 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2024**

**St. Catharines Church Hall 7.30pm**

1. **Welcome**

Convenor Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Billy Horn for attending the Armistice Parade.

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Jaine McLean (Secretary). Brian Dempsy (Treasurer), Brian Laird, Stuart McAllister, Val Spowart, John Ogden, Lennox Ainslie, William Ballantine, Billy Horn, Gordon Clark, Lorna Weir, Wendy Turner (Minute Secretary)

**In attendance**:

Councilor Stacey Devine (Falkirk Council) PC Graeme McDougall (Police Scotland)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

None received.

1. **Minutes of 9th October 2024**

Minutes were approved as read with the exception of the date of the CVS AGM which was 28th October

1. **Matters Arising**

None

1. **Police Report**

PC Graeme McDougall in attendance and submitted a written report. John Ogden asked about access to Police Stations. He had needed access but this was problematic. PC McDougall explained Grangemouth is open Mon – Fri 8am to 4pm and Falkirk is open Mon – Fri 8am to 11pm. However, if staffing is not available then the stations may not be open to the public. PC McDougall reported that the Schools Police Officer is working with other Officers to identify school children responsible for thefts from Tesco. If these children are identified they will be cautioned in front of their parents. If a pattern is established the Social Work department may become involved.

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

Reported that the new Lloyds bank account was working well.

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

Jaine asked about the Green Action Plan and whether this work would continue year on year. Councillor Devine will follow up to get more detail of the plans.

Action: Councillor Devine

Jaine reported that Sustrans had commented about the John Muir Way and directed her to Falkirk Council but did not offer any support.

Jaine asked about the ongoing operation of Projects within Bo’ness:

Miners’ Wheel is being looked after by Bloomin Bo’ness

Bridgeness Slab needs new Information Boards

Harcus Strachan memorial is looked after by Bloomin Bo’ness

The Buoy does not have a group looking after this.

It was agreed that any future projects should ensure that ongoing operational costs and resources are included in applications.

New Project suggestion – support Foodbanks. Look into a 24/7 Food Bank; a Community Pantry; Pay It Forward for food / drinks in local outlets. Agreed to discuss this more fully at the nest meeting.

Action: All

1. **Reports**

**William Ballantine**

There will be an Xmas lunch at the Corbie Inn organized by St Mary’s.

All churches are donating to the Salvation Army Xmas Toy Appeal.

Drug dealing in Jamieson Avenue has been reported to the Police

**Billy Horn**

Xmas Lights Switch On is 24th November. Fundraising had been disappointing but he was hopeful that more would come in. Tea urns, gazebos and tables have been purchased and these will be stored in 95 North Street. Tesco are providing drinks on sale or return. Bloomin Bo’ness has a generator that can be used.

The Bothy at the cemetery is still being sought along with the restroom and toilets.

The Remembrance Parade was well attended. However, the Standards are missing.

There will be a car boot sale on 1st Dec and thereafter the first Monday of each month. This will be in the car park at Farmfoods.

**Stuart McAllister**

No planning applications to report on.

**Lorna Weir**

Reported that she had looked at Polmont Community Council minutes. Funds raised from the Xmas Lights Switch On had been given back to the Community through grants. Lorna suggests that BCC might do this.

Raising the profile of Bo’ness Community Council should be looked at.

**Brian Dempsey**

Asked if Borrowstoun Road is now fully open. It is but the route is through the houses.

1. **Correspondence**

None received.

1. **AOCB**

Jaine asked everyone to think of ideas for the next meeting.

Action: All

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 December 2024 7.30pm at St Catharines Church Hall**