

Broughty Ferry Community Council

Minutes of meeting held at Broughty Ferry Library on 5th April 2016

1. Community Councillors Present: Adele McGrath (Chair), Ian M Gray (Vice Chair & Secretary), David A Easson (Treasurer), David Hewick (Planning Secretary), Stan Nutt (Licensing Secretary), Neil Cooney (Communications Secretary), Joan Chalmers (Minute Secretary), James Adams, Fiona M Potton, John Watson, Ron Findlay, Sean Moore, Pat Moore, Isobel McLean, Gill Bloomer, Carolyn Forrester

In Attendance: Carole Jenkins (Communities Officer DCC)

Ex Officio: Bailie Derek Scott, Cllr Laurie Bidwell

Members of the Public Present: Richard Smith, J C Forrester, D McLaren, Robert Stewart, David Mills, Elizabeth Alexander

Apologies: Cllr Ken Guild, Cllr Kevin Cordell, Hugh M Begg

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes were accepted as read and proposed by Ian M Gray, seconded by David Hewick

3. Matters arising:

Carole Jenkins confirmed she had been in touch with David McAllister regarding the training for Community Councillors and will know within the next day or two about costs and possible dates for this.

*** After tonight's meeting, Bailie Scott advised the Minute Secretary that an amendment needed to be made to the March minutes. He had previously asked if the charges could be put on hold until such time as the extra free on street parking spaces were put in place. In the minute it says that Mike Galloway had agreed to look at this. This should have read 'Bailie Scott had asked Mike Galloway to look at this'. Mike Galloway subsequently did not agree with this request. ***

4. Matters to be raised by Community Councillors

Stan Nutt has been contacted by several members of the public about a 'right of way' from Strathern Road to Albany Road at the side of the (previous) Dunella Hotel. This appears to have been taken over by the adjoining householder, cleared of weeds and gravel has been laid to the front. Bailie Scott recalls having dealt with this previously but will have to check the exact nature of the communications as this was some time ago. He feels that the 'right of way' may have lapsed as it has been blocked for many years. Fiona feels it should still be valid but Ian asked who is responsible for keeping the way cleared. Cllr Bidwell says normally it is the responsibility of the

Council but it may not be clear who owns/has responsibility for this pathway. Sean remarked that the area looks a lot better now.

Due to the constant rain on Monday, flooding was again seen at the usual areas on Fort Street etc. Fiona also reported an area of flooding where raw sewage was present on the pavement on Dalhousie road. She reported this to the relevant Department and cleaning work has been done.

5. Matters to be raised by members of the public

D McLaren wishes to speak about the Minutes

6. Police Report

No members of the Police were present

7. Planning Report

David Hewick spoke about the application for flats next to the Library and confirmed an objection had been submitted.

A cutting from the newspaper showing the proposed restaurant and flats above which is to be situated next to the Bruach on Brook Street was circulated. David has voiced concerns about the parking spaces – this development would require a minimum of 6 spaces. It is noted that the vacant ground is used at present as an unofficial car park.

8. Local Community Planning

Carole Jenkins circulated copies of the Local Community Plan. As with other such plans, this needs to be updated every 5 years so we will need to start the process of consultations for the new plan in time for next year.

There have been quite a lot of changes since the existing plan was put together, different partnerships, different ways of working. A timetable will need to be put in place and priorities worked out for these consultations.

Carole is looking for suggestions and ideas as to how we consult on what we contribute to the plan. Each group and organisation in the Ferry needs to look at how we take this forward. David Easson asked if we could do a display at Castle Green.

Do we want to hold a public meeting to discuss the future plans?

Stan Nutt raised the matter of the closure of Age Concern & asked if people in the Ferry still want/need a service such as this. There will be a bus to take service users to Fiveways instead. Carole suggested that perhaps a Focus Group should be formed to discuss the needs of older people in the area and we discussed the costs of care, the ratio of staffing and the loneliness of older people who are less able to participate in local groups.

9. Licensing

Nothing to report

10. Secretary's Report

Ian confirmed he has received a letter from Age Concern regarding the closure of the service in Broughty Ferry with the last meeting at St Aidan's being on 27th April.

SSE has written to advise they have new management locally and would like to meet with us. Ian will confirm that the first available time would be at our June meeting and any questions should be forwarded to him.

Neil advised that there is an ongoing consultation on the burying of lines to the north of the A92 so this may tie in with that.

