 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of Meeting 14th February 2024**

**St. Catharine’s Church Hall 7.30pm**

1. **Welcome**

Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

.

**Sederunt**

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

**In attendance**:

Councillor David Aitchison,

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Stacey Devine, Councillor Ann Richie,

1. **Minutes of the 10th January 2024 meeting**

Minutes were accepted.

1. **Matters Arising**

**Complaint Received -** It was agreed that a vote should be taken to decide the outcome of the complaint against Lynn Munro. The result was 6 votes not upheld and 4 votes upheld. Jaine McLean will write to Lynn Munro and Councillor Deine to let them know the result of the vote

Action: Jaine McLean

**Recreation Centre –** Madelene Hunt asked Councillor Aitchison for an update He reported that staff have been told that 3rd May is the closure date. Billy Horn reported that he had attended the meeting on 21st January where lots of figures were presented including a financial plan which was sound as an argument against closure. However, the decision appears to have been made on safety grounds except that people are still being allowed to use the facility. Councillor Aitchison reported that the Policy Development Panel for Sport and Leisure had met and that Community Asset Transfer was not a possibility due to it needing 25 staff to run it. The only possibility now is a legal challenge but Falkirk Council will have covered any issues raised through this route. He reported that it will be 2 years before the work proposed at Bo’ness Academy is complete. He reported that Falkirk Council have said there are no plans for demolition of the building but if this happens for housing he will push for social housing to be built.

**Nominations to BCC –** three applications had been received:

William Ballantine

Lorna Weir

Lynn Munro

After a vote by BCC Members William Ballantine and Lorna Weir were elected. Jaine McLean will write to all three candidates.

Action: Jaine McLean

**McLaren Trophy**

The following were nominated:

Buzzness

Branches Charity Shop

Bo’ness Belles

After a vote Buzzness will be awarded the McLaren Trophy. Madelene Hunt will arrange for the presentation.

1. **Police Report**

The Police Report was presented by PC Graeme McDougall. He reported there had been 46 reports. He reported that shoplifting counts as a Minor Incident. He question was asked what should be done if someone is suspected of drink driving. PC McDougall said it should be reported and the police will check the car and follow the drink driving procedure in the house. Gordon Clark asked about speed checks for Carriden Brae. It is an HGV route and therefore cannot be traffic calmed. The Roads Department should be contacted about road markings being redone. Councillor Aitchison agreed o contact Falkirk Council. Madelene Hunt reported on a phone scam received.

Action: Councillor Aitchison

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Brian Dempster reported that the Bank of Scotland bank account has been closed and a Llyod’s account opened/ Brian has set up Direct Debits and there is approx. £2k balance (including £1k from Walkers Timber). Madelene Hunt, Brian Dempster and Jaine McLean will be the signatories on the account.

Forth Estuary Forum membership will be checked by Brian Dempster.

Action: Brian Dempster

1. **Secretary’s Report**

Janie McLean asked if BCC members were reading info@ emails that she sends out. BCC members replied they do read the emails and find them helpful.

Jaine reported that Landfill grants are available to groups in Bo’ness as the Kinneil Recycling Centre falls into the area covered. Janie reported about the Lottery Community Fund that is available – she will send out details.

Janine reported on the meeting with CVS and Beth Cowen – she can help with funding and recruiting volunteers.

1. **Reports**

Madelene Hunt sends congratulations to Grangemouth on the re-opening of the Public Toilets.

Bill Horn – reported that Buzzness have applied to take on the Bothy at the Cemetery via Community Asset Transfer (CAT). He also reported on Buzzess taking on the Public Toilets once their SCIO application and CAT application are complete. Wendy Turner offered to support with the SCIO application. A Foreshore Day is being arranged to support Fair Day. A Street Raffle has been arranged to raise funds for Buzzness events.

Gordon Clark – the next Friends of Kinneil meeting will be in March. HES are working on the outdoor kitchen. There is no news on the Museum closure.

John Ogden – asked about the Crawfield Road Housing Development and what will happen if the Surface Water Improvements don’t work. He also noted the Robertson Homes advert references the Recreation Centre and its 25m pool. Robertson Homes should be invited to the next meeting to discuss Phase 1 of the house building. John asked if the Wildlife Trust have been informed about the building programme.

Action: Jaine McLean invite Robertson Homes

Stuart McAllister – Listed Building Consent is being sought for a building at SRPS.

Val Spowart – reported that Branches are looking for volunteers

Brian Laird – Nothing to report

Wendy Turner – reported that the Barony Theatre is hoping for votes for its Community Funding from Falkirk Council. She also reported that she had met with Beth Cowen of CVS.

Councillor Aitchison - reported that Gauze Road would be closed for a day. He reported that he had asked about the Harcus Strachan being put back and awaits an answer from Falkirk Council.

1. **Correspondence**

As sent out by Jaine McLean.

1. **AOB**

No AOB

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 7.30pm at St Catharine’s Church Hall**