

# **BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017** **IN THE SMALL UPPER ROOM IN BO'NESS LIBRARY**

### **1. Welcome**

Madelene extended a warm welcome to the room.

### **2. Sederunt**

Madelene Hunt (Chair), Lennox Ainslie (Vice-Chair), Joan Boyd (Secretary), Ian Don, (Treasurer), David Findlay, Stuart McAllister, Robyn Adamson, Owen Griffiths, Alex King, Siobhan Samson, Ashley Sneddon (Minute Secretary)

### **3. In Attendance**

Councillor David Aitchison and 2 members of the public.

### **4. Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Lynn Munro

### **5. Police Report** Sent by email

The purpose of this report is to provide the local community and local stakeholders with information on policing issues affecting the Bo'ness & Blackness ward area.

- **Anti-Social Behaviour, Violence & Disorder**

There have been 15 incidents of ASB over the previous month. There is no identified pattern or repeat locations. There were no crimes of serious violence such as Attempted Murder, Serious Assault or Robbery. There have been 9 minor assaults reported to Police.

- **Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse**

Over the previous month, there were no Drug Search warrants enforced within the Bo'ness area. 4 offences in relation to possession of controlled substances were detected.

- **Road Safety**

There has been 1 offence relating to careless driving and 1 offence for driving whilst unfit over the previous month. 1 offence was also reported in relation to fail to report/stop at a road collision.

- **Dishonesty Crimes**

There have been 5 housebreaking offences relating to residential premises and 2 Thefts by opening a Lock fast Place. 4 of these have occurred in the Carriden area of Bo'ness with enquiries still ongoing. There have been 5 minor thefts.

**6. Community Wardens** Report sent by email

**Period: 01/08/17 – 31/08/17**

<b>Total ASB Reports Falkirk Council Area</b>	<b>Breakdown of 3 geographical areas</b>		
<b>137</b>	<b>EAST-Grangemouth, Bo'ness, Braes</b>	<b>WEST-Denny, Dunipace, Bonnybridge, Hags, Banknock</b>	<b>CENTRAL-Falkirk North and South</b>
	<b>62</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>46</b>

**Hotspot Patrols**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Actions</b>
N/A	N/A	We identify hotspot areas through a multi-agency tasking group involving Police Scotland, Falkirk Housing, SACRO and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. These are areas experiencing high levels of antisocial behaviour.

**Investigations: Period 01/08/17 – 31/08/17**

<b>ASB Concern</b>	<b>N o o f reports</b>
Dog Fouling & Control of Dogs	20
Litter	1
Fly Tipping	15
Youth related disorder	24
Other	2

**Minutes of Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

Minutes proposed by Lennox Ainslie and seconded by Alex King.

**7. Matters Arising**

Alex King raised a point from previous matters arising about the lorries going down Commissioner Street. Alex said the lorries could be very dangerous at the left turn coming out of Commissioner Street and, at times, completely blocked the road.

**Amendment** – Siobhan Samson commented that the minutes should reflect the comments made by a representative from Ineos regarding the pipe bridge and whether this was one of the pipe bridges that are included within the current application for security gates which would result in the closure of Bo’ness Road. In his response, there was no definitive answer to that question.

Page 4 - Madelene spoke to Stephen Carr regarding the work being undertaken at the Newtown Bar, to clarify a certain term on the planning application as there had been concerns raised by the public around this. Madelene reported that the structure had a large living area, 4 bedrooms, a bathroom and kitchen for workers living in area on short term contracts or to advertise on Air B&B. **This is further addressed in Stuart’s planning report.** Siobhan Samson raised a concern that the development was not providing rental flats for the people in the town.

Joan Boyd advised the chair that she had an issue for discussion related to page 4 which she wished to be discussed under AOCB within a closed meeting.

## **8. Reports**

**Ian Don** – The Community Council’s current balance sits at £1125. Ian intends to try and apply for a grant to supplement this.

**Len Ainslie** – Nothing to report

**Owen Griffiths** – Owen reported that the Community Council website had been upgraded and now had a newsfeed. It is now much more up to date, which is a step in the right direction. Robyn suggested that perhaps the Community Council should consult the public to see what they would like to see in terms of content. Siobhan agreed and suggested there should perhaps be polls on planning issues.

**David Findlay** – David has the wreath for the cenotaph for the British Legion and reported the sad news that John MacIntosh had passed away.

**Siobhan Samson** – Siobhan reported she was going to the upcoming enquiry meeting, and proposed a timeline to decide what to do. She suggested that the Reporter from the DPEA should drive the alternate proposed route out Wholeflats road and clock how much longer it would take if the Bo’ness Road was closed.

**Councillor Aitchison** – David reported he would not be able to contribute or report in the upcoming Falkirk Council vote as he had expressed his opinion over the road being closed prior to the vote. There has been lots of debate over the issue.

Regarding the Community Bus Group, David reported that Stagecoach have started diverting the 909 via Bo’ness for a year trial. This will provide a direct link to Glasgow via Stirling. He hopes the two can work together to help provide better transport links for Bo’ness.

**Robyn Adamson** – Nothing to report

**Ashley Sneddon** – Reported that the Transport Festival was a great success and thanked everyone involved, with particular thanks to Bo’ness Hillclimb. Ashley also attended the Hillclimb on the

Sunday, with particular thanks for the complimentary ticket. It was her first time at the Hillclimb and she was very impressed by how professionally organized the event was.