Fiona asked if we could ask about pricing. There is also the matter of so called 'smart' meters.

11. Treasurer's Report

David Easson advised there has been no change since last month.

The Council grant for the new financial year should be made and Carole will check if it will be increased in line with the increase in population.

New issues of the magazines we contribute to have been received – the spring edition of Street Dreams (Living Streets), spring edition of Marine Conservation and a new issue of Rights of Way (with a small map of Scottish Hill Tracks). David will make these available within a folder in the Library

12. Matters raised by Community Councillors (previously intimated)

David Hewick led the discussion of the question of who answers what enquiries as the Planning Secretary is usually the busiest in this respect. He outlined the delegated powers he has when dealing with applications and how he has used these.

Neil confirmed that in future, time allowing, the website could be a very useful tool and that it is important that we all communicate well with each other before anyone makes any kind of statement. He is happy to assist in fielding questions.

We discussed who is responsible for what and reference was made to the Standing Orders.

In Planning matters, Cllr Bidwell confirmed that all objections, whether by email or in writing (in response to a query from Fiona Potton) are made available publically. The Press will always be checking to see what objections are being made and it was confirmed that all communications re Planning must be referred to the Planning Secretary. A discussion was had around responsibilities in other areas and a suggestion made that people liaise with Joan so that a list of interests could be circulated amongst the Community Councillors. A list of who does what, such as Licensing etc can be put on the website & sent to the press.

13. Contributions from Elected Members

Bailie Scott confirmed he had contacted the relevant department about the street lighting at Panmurefield and that it seems they had now been fixed. Adele said she had noticed the lights in the car park are now out so could Bailie Scott check on this please.

Roadworks on East Balgillo Road did not go ahead due to the contractor cancelling the works.

Stan had asked about overhanging shrubs etc on Claypotts Road. Bailie Scott was advised by the Council that it was not considered necessary to take any action at this point.

The Licensing Committee meeting had proposed no change to the opening hours of the food takeaways in central Broughty Ferry.

Flood prevention works will see a new sea wall on Douglas terrace, Fisher Street and Beach Crescent. Consultations will shortly be carried out giving several different options. Bearing in mind how successful the Community Council was with the consultation on the Local Government Boundaries, it is hoped that liaising with us on this matter will give a good result.

Also concluded is the report from SEPA so it should be possible to see how works elsewhere in the area will impact the flood prevention works. It could be possible to get works started within the next year.

Work has been done to tidy Reres Park and some new planting has been done. The area has been much improved and it is hoped that further improvements will be made including preservation work at the archway. There will be a public consultation on the flood prevention scheme and Fergus Wilson is aware that the Community Council does not meet in July therefore any presentation would be best held at our June meeting.

Cllr Bidwell confirmed that there will be a 'drop in' event for members of the public about the flood prevention works, hopefully prior to the school holidays. A new shared (5 metres wide) walking/cycling pathway from Douglas Terrace to the Lifeboat shed is to be proposed.

There was an announcement about a month ago re an increase in trains stopping at Broughty Ferry from 2017 but it has still to be agreed what level of service this will be. Fiona also asked if Cllr Bidwell was aware if further trains would be stopping at Balmossie but as far as Cllr Bidwell is aware, the announcement was only about Broughty Ferry, Monifieth & Carnoustie not Balmossie.

The Education Committee has agreed the school holiday dates for the next 2 years. Where there is an election & a school is used as a polling station, the closure days will be in service days. The possibility of co-ordinating school holidays with neighbouring authorities did not come up this year.

Also at the Education Committee, new ROSPA guidance for School Crossing Patrols – Dundee Council have agreed to use the levels of half of what is necessary in these guidelines.

However, they are looking at cutting out lunchtime patrols as these are generally underused. It is noted that it is becoming harder to recruit School Crossing Patrollers.

Work at the sewage pumping station at West Ferry is ongoing as the replacement of the underground pump is proving to be very difficult in a confined space.

A reminder that the council consultation on the proposed 20mph zones is open until 25th June.

14. Matters raised by members of the public

Mr McLaren advised that the minutes of the February meeting had not been uploaded to the website. The Minute Secretary advised that she would ask for this to be done as soon as possible.

15. AOCB

Stan Nutt asked that we noted with regret the passing of John Thomson who had served as a Community Councillor previously. The Secretary will write on behalf of the Community Council offering our condolences.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 3rd May
AGM at 7pm
Followed by Ordinary Meeting at 7.30pm