



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2016 **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], Stuart McAllister, Alex King, David Aitchison, Robyn Adamson, Siobhan Samson, Owen Griffiths and Ashley Sneddon [Minutes Secretary]

Members of the public in attendance: Robert Jardine and Alan Gow

3. Apologies for Absence

David Findlay

4. Police Report Officers in attendance: P. C. Graeme McDougall **Report Presented by: P.C. Steve Mitchell**

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 13 incidents of ASB over the previous month and there are currently no repeat or priority locations in terms of ASB, Disorder and Violence.

There have been no crimes of serious violence such as Attempted Murder, Serious Assault or Robbery. There have been 3 minor assaults reported to Police.

Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse

Over the previous month, there has been 1 Drug Search warrant enforced within the Bo'ness area. During which controlled substances were recovered and a report will be submitted.

4 persons have been found in possession of controlled substances

Road Safety

There have been 14 speeding offences detected, 1 MOT offence, a male charged with various Road Traffic offences which included no licence and a number of parking tickets issued in response to complaints.

Dishonesty Crimes

There have been 3 housebreaking offences relating to residential properties with a further attempted housebreaking to a residential property and one to a commercial property. There have been 3 thefts of a motor vehicle. There is no identified pattern or repeat location. There have been 8 minor thefts.

Recently youths have been stealing garden furniture and wheelie bins in order to set them on fire. This is happening throughout the Bo'ness area and extra vigilance is requested in order to stop further similar activity. Police are carrying out patrols on regular basis within the known areas for fire-raising in order to identify those responsible.

Questions and Answers to the Police Officers

In terms of the road safety checks is anything being done about cyclists with no lights and dark clothing?

They are immediately stopped if seen. The police will put out a tweet reminding cyclists to wear appropriate clothing, particularly reflective clothing after dark.

On Gauze Road, youths have been racing at high speeds down to Harbour Road, what can be done about this?

The police will be extra vigilant in this area of Bo'ness and mention these issues at school assemblies.

Are flashing lights on bicycles illegal?

No, they are not, the front one should be a steady white light but the back can be a flashing one.

Members of Public in Attendance: Alan Gow and Robert Jardine

Alan and Robert have come to speak about a large project they have been working on. They are looking at the Bo'ness War Memorial to find out who the men were on it and the people behind the names. They plan to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund and would like to produce a book, website and exhibition to tour and have in the library. They have come to the Community Council for a letter of support to apply to the Heritage Fund.

They would also like to have spinoff projects such as looking at the lives of men who won medals and the men of WW2.

For the past 6 months they have been researching each name carefully to tie them in with Bo'ness and find out more about the men behind the names.

They also hope to add to info for genealogy and families around the world.

They are involved with the Bo'ness Town Trust. The application will be put forward from that name.

The Community Council unanimously agreed to support them and Madelene commended them on the project.

Their Facebook Page is: 'Bo'ness War Memorial' should anyone want further information on the project.

5. Minutes of Wednesday 14th December 2016

Minutes read and accepted by Stuart McAllister and Alex King.

6. Matters Arising

The order to place double yellow lines opposite the Co-Op on Linlithgow Road does not appear to have been implemented as we had requested. The yellow lines only appear to have been extended by about a yard. Joan received a letter about changes and thinks all of this was considered within the changes on the Road.

The car park outside the Newtown Bar also has many potholes – Joan thinks that it is unclear who owns the land. Joan will write appropriately to clarify.

7. Reports

Ian Don – All payments have been cleared.

Len Ainslie – Nothing to report

Owen Griffiths – Nothing to report - The council congratulated Owen and Ashley on their work with the retailer's group.

Siobhan Samson – Nothing to report.

David Aitchison – Newtown Park Association – Falkirk Council will come into partnership with the group and help with funding and advice. The Bus Association has received charitable status – there will be a public meeting in mid-January.

