 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2022**

**Conducted via Digital Media**

1. **Welcome**

Madelene welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a Happy New Year. She asked that as many members of the Community Council as possible attend the Falkirk Council budget meeting on 13th January. She extended a welcome to Stephen Baird and reminded everyone that she is looking for a Secretary and Treasurer

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Siobhan Samson (Vice Convenor), Owen Griffiths (Vice Convener) Brian Laird, Austin Reid, Robyn Adamson, Stephen Baird, Stuart McAllister, Val Spowart, Len Ainslie

**In attendance**: Lynn Munro, David Aitchison, Adrian Mahoney

Madelene Hunt asked that Wendy Turner be added to the info@email. so she can support with correspondence.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Gaele McFarlane, Ashley Sneddon, Ann Ritchie

1. **Minutes of the 12th January 2021 Meeting**

Madelene asked that the members confirm Stephen Baird as a new member. All agreed.

Madelene suggested that for future meetings agreement by attending members would be taken rather than a Proposer and Seconder. Madelene reminded members that non-attendance at three consecutive meetings may lead to the person being asked to step down

1. **Matters Arising**

Town Hall roads – Falkirk Community Trust are responsible but they will not take necessary action.

Cemetery – Councillor Aitchison reported that he had been in touch with the appropriate Council staff but had received no response. He will ask again. Councillor Munro reported that there is a list of planned roadworks available and she anticipated Bo’ness roads would reach the top of the list eventually. Councillor Aitchison reported that the bins are being emptied twice a week but this does not seem to be sufficient to keep on top of rubbish. However, Brian Laird does not believe the bins at Dean Road and Dundas Street have been emptied.

Litter & Bins – Madelene Hunt reported that generally litter bins do not appear to be being emptied. Councillor Munro reported that some bins now alert when full; the public can report overflowing bins on “My Falkirk”. However, she agreed there is still too much fly-tipping, litter and dog poo bags. There are no bins on the John Muir Way but this is due to access issues. However, there are bins behind The Corbie Inn. Discussion of responsible dog owners. Stephen Baird reported on the fact the house owners keep the Drum clear of litter and dog poo.

Falkirk Community Trust (FCT) – Councillor Munro reported that there is no information available on the future organization of the areas of responsibility after FCT ceases to be. She expects a report at the next full Council meeting. The re-organisation is expected to come into force in March 2022.

Champany Inn junction – no progress to report.

Whale Trail – no progress to date. Agreed to leave it to the next meeting.

South Street Resurfacing work has been completed.

Community Fridge Project – Austin reported on his visit to the Falkirk Fridge Project. Stephen Baird reported that they are still in discovery stage. Stephen & Austin to work together on this. Communication on its existence is important. Siobhan Samson many of these projects are based in Community Centres and we don’t have a place for this in Bo’ness. Val Spowart asked about the Fuelbank Foundation System. Siobhan Samson and Val Spowart will speak at the end of the meeting. Madelene reported that the Rugby Club created food packs during the Festive holidays.

1. **Reports**

Madelene Hunt – the Planning Application for North Bank Farm has been turned down. This was in part due to the comments submitted by Bo’ness Community Council. Discussion followed about the Planning Committee and the fact that there is no Bo’ness representation. However, Councillors can comment on all planning applications. Madelene Hunt suggested this should be raised at the budget meeting on 13th January. Austen Reid suggested that a meeting of all peripheral Falkirk Council communities should meet together and work in collaboration to ensure parity of treatment for all Falkirk residents. Adrian Mahoney reported that all members can ask to attend Planning Committee meetings to make representation; additionally, the Full Council can sit as a Planning Committee if this is deemed necessary. Madelene Hunt will ask for a meeting with Brian Pirie to discuss the Planning Committee.

Madelene Hunt – reported on the noise levels from the flaring at Ineos. Ineos had reported this on Facebook but they only give 24 hours’ notice of it happening. There has been no meetings with the Ineos Liaison Committee.

Stephen Baird reported on the noise levels from the Miller Homes work on Borrowstoun Road. He agreed to monitor this and report back. Siobhan Samson reported that there will be approved times for this work to take place.

Robyn Adamson – reported on the Schools Cluster Group who are fundraising for the Bo’ness Fair. There is a Schools Cluster Lottery and profits will go to the school which is hosting. Information on the Lottery will be sent out shortly.

Robyn Adamson – reported on an enquiry she had received about why the hairdryers at the Recreation Centre cost 20p but are free at Grangemouth. Councillor Aitchison agreed to ask about this and report back.

Councillor Munro – The results of the Strategic Property review are still to be reported. Councillor Munro suggested that a review of all Town Halls in Falkirk Council area would be useful and that she has asked for a meeting with Officers about this. There is a new appointment, Malcolm Binnie.

1. **Correspondence**

Madelene wrote to Jackie McArthur asking for an update about the Library Project. She is expecting a meeting to take place on 21st January. Val Spowart will join the meeting with Madelene Hunt. Councillor Munro reported that the Town Centre funding is to include shop frontages, free town centre WiFi as well as the Library. Work on the Butcher’s Shop is to remove the eyesore to the entrance to the town. This was suggested by Councillor Munro but it is owned by Hamilton Estates.

1. **AOCB**

Brian Pirie has not been in touch about a meeting. He has reported that Community Council elections won’t take place until after the local council elections.

Adrian Mahoney reported on the Foreshore Play Area. A new planning application has been removed due to Foreshore Pipeline restrictions; therefore a new area is being looked at. Any ideas on this can be sent to Sustrans.

There will be a report on the twinning with Bowness on Solway at the next meeting.

Madelene Hunt suggested meeting for coffee in Bo’ness.

**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 9th March 2022 at 7pm on Zoom**