 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2025**

**St. Catharines Church Hall 7.30pm**

1. **Welcome**

Convenor Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Sederunt**

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

**In attendance**:

Councillor David Aitchison (Falkirk Council), PC Graeme McDougall

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Stacey Devine (Falkirk Council), Lorna Weir, Val Spowart, John Ogden, Lennox Ainslie

1. **Minutes of 12th March 2025**

The minutes were approved with the amendment notified by William Ballantine.

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. McLaren Trophy – this has now been presented. Discussion of this year’s recipient. Brain Dempsey proposed and Wendy Turner seconded “Bloomin Bo’ness” This is a special year as it is the first time Bo’ness has entered Keep Scotland Beautiful. Jaine McLean will write to inform them as well as arranging for the trophy to engraved and Madelene will arrange the presentation, once she has spoken to the McLaren family.

Action: Jaine McLean

* 1. Coalfields Regeneration Meeting – 11 people attended representing BCC, Bo’net, Friends of Kinneil, Sustainable Thinking Scotland (Kinneil Walled Garden). Alan Shaw (Falkirk Council Planning Department). Coalfields Regeneration will arrange a follow-up meeting at which they will present the Plan as they have developed it. This will be an evening meeting to allow good attendance. It was reported that Scottish Government have given £600k of funding to Coalfields Regeneration.
  2. Public Liability Insurance – BCC are now required to have this insurance to allow meetings to take place in the Library. Brian Dempsey will get a quote and bring it to the next meeting.

Action: Brian Dempsey

* 1. Use of Library – Councillor Aitchison will ask for an update from Officers.

Action: Councillor Aitchison

* 1. Falkirk Council attendance at BCC – Jaine reported that Douglas Gardiner of Sustainable Transport and the Economic Development Team would like to attend BCC meetings.

1. **Police Report**

Report received. Jaine McLean reported that when making deliveries she finds many front doors open. Discussion of pavement parking which is a matter for both the Police and the Council. Councillor Aitchison reported that a paper on this matter is coming to the Council on 1st May. PC McDougall reported that minor crimes tend to be resolved with two weeks but those requiring more detection take longer. He offered to check on detection rates.

It was reported that Jackie McKendry is no longer Town Centre Manager and has been replaced by Nicola Hoyle.

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

Total in account - £3,514.89 of which £840.67 – Public Toilets Fund.

Buzzness is now a SCIO and congratulations were given by all at BCC.

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

Jaine will send out the dates of future meetings.

Economic Development Team have been invited to attend a BCC meeting. An agenda of issues to discuss needs to be created.

Discussion of school capacity in light of new housing. Grange Primary is at 90% but the other Primary Schools are at approx. 60% capacity with the Academy being at 65% capacity.

Jaine updated on Noticeboards – she suggests Clock Tower Square as the location – all agreed. She will send for brochures; and also suggests taking a look at what is in Polmont.

1. **Reports**

**Billy Horn –** suggeststhat we prepare a proposal for the creation of a Caravan Park. He recommends looking at the Wick River campsite as a comparable site. He suggests that any amenities needed could be hired in to begin with. Contact has been made with Mike Ewart of Falkirk Council and originally, he was not supportive of the proposal but Billy feels that a more formal proposal with costings and impacts should be presented. Potential sites discussed were Kinneil Pit, Crawyett, Boundary Street.

**Action:** Billy, Jaine and Wendy to review Kinneil Pit site and start proposal

Buzzness Shop rubbish – Councillor Aitchison confirmed this would be considered Trade Waste and the charity would have to have a paid uplift. It was reported that Ryan Trainer will be in contact to deal with this.

Foreshore Noticeboards – a number of shopkeepers are working with Falkirk Council staff to have noticeboards added. They have a budget of £4k.

**Brian Laird** reported that the cemetery has been cleared of felled trees.He asked about the fence being installed in Links Place. Councillor Aitchison will enquire.

Action: Councillor Aitchison.

**Stuart McAllister** reported on the demolition of the Recreation Centre. He also reported on a planned extension at 2 Gauze Court.

**William Ballantine** reported that two families will go on holiday to the caravan at Port Seton.

1. **Correspondence**

Nothing to report

1. **AOCB**

None.

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 14th May 2025 7.30pm at St Catharines Church Hall**