Robyn Adamson – **Guides** – A very successful number of kids attended the Remembrance Service and had an outing to a pantomime in Edinburgh. Robyn is also fundraising on the Santa trains on the railway; a lot of praise has been received from the public so far this year.

Ashley Sneddon – Ashley reported that the Christmas event went well, but in discussion, the Community Council expressed worry over the budget cuts next year and how they will affect all the council-funded events in Bo'ness. Ashley and Owen will be tentatively moving forward in creating social media (a Facebook page, etc.) for the group.

Alex King – Alex visited an open day at the newly opened Glenbervie Care Home on Bellsdyke Road. The centre aims to be a resource for the frail and elderly. Providing a safe and friendly place for elderly people to improve and socialise. The centre believes the activities offered will focus on pursuing wellness and preventing illness.

The residents of the new centre will aim for 150 minutes of activity per week, this includes both mental and physical activities such as walking, photography and art therapy. The centre hopes to foster a community within its residents.

As 10% of Scotland currently speak a language other than English, so the centre will also employ speciality ethnic minority carers.

Alex was very impressed at the care home and the level of detail and attention the staff presented.

The first residents arrived on 13/12/2016

Alex also attended a series of presentations by the Forth Estuary Forum at their AGM. The six presentations focused mainly on rising sea levels and how the landscape will change because of that, as well as what the effects of this will be on the environment. Attention was also drawn to marine science, birdlife and their decline in recent years.

Stuart McAllister –Planning Applications

Application No: P/16/0713/FUL

Erection of a Wood Process Building and Installation of Plant | Woodwaste Ltd. Carriden Ind. Est. Bo'ness EH51 9JF

Lennox Ainslie and Ian Don left the meeting at this stage;

8. Correspondence. [Secretary] Joan Boyd

INEOS consultation and Planning Application Notice

Discussion took place regarding the letter to businesses, how these will be distributed and the contact being made with other potential key stakeholders. We continue to monitor the planning and expect the application to be made imminently.

The Falkirk Council Budget proposals to be decided upon in February are published on the Council's website. Joan, Robyn, Ashley and Len will look at this. As time is short they will try to meet before the festive break. Joan will then collate our thoughts and forward these to the members for consideration prior to the next meeting.

Correspondence

A letter from Falkirk Council in regard to Decriminalised Parking Enforcement in the Falkirk Council Area, The executive has agreed that an application be prepared to the Scottish Government for Decriminalised Parking Enforcement, (DPE) Powers which, if granted, will transfer responsibility for enforcing waiting, loading and parking restrictions from Police Scotland to Falkirk Council. Police Scotland will still be responsible for endorsable traffic and moving vehicle offences. The DPE will apply to all roads in the Falkirk Council area, excluding trunk roads. The proposal is designed to improve the management of public parking, reduce road congestion and improve road safety amongst a number of other aspects.

Correspondence E-mails and information forwarded to members since the last meeting:

E-mails

Notification of the proposal by Edinburgh Airport to set up a Noise Management Board, The Committee would be fully independent of the Airport and would seek improvements to noise, be involved in setting and monitoring noise targets and tracking performance amongst other community based issues and concerns. A draft document detailing the airports proposals was attached and was sent out to the members. Suggestions related to governance, management and proposed members to the Board were sought by the end of January. It is the intention of the Airport to visit community councils and other proposed board members early in the New Year. Members were asked to let Joan or David Findlay have their comments by the next meeting.

Information regarding a Planning Application received from our colleague on Grangemouth Community Council related to work being conducted which appears to go under Wholeflats Road. Siobhan to check this out and report back.

Application for a No Waiting at any time order on Bridgeness Road. Joan will send this out to members.

9. Madelene Hunt [Chair]

Streetlights – Madelene noted that the council have cut down on the number of streetlights on Deanfield and Jamieson Avenue and raised the height. Jamieson Avenue now only has them down one side of the road, which can make driving difficult, especially on the opposite side of the road.

10. A.O.C.B.

The council discussed the impending council budget and which proposals would most affect the town, and possible solutions should the cuts go through.

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