



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2020

Held remotely via Zoom

1. Welcome

The chair welcome everyone to the meeting.

2. Sederunt

Madelene Hunt (chair), Siobhan Samson (vice chair), Adrian Mahoney, Joan Boyd, Robyn Adamson, Chloe Whyte, Ashley, Brian Laird, Valerie Spowart, Wendy Turner, Robyn Adamson, Lennox Ainslie, Austin Reid.

3. Apologies for absence

Gaele Macfarlane, Owen Griffiths

4. In attendance Councillor David Aitchison and Councillor Lynn Munro

5. Minutes of the 9th September 2020

Brian Laird, not Chloe Whyte, raised issue about RS McColl

The minutes were approved. Proposed by Brian Laird. Seconded by Robyn Adamson.

6. Secretary

Adrian Mahoney nominated by Valerie Spowart as Secretary. Joan Boyd seconded. Adrian said he would take on the role for the time being, subject to a review.

7. Matters Arising

P2. Former Victoria Sawmills site on Bo'ness Foreshore. Chair said she met with Sustrans. She reported that there was an extra £100,000 to spend on works at the Bo'ness-Carriden foreshore. Angus Duncan (of Falkirk Council) has agreed to meet with the chair and look at moving remnants/stonework from the old Victoria Sawmills site. The plan is to put a display on the foreshore with a plaque. The chair said there would be consultation on any works.

Cllr David Aitchison gave an update on parking issues/problems around the supermarket/shops at Newtown/Bomains Road. He said roads officers do not see an issue at the location. There was a discussion at the meeting with members expressing their concerns about parking in the area.

There was a discussion about the Grangemouth petrochemical plant and flaring in the area. The Chair said she would write again to David East of INEOS. If she doesn't get an answer she will share concerns via the media.

8. Letter from David Alexander

Members discussed a letter sent to the Community Council by Councillor David Alexander, regarding recent concerns raised by the CC in the media. Joan Boyd read a suggested response for approval. Austin and Siobhan said we needed answers to the original questions about the Strategic Property Review. It was agreed the letter would be redrafted and sent to members for final approval.

9. Reports

Robyn Adamson gave an update on repairing the bandstand at Glebe Park. Tenders would be advertised in November, with works due to start in January 2021.

There was a discussion about the ongoing dispute about the closure of a path off Braefoot Road, Bo'ness. Joan Boyd read a letter from a man claiming to be the landowner. He said it had "never been a core path" and "public right of way". Others at the meeting disputed this and said it was a public right of way. It was suggested that the Community Council write to council officers requesting historic planning documents be made available to clarify the position. Joan Boyd agreed to write to Bernard Whittle of Falkirk Council's planning department. Cllr David Aitchison said he would do all he could to keep the path open as a core path.

Siobhan Samson gave an update on the Community Council's petition to the Scottish Parliament (see PE01800: Expand the remit of the Lands Tribunal for Scotland <http://external.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/planning>). She said she had still to update the media about the Parliament's decision regarding the petition.

Adrian Mahoney asked Falkirk Council members present about the authority's capital spending plans, including the recent £90 million secured from the UK/Scottish Governments to spend on the Falkirk-Grangemouth area. He asked if any of this money would be spent in the Bo'ness area.

He also noted a claim in the same report which said: "In terms of the overall property portfolio of the (Community) Trust, there is a particular need to refurbish or renew the Grangemouth Sports Complex." He noted the report did not mention plans for Bo'ness Recreation Centre.

Councillors were also asked to explain thinking behind the £43.5 million plan for a new HQ and arts centre/library in Falkirk and associated offices at Falkirk Stadium and Larbert. Cllr Munro said although the plans had been approved, there are concerns about the ability to deliver the project. Cllr Aitchison said he had abstained from the vote moving the plans forward, as the project being discussed didn't offer anything for Bo'ness Town Centre.

10. Correspondence (Joan Boyd)

E-mail from Brian Pirie. At the moment Falkirk Council record all meetings and post them on the Council's YouTube channel as soon after as possible – normally the next day. Additionally, the press is permitted to attend and is usually represented at various meetings.

The Council, in deciding to meet remotely, asked me to look at the possibility of live streaming meetings so that the public, while not in attendance, could see and hear how business was transacted. I've been working on this with IT colleagues and hope to be able to live stream meetings in the very near future – hopefully when this is up and running you will be able to access and view meetings.

He saw in his response that the Chief Executive is happy for him to meet with the Community Council to discuss our motion and the reply. If we would like him to join us then please let him know when suits and he I will be happy to join us.

E-mail from David East of Ineos in response to Madelene's request for a Liaison meeting. It is nice to hear from you and I hope all is well.

I trust you have been receiving the information I have been sending with regards to our donations to charities. Was there anything specific raised at the Community Council AGM regarding our operations at INEOS/ Petroineos?

E-mail from Adrian with the Link for the Bike Scheme.

<http://www.forthenvironmentlink.org/latest-news/scotlands-largest-electric-bike-scheme-launched>

E-mail from Brian Pirie responding to Madelene's request to attend the executive committee meeting. The short answer is no. At the moment all meetings are held remotely using Webex and are closed to the public. The reasons Falkirk Council (FC) cite – openness and transparency – are the reasons why it couldn't give access to one group but not another. FC have to be fair to all.

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E-mail – from Brian Pirie containing links to the Councils U=tube meetings which Madelene has been listening to this week. This is the link to the Executive live stream on Tuesday. It's the first time that FC has done it so all are welcome to have a look and see.

https://youtu.be/42wKBiM_p_s

11. AOCB

No other competent business. The chair thanked everyone for attending. **The date of the next meeting is November 11, 2020.**

POLICE REPORT

APPENDIX 1

Name of
Community
Council:

Monthly ward report: Bo'ness Community Council
Date of meeting: 14/10/20
Author of report: PC Graeme McDougall
Report presented by: N/A
Reporting period: 01/09/2020 – 30/09/2020

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 37 crime reports raised by Police this month.
• **Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence & Disorder**

There have been 16 crimes of ASB over the previous month.

10 of which were Vandalisms, the others relating to disorder offences. Three of these occurred on the same night and believed to have been committed by the same group.

There were no crimes of serious violence, such as Attempted Murder, Serious Assaults or Robberies reported. There have been 4 minor Assaults.

- **Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse**

Over the previous month, no Drug Search warrants were enforced within the Bo'ness area. No other drug offences were recorded.

- **Road Safety**

Over the previous month, There was 2 offences relating to Dangerous driving, 1 offence of driving whilst unfit, 3 offences relating to failing to stop for Police and 1 offence for driving with defective tyres.

- **Dishonesty Crimes**

There have been 3 Housebreaking offences reported and 16 minor Thefts. There have been 3 Thefts of a Motor vehicles and one offence for Theft from a motor vehicle.

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