 7 on the agenda is the Strategic Property Review with initial responses on buildings designated for disposal. Further consultation will take place, Concern was expressed about the future of The Hippodrome. The Library is being re-purposed as a Hub building. This meeting will be available on the Falkirk Council website.

Brian Laird – nothing to report but to note at Falkirk Arts Network (FAN) meeting there was a representation about Community Asset Transfer for Bo'ness Town Hall. FAN advised speaking to BCC.

Len Ainslie – nothing to report.

6. Correspondence

JB Correspondence BCC meeting 12.5.21

:

Period 15th April – May 12th 2021

E-mail – from Lesley O'Hare, Falkirk Community Trust - Following concerns raised at the last meeting of the Bo'ness Library Lift group, Danny Thallon and she met with Patricia Weekes, Antonine Wall Co-ordinator and Emma McMullen, Antonine Wall Project Manager just before Easter to get an update on progress on the Bo'ness mural project. Not surprisingly, the project has stalled due to COVID-19. Emma is going to get back to us with an update.

As Danny is the area's representative on the Rediscovering the Antonine Wall Steering Group, he is better placed to advise the Community Council going forward of progress, and he is fully aware of the community council's concerns about the location of the proposed mural (on the wall of the library facing the foreshore).

E-mail. – from Lynn Munro detailing the response from the Community support team in regard to the matter raised by a member of the public relating to the cross roads - Thank you for your recent enquiry. - I can confirm this has been logged for the attention of Development Services, Reference Number 70649.

A response will normally be sent to you within 5 working days however the ongoing situation with Covid-19 is currently impacting on our ability to respond to requests on time in many cases.

E-mail – from Brian Pirie to Madelene about our concerns around the Property Asset Review. He spoke to the officers dealing with the property review and expressed Madelene's concerns about the consultation and decisions being made. This is what they say:- The initial conversations with the communities were to discuss the issues and the direction / next steps we propose to take. The Implementation Plan was shared and sets out a series of actions to be undertaken to develop options for further discussions with the communities. They made us very aware of the areas they are concerned about but no specific decisions or recommendations are being made at this stage.

E-mail – from BEAR Scotland=South East in regard to upcoming resurfacing works which are planned on the A985 Trunk Road, commencing 19th May 2021. Works are planned to be done under night-time road closures (19.00 – 06.30p.) with a signed diversion route in place. The section of the road will be closed to traffic so anyone travelling to Fife via Kincardine will be affected.

E-mail – from Anna Parks Falkirk Council -Last month she got in touch to tell you about Falkirk Council’s **Sustainable Grass Management Pilot Project**

During 2021 this project will trial changes to how we manage grassland at 35 green space sites (including parks and road verges). We hope the changes will help:

- create diverse and healthy green spaces for local people to enjoy
- benefit wildlife and reduce biodiversity loss
- help combat the climate emergency

The sorts of changes that will be made include:

- Creating naturalised grass areas (cut once or twice a year, and sown with wildflowers in some locations)
- Creating patches or strips of wildflower meadow
- Delaying or reducing the frequency of amenity grass cutting
- Planting bulbs and trees
- Sowing meadow seed or wildflower seed.

She has now identified and mapped the changes which will be carried out at each site. Attached is a document with a map and brief description of the proposed changes for each of the pilot sites within your community council area.

A small number of sites are still being finalised. Details for these sites will follow as soon as possible.

Over the next few months they will also be developing ways to gather the views of local people about the results of the pilot project and how they can manage our greenspaces to benefit people and the environment in the future. They will share details of these with you as soon as it is available. They will also be putting up signs at the pilot sites to highlight the changes being made and how they benefit the environment.

If we have any questions about the attached information please do get in touch.

E-mail – from Louise Mckay who is a Nurse Consultant for Older People from NHS Forth Valley – The Life Changes Trust has a unique opportunity available, and I would be keen to apply for funding for Boness Community Hospital ward 1 outdoor space. On discussion with the funding manager at Life Changes Trust he suggested to engage with the local community and any groups who would be interested in the development of the outdoor space. She hopes the Community Council may be able to provide some advice on groups or potential contacts who would be interested? She added the link below for interest; <https://www.lifechangestrust.org.uk/funding-opportunities>

7. Community Conversations

Joan Boyd reported that she had sent the results of the consultation to Douglas Duff.

The meeting discussed the email received by Joan Boyd from the Parents’ Council. The Chair of the Bo’ness Public Parent Council had written to the Parent Council. The perception was the proposals for local schools had come from BCC. Councillor Ritchie confirmed that this is not the case. Joan Boyd will write back re-stating the facts – basis is the Council Property Asset Review; suggestions only by Falkirk Council at the moment and the timing of the consultation was driven by Falkirk Council.

8. Library Project

Madelene Hunt reported that the new lift will be installed in Sept / Oct 2021, and that there is funding available for re-decoration and flooring. The boiler is being replaced and a new heating system is being installed.

9. AOCB

Siobhan Samson reported that Bo'ness Children's Fair 2021 will take place in the same manner as last year. Funding has been agreed for 2021.

Siobhan asked about the lack of banking facilities in Bo'ness. In other towns up to 4 banks are using the same building as a hub. Lynn Munro agreed to look into this possibility and will report to a future meeting.

Madelene Hunt reported that Councillor Ann Ritchie will be acquiring flowers for planting in local flowerbeds in June.

Madelene Hunt thanked everyone for attending and suggested that we might meet in a local café when we are allowed.

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 9th June 2021 at
7pm on Zoom**