



BO'NESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 12th April 2023

St. Catharine's Church Hall 7.30pm

1. Welcome

Madelene Hunt welcomed everyone and asked that everyone speak through the chair and respect each other.

Sederunt

Madelene Hunt (Convenor), Jaine McLean (Secretary), Brian Dempsey (Treasurer), Owen Griffiths (Vice Convenor), Lennox Ainslie, Stuart McAllister, Stephen Baird, Gordon Clark. John Ogden, Billy Horn, Val Spowart, Wendy Turner

In attendance:

PC Graeme McDougall, PC Jacqueline McKendry, Councillor Ann Ritchie

2. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Stacey Devine, Councillor David Aitchison, Matteo Petruzzo. Stuart McAllister

3. Minutes of the 8th March 2023 meeting

Minutes were accepted.

4. Matters Arising

Owen Griffiths reported that SEPA corroborated Matteo Petruzzo's complaint and SEPA will respond to Owen as he filled out the SEPA form.

Brian Dempsey reported that all the signatures for the bank account are in order. A laptop and printer will be supplied for Jaine McLean (Secretary). £1,344 has been sent by Falkirk Council to BCC.

5. Police Report

PC Graeme McDougall presented the Police Report for crimes that had taken place locally over the last month. There were 39 reports relating to 27 incidents. Please see the report for details.

6. Reports

John Ogden visited the Recycling Centre and reported at present staff are letting people in who haven't made a booking. Some people cannot book slots online and it is believed that many people are using Linlithgow instead because they don't check addresses and there is no booking required. It may be that the booking is not needed at this site due to the amount of use made of it. However, Stephen Baird reported that when he had visited there were 25 to 30 cars queuing. Brian Laird reported that small electricals are not being collected from black boxes. Brain suggested we should make a formal response on how it's working. There is a concern that fly-tipping will increase. Councillor Ritchie reported that Falkirk Council will review this arrangement in six months but, in the meantime, she will take it forward to the Executive Committee. Jaine McLean will email Councillor Ritchie.

Brian Laird reported on Disabled Access at Dawson Place. One person in Buchanan Court can't get access due to cars parked on the road. Brian reported that Bo'ness Opera have been asked to remove their props and equipment from the Town Hall. Councillor Ritchie reported that Falkirk Town Hall theatre equipment is coming to Bo'ness Town Hall and space will need to be found to store this. Councillor Ritchie will follow up with Elaine Caldwell to see if space can be found. However, she reported that the two flats are currently full. Councillor Ritchie updated that Link Housing have adopted the pavements; and the steps are being looked at. There is no rule against parking on the road. Police can only speak to car owners they can't enforce it.

Stephen Baird no report.

Owen Griffiths reported that he is preparing a document for discussion on promotion of the work of BCC

Billy Horn reported on the Xmas Lights switch on for 2023. Falkirk Delivers are having their funding cut and they usually pay for the Xmas lights. It is estimated the cost is £5k. Councillor Ritchie will speak to Jacquie McArthur about this. Billy suggested that Buzzness or BCC could pick this up arrangement including licensing, street closures, entertainment and staging.

Billy reported on the situation with the Public Toilets and suggested a public meeting to discuss volunteers taking this on. A SCIO would need to be created. Billy had emailed art Berg to discuss but had not received a reply. There would need to a meeting with the Council about the lease agreement. Wendy suggested Community Choices for possible funding. It was suggested a leaflet could be sent out with the Fair Day envelope.

Jaine McLean reported that she has out in an application for £15k to Outdoor Gym Ltd for a variety of outdoor gym equipment. Councillor Ritchie has put her in

contact with the Planning department to agree an area where the equipment can be placed.

Brian Dempster raised the issue of the Chance Park Pole and the fact that Falkirk Council should be responsible for its repair.

Madelene Hunt reported that the tri-saws are now stored behind The Corbie Inn and that gates across the railway line have been put in place to allow access/ Madelene reported the Bo'net AGM will be on 13th April.

Lennox Ainslie asked how many hours the Litter Collector works. It was reported that the person in post is likely to retire next week but will be replaced.

Lennox asked for an update on the new Falkirk Council Chambers. Councillor Ritchie reported that two sites are being considered but no final decision has been made. Councillor Ritchie reported that a special Full Council meeting will receive the report.

Lennox reported on the Library Lift works and the Library will partially open on 24th April.

7. Correspondence

Jaine McLean reported on an email regarding the Community Payback Scheme. The team have worked for Bloomin Bo'ness. They are available throughout the summer and can be contacted on roy.dewar@falkirk.gov.uk.

8. AOB

Brian Laird reported on the potential joining of the Bo'ness Churches. Carriden Church do not want to join and therefore may leave the Presbytery.

Brian Laird reported that The Childrens' Theatre are looking for rehearsal space.

Jaine McLean reported that Cowdenhall Hall is being passed over via the Strategic Property Review.

Lennox Ainslie proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair.

The date of our next meeting is Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 7.30pm at St Catharine's Church Hall