 BO’NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2021**

**Conducted via Digital Media**

1. **Welcome**

Madelene led a minute’s silence for Ian Don (Treasurer) who passed away on 1st October. Ian had served the Community Council for many years and Madelene extended her thanks for all his work and sent condolences to his family on behalf of Bo’ness Community Council.

**Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Stuart McAllister, Joan Boyd, Siobhan Samson (Vice Convenor), Owen Griffiths (Vice Convenor), Robyn Adamson, Brian Laird, Austin Reid, Val Spowart, Wendy Turner (Minute Secretary)

**In attendance**, Councillor David Aitchison,

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

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Ashley Sneddon,

Non-attendance: Councillor Lynn Munro, Gaele McFarlane, Lennox Ainslie

1. **Minutes of the 8th September 2021 Meeting**

Madelene explained that she would extend the minutes using the Zoom recording. There was therefore no Proposer or seconder asked for.

Police report to info@ email and will be sent out with the minutes

1. **Matters Arising**

There no matters arising.

1. **Reports**

Madelene Hunt reported on the Community Council Forum meeting. It appeared that invites had not been received by all relevant attendees. Madelene reported that a Working Group within the Forum would be created to help make people aware of Community Council elections. The postponement of the elections until March should help to ensure they will be successful. This will be discussed at the Executive Committee on 19th October.

Brian Laird asked about legal issues around posters and banners being put up in the town. Councillor Aitchison explained that it depends where they are and if permission has been given by the landowner. Brian cited the railings at the cross-roads being particularly bad for banners. Councillor Aitchison reported that Falkirk Council will only act of they are reported on. Madelene explained that she had read up on the legal issues surrounding this and confirmed permission is needed. Official noticeboards should be used where possible. Anyone can remove these but they must be left where they are and not damaged. Councillor Aitchison confirmed that Bakkavor can use their fence for banners as it is their private land. Councillor Aitchison asked that any concerns should be sent to him directly and he will pass onto Falkirk Council.

Brian Laird reported that once again the litter bins in the Cemetery are not being emptied and that appears to have been no progress on the work needed to repair the roads. Councillor Aitchison agreed to speak to Grounds Maintenance on both issues.

Robyn Adamson reported that The Guides have not been able to re-start their meetings due to the building / room lets not being approved.

Siobhan Samson reported that the rebuild of the wall at Bo’mains Road was still not complete. Councillor Aitchison said he would investigate and report back.

Owen Griffiths discussed the recent fatal accident at the Beancross. Falkirk Council are proposing road improvements. Owen enquired whether the funding is available for this work, and also what would be happening at other accidents hot spots such as the Champany Junction and Snab Brae. Councillor Aitchison reported that accidents at these locations were considered to be driver error rather than road layout. Owen will ask for further information on all of these places. It was suggested he speak to Graham McDougall and Graeme Crawford. Madelene Hunt reported that a roundabout at Snab Brae had been promised for two years with no progress. Councillor Aitchison confirmed this work is in Falkirk Council’s budget. Siobhan Samson reported that the Give Way sign at The Champany Junction is obscured by trees. Can cutting back be undertaken?

Stuart McAllister reported on a planning application for two telecoms masts at the south-west of Union Street. He also reported on the planning application for the play area to the north-west of 2 Union Street by Sustrans. This is for the new site for the play park.

Val Spowart reported on the Churches Together Advent Tree Festival which will take place on 27th November and a Advent Sunday Song of Praises service. She reported that the Salvation Army Charity Shop has now closed and the lease has been handed back to the owner. A final sale of remaining stock will take place.

Siobhan Samson reported on her investigations into The Whale Trail. This requires us to sign an event partnership deal and would require local businesses to sign up for sponsorship. They recommend that you don’t rely on the auction of the whales to pay for the event. There is also a bespoke package available. Siobhan will find out what the costs are. Siobhan will create a list of businesses that can be approached to see if they want to be involved. Madelene suggested that Bo’net might be able to help; and also suggested that planning permission is sought.

Councillor Aitchison reported on the proposals for Kinneil Walled Gardens which will go to the Falkirk Council meeting. There is a report on Facebook and the full proposal is available of the Falkirk Council website.

1. **Correspondence**

John Boyd Correspondence BCC meeting 13.10.21

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**Period 14th September 2021 – October 12th 2021**

**E-mail** – from Brian Pirie advising that it is proposed to delay the Community Council (CC) elections until Spring 2022. Brian is reporting to the executive on the 19th October. He wishes to set up a representation group that can work directly with him. He would like a representative from each CC to work directly with him on the plans. Madelene commented that she had volunteered her services.

**E-mail** – from Brian Pirie passed on an e-mail relating to ten events the Scottish Government are conduction to ensure stakeholders are aware of the Digital Census that is taking place in March 2022. The Government wants as many households in Scotland to take part. Each event will last no longer than 30 minutes. The events are taking place from 27th October 2021 until 19th January 2022. It was agreed this should be placed on our website after some debate.

**E-mail** – from Brian Pirie giving information on the Community Council Forum which I sent out to members.

**Notifications of Orders for New Disabled Parking Spaces in Bo’ness**

Kinneil Road, north side near 22b Kinneil Road in a westerly direction.

Northbank Park, west side near 1 Northbank Park in an easterly direction.

1. **AOCB**

There was no Any Other Business.

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**The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 7pm on Zoom**