 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2025**

**St. Catharines Church Hall 7.30pm**

1. **Welcome**

Convenor Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Bo’ness Community Council sends its condolences to the family and friends of Becky at McMoos who sadly passed away.

**Sederunt**

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

**In attendance**:

Keir Stevenson (Falkirk Council), PC Graeme McDougall

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Val Spowart, John Ogden, Lennox Ainslie

**3. Minutes of 9th April 2025**

The minutes were approved.

**4. Matters Arising**

* 1. Keir Stevenson (Falkirk Council) in September 2024 Councillor Devine raised the issue of a Masterplan for Bo’ness Town Centre. This Masterplan will be progressed by Falkirk Council and the landowners. The Masterplan will include he Foreshore as this area is used by many people. There will be a Community Event in the Library on 9th Juneto consult on transport, the public realm, heritage and green spaces. This will be a phased plan to attract investment. LDP3 will be the overarching document.There is £500k to be invested in the Town Centre as a first tranche.

Billy Horn asked how this plan fits with the Coalfields Local Place Plan.

Keir Stevenson explained that the Coalfields Plan covers the whole of Bo;ness whilst the Town Centre Plan covers the Town Centre and Foreshore.

Jaine McLean suggested sending the note of the 9th June meeting to local Facebook pages.

Billy Horn said that Buzzness will email out to all local businesses.

Keir Stevenson explained the £500k is for the initial objects and projects and the spend period is 18 months.

Billy Horn explained that connecting the Town Centre and Foreshore at the old Post Office building is essential. Keir Stevenson explained the Traffic Team will also be involved in plans.Billy Horn raised the issue of transport links and Lorna Weir suggested connections between SRPS and the Town Centre is needed.

Other suggestions were the predestrianisation of some strrets; shop opening times; canpoies and heaters for outside eating; a family event.

Keir Stevenson said that road cloaures could be looked at for a Street Market.

Keir Stevenson explained that the LDP3 Plan would look at what land is classified for which use and that Danny Tallon will update on the Tree & Woodland Review.

* 1. Coalfields Regeneration Meeting – there won’t be anything to report until July.
  2. Public Liability Insurance – Brian Dempsey will renew the Policy.

Action: Brian Dempsey

1. **Police Report**

Report received. PC McDougall reported on the road accident outside Belgica< He reported that the majority of road accidents are on Grangemouth Road. He reported on detection rates which currently its at 56.7% for Bo;ness. This figure changes on a monthly basis.. Lorna Weir asked about drug activity in Bo;ness. PC McDougall reportedthatthat the majority of drug use is cocanine and that the police concentrate on targeting suppliers rather than users.

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

Total in account - £4,204,36. Community Council £3614.50 and Toilet Fund £795.89.

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

Jaine McLean reported that Outdoor Gym ompany Scotsplay will visit the Foreshore and provide a costing.

Action: Jaine McLean to report on prgress

Jaine reported on the work that Bloomin Bo;ness have completed on the Mining Memorial, Strachan memorialand Bridgenss Slab area. It was agreed the Bo’ness Community Council would cover this cost at £400 and thereafter a £100 a year. As well as this Alan Gibson ceans the cenotaph once a year.

Action: Treasurer to make payment as agreed.

Alongside this decision there was discussion of the new to renew the signage at the Bridgeness Slab and Mining Memorial. Madelen Hunt reported that she had contacted Danny Thallon at Falkirk Council about this but had not received a response.

Action: Madelene Hunt to contact Danny Thallon again for a reponse

1. **Reports**

**Brian Laird** reported that he and Madelene had attended the Ineos meeting. Green hydrogen is being generated.

**Gordon Clark** reported the Friends of Kinneil had a stall at the Science Festival held at Kinneil Estate. The Friends are conducting guided walks as part of Kinneil House being open.

**Lorna Weir** reported that the Sustainable Garden at Kinneil have donated biochar to Bloomin Bo’ness.This is a free trial and it may be used to balance the water usage. Many of the plants have been grown in poly tunnels. These plants have been grown by Walter Hackett.

**Billy Horn –** reported on signage for the Foreshore & Town Centre. It is felt that non-permanent signage is the way frward until the Town Centre Plan is agreed. Threfore chalk designs by the Collective for pavements and temporary signage for use around lamp-posts will be looked at. The CCTV camera at market Square will be switched on to count footfall. Buzzness will partner with Falkirk Council on this.There has been the first Bo’ness 5k which was well attended. The Kite Club are at the Foreshore on 21st June.

Avisit to the propsed Caravan Park site will be arranged.

**Stuart McAllister** reported on planning application from Newtown Football Ground and an application for three new houses on Stewart Avenue / Providence Brae.

**William Ballantine** reported that the holiday will take place in two weeks time.

**Wendy Turner** reported on discussions about the Kinneil Musem; asked for an update on the Bandstand Restoration and said she would pull together some thoughts on a history tour of the town centre including discussions with Christine Simm.

1. **Correspondence**

Nothing to report

1. **AOCB**

Madelene Hunt reported that the Banking Hub will open on 6th June.

Madelene asked for another Vice-Convenor to help with attending events. After discussioniit was agreed that any member could support Madelene by attending meetings and anything that comes into info@ can be passed onto others.

Madelen reported there is a meeting of Convenors on 21st May

Action: Madelene to report to next meeting

Madelene reported there are still issues with the external Library door. Councillor Aitchison is following this up.

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 11th June 2025 7.30pm at St Catharines Church Hall**