**Alex King** – Nothing to report

**Stuart McAllister** –

**Planning Reports**

Application No P/17/0533/PPP  
Earliest date of Decision 29 September 2017  
Proposal Planning Permission in Principle  
Location East Bonhard, Linlithgow EH49 7NT  
Applicant Mrs. Annabell Taylor

Application No P/17/0582/FUL  
Earliest date of Decision 6 October 2017  
Proposal Change of Use from Industrial Use to Form Dwellinghouse  
Location 15 Corbiehall, Bo'ness EH51 0AW  
Applicant Ms Christine Morison

Application No P/17/0523/FUL  
Earliest date of Decision 11 September 2017  
Proposal Change of use from Flatted Dwelling (Class 9: Sui Generis) to Hostel (Class 7)  
Location Newtown Bar, Linlithgow Road, Bo'ness EH51 0HX  
Applicant Mr Stephen Carr

The application was incorrectly stated by Arka Architects as a 'Hostel' and has been interpreted in a very negative manner. The Ineos acquisition of Kinneil Terminal will mean a period of sustained investment and the intention is to provide self catering accommodation for contractors.

Application No P/17/0466/FUL  
Earliest date of Decision 15 August 2017  
Proposal Planning Permission (Financial, Professional and Other Services)  
Building and Associated Infrastructure  
Location Land to the West of The Crown Bar, Grangepans, Bo'ness  
Applicant Good Entertainment Ltd

A list of possible Class 2 services was provided by Julie Seidel for the last meeting.

**Joan Boyd** – Edinburgh Airport - We have been invited by Edinburgh Airport to a meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in the Hilton Hotel, Edinburgh Airport regarding their Rationale Report. They wish to explain their decision making process and answer any questions we may have. They have request no more than 2 members attend. I have to let them know before the 22 September, 2017. Joan will go along and possibly David.

Harcus Strachan Event - Madelene and Joan attended a second meeting of the Harcus Strachan Victoria Cross (VC) memorial event which will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017. This is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the day he received the VC. His family in Canada have been sent details and

pictures of the four suggested places in the town the commemorative plaque may be situated and asking if they have a preference. At present there has been no response from the family.

The four sites identified are The Cenotaph, Glebe Park, Chance Park and the Mining Memorial. The commemorative V.C. plaque measures 2ft by 2ft square and rather than just having this lying flat/slightly raised, Joan suggested it would be more fitting that we incorporate the stone within a larger memorial. We would however, have to raise the money to fund this if it is felt that would be an appropriate course of action.

Harcus was awarded the Military Cross in May 1917 and the Victory Cross in November 1917. There will be visiting dignitaries on the day such as Military/Regimental and Canadian Consul Representation. There will be a parade from the Town Hall to the preferred site. Local minister(s) will be involved. A piper, Military band, a Bo'ness Band and the involvement of Bo'ness School children has also been suggested and is being discussed. A reception will take place following the commemoration at the Town Hall.

Another suggestion being considered is the placing of a plaque on the wall near the house in Bo'ness in which Harcus was born and lived until the family immigrated to Canada. Also that signage is placed on all roads in to the town noting his birthplace. We will know more following the next meeting.

## **9. Correspondence**

Various communications have been received in response to our objection to the INEOS planning application which has been taken to Appeal. If successful this would result in closure of the road. The last communication, received today, is advising us that the Reporter will undertake an accompanied site visit. It also sets out the process and deadline dates if we wish to participate in a pre-examination meeting or enquiry /hearing, should the Reporter decide on these as the process. We have 14 days to confirm if we wish to participate in the pre-Examination meeting and a deadline of 27<sup>th</sup> September to confirm participation at an enquiry/or hearing. We have already written asking where a pre-examination meeting is to be held that it be held early evening so that Community Councillors can attend. This was discussed and it was agreed that we would wish to participate. Joan will write to the DPEA confirming this.

Copies of the letters sent out to the groups in receipt of funding for the Community Choices project which were sent out to 15 groups by Falkirk Council were received. The event is planned for 20 October, 2017 in Bo'ness town Hall, when groups will have the opportunity to show case what they have achieved with the grant awarded.

### **E-mails**

E-mail from Peter McLaren of Ineos, attaching a poster advertising the exhibition in Bo'ness related to the PAN from Ineos to build a power plant.

E-mail from Maria Ford regarding a petition related to Community bus services which I just sent out to you to-night. It came in whilst I was away and I missed it somehow.

E-mail from Brian Pirie advising that community council elections will take place in October.

E-mail from Maria Ford giving programme details of the Big Roman week taking place from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September. (Sent out to members this evening).

E-mail about funding applications from Maria Ford, Bo'net Development Officer. Madelene e-mailed out about the event on the Sunday morning.

E-mail from Maria Ford regarding a survey from the Newtown Football Park Association requesting that the community complete the survey to assist the Association

**10. Madelene Hunt** [Chair] nothing to report that has not been discussed already.

## **11. A.O.C.B.**

Len mentioned the upcoming Roman Week and the Lunch at the Library after the Conference. Len had some concern that the flats at Newtown Bar would become emergency accommodation, which Councillor Aitchison assured it wouldn't be. Len also mentioned that there was already a lot of contractor's accommodation in Bo'ness.

Two members of the public in attendance raised the matter of the Core Path leading from Jessfield Place up to West Lothian Golf Club and proceeded to explain their perspective of the situation. On receiving confirmation that these gentlemen owned part of the path, Joan Boyd asked for the conversation to cease as the Community Council had yet to discuss a complaint that had been raised around conversations between a member of the Community Council and members of the public relating to the path. Both gentlemen left the meeting at this point, as did Councillor Aitchison and Ian Don. The member involved absented themselves from the discussion about to take place and left the room.

There followed a discussion around the details of the complaint, the information presented at the time by the complainant and a search was undertaken of the facebook page mentioned. All community councillors present unanimous agreed that there was no case to answer. The member concerned was asked to join the meeting and advised of our decision. Joan was asked to convey our decision in a written response to the complainant.

**As there was no further business Alex King proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.**