 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2025**

**St. Catharines Church Hall 7.30pm**

1. **Welcome**

Convenor Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Pauline Grandison from The Coalfields Regeneration.

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Jaine McLean (Secretary), Brian Dempsey (Treasurer), Brian Laird, Stuart McAllister, William Ballantine, Gordon Clark, John Ogden, Lennox Ainslie, Billy Horn, Wendy Turner (Minute Secretary)

**In attendance**:

Councillor David Aitchison (Falkirk Council), PC Graeme McDougall, Pauline Grandison (Coalfields Regeneration)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Stacey Devine (Falkirk Council), Lorna Weir, Val Spowart

1. **Minutes of 8th February 2025**

The minutes were approved with the addition that the Snab Brae traffic lights sequence is unknown.

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. McLaren Trophy – Madelene hunt will make arrangements to present the trophy to Buzzness. Nominations for the next presentation will be accepted at the April BCC meeting.

Action: Madelene Hunt

* 1. Noticeboards – Jaine McLean reported that there is currently no timeline for the Town Centre Masterplan (Councillor Devine). However a noticeboard by the Public Toilets could be provided from BCC funds.

Action: Jaine McLean to look into costs and speak to Planning about the location. BCC to approve the project proposal.

* 1. North Street Lamp Posts – lamps will be replaced.
  2. Falkirk Council invitation to attend BCC meeting.

Action: Jaine McLean will follow up

**Coalfields Regeneration Presentation**

Pauline Grandison gave a presentation om the Local Place Plan event on 31st March and how it will be undertaken. The Local Place Plan is a way for the community to have a voice in the Council Planning process. Once the Local Place Plan has been written it will be lodged with Falkirk Council who have to recognise what the community has said about what is important to them. This will be embedded in the Falkirk Council Plan. This fits with the National Planning Framework which looks to have:

Sustainable Places

Livable Places

Accessible Places

The Local Place Plan is led by the local Community Council.

A map is used to show where issues are identified.

Statements are made on proposals for use of land.

Places that are looked at are:

Buildings – including historic buildings, museums

Green Spaces – including parks, pathways,

Town Centre

Climate Change – including flooding

Growing Food

The workshop will involve using Postcards for Three Wishes and a Passport to A Better Place (this involves asking questions in 14 areas).

A Draft will be drawn up by Pauline Grandison following the workshop. There is no deadline for this work but it will most likely be by summer.

BCC discussed who the representatives who should be invited:

BCC

Buzzness

Bloomin Bo’ness

Community Clean Up group

Kinneil Walled Garden

Friends of Kinneil

1. **Police Report**

Report received. PC McDougall has conducted speeding checks. There is an issue with staff leaving the Bakkavors Factory and Walkers Timber. There have been issues in Harbour Road but the police are aware.

1. **Treasurers Report** (Brian Dempsey)

Total in account - £3,720.38 (£2,759.97 – BCC funds; £960.26 – Public Toilets Fund).

Sanctus Media invoice has been paid for next 12 months.

1. **Secretary’s Report (**Jaine McLean)

Correspondence has been received about an Orange Walk on the day after Fair Day and another for 7th June.

info@ emails are being sent on by Jaine McLean.

CVS Funders Fayre took place but no-one from BCC attended.

1. **Reports**

**Brian Laird** asked aboutthe clean up in the Cemetery after the trees had fallen. Councillor Aitchison will follow this up.

Action: Councillor Aitchison.

**Gordon Clark** reported tha Friends of Kinneil will be meeting HES to discuss upcoming events. There will be a brainstorming meeting to discuss options for the Museum.

**John Ogden** reported the fly-tipping in the Meadow to Falkirk Council but they say it is not their land and therefore they can’t remove. The landowner will not allow the Community Clean Up Group to remove.

**Councillor Aitchison** reported that there will be further discussions about the future of Kinneil Museum. The 2025 Kinneil Masterplan is being developed including a workshop and community consultation.

The Banking Hub (in the old Ivy Tearooms) is progressing well. It will open in June. Its unfortunate that its not nearer a car park.

**Billy Horn** reported that the Buzzness Shop is going well but more volunteers are needed. The disposal of donated items that can’t be sold is a challenge. The toilet in the shop is no working. Buzzness has put in an application for SCIO status. The Community Asset Transfer application for the Bothy is progressing. The Buzzness AGM was well attended.

**Stuart McAllister** reported the application for the signs for the new Banking Hub.

Dean Court has been found to have RAAC and will be demolished. The tenants will be given to the tenants by 2026. This may not affect all tenants.

**William Ballantine** reported on Churches Together Easter event. In 2024 over 100 Easter eggs were given away.

1. **Correspondence**

See Secretary’s Report above.

1. **AOCB**

Meeting to discuss ideas for Coalfields meeting. Meet at Library 6pm 24th March.

To save time prior to a meeting please check the minutes for accuracy and any changes to what has been recorded so we can quickly note these, adopt the minutes and move to matters arising.

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 9th April 2025 7.30pm at St Catharines Church Hall**