

Broughty Ferry Community Council

Minute of Virtual Ordinary Meeting held using ZOOM on 5th January 2021

Meeting opened 7.00pm

Action

1. **Community Councillors Present**

Anna Robb (Chair), David Easson (Treasurer), James Doig (Secretary), John Watson (Planning), Fiona Lund (P.R.), Carolyn Forrester, Doreen Phillips, Fiona M Potton, Isabel McLean, Joyce McIntosh, Neil Cooney.

In Attendance

Jacqueline Fleming.
Carole Jenkins

Ex Officio

Bailie Derek Scott.

Apologies

Charlie Delaney, Stan Nutt, Doug McLaren, Norma McGovern, PC Garrie Watson, Cllr Craig Duncan, Cllr Philip Scott, Natalie Mackland.

Members of the Public Present

5 members of the public were in attendance.

2. **Minutes of previous Meeting (1st December 2020)**

With the following amendment; Item 10 Planning Report –
Following the 1st paragraph add (The meeting endorsed the content of the letter sent to the case officer dated 17th November 2020).
Minute proposed by Fiona Lund seconded by Carolyn Forrester and agreed by the members present.

3. **Matters arising from previous minute**

Members to review the procedure for adoption (co-option of new members) rule. All
We also require a vice –chair for the BFCC.
Report dates, due to time constraints meeting dates for 2021/22 was held over from the December meeting until the January meeting.
Jacqui also raised the AGM for discussion at the January meeting.
Tuesday 4th May - AGM, may be a problem due to an election being held on Thursday 6th) if the Library has reopened for meetings.
Also the 2022 January meeting first Tuesday is the 4th which should be a public holiday
The next Tuesday is the 11th.
I will also distribute the dates for Treasurer, Beach Management and LCPP reports.
Treasurers Report dates should be; 2nd February, 4th May, 7th September, 2nd November, 1st February 2022.
Beach Management; 6th April, 6th July, 5th October, 4th January 2022?
LCPP; 2nd March, 1st June, 7th September, 7th December.

Jacqui intimated Lynsey Penny from the Gate Church has sent a presentation about the Community Fridge which provides an insight into the scale of the project, the ethos and what it offers. The charity is part of the Food Insecurity Network which is part of Faith in the Community. Treasurer David also had summary information regarding the Community Fridge

Baillie Scott intimated the Camper van parked in Brook Street has been moved to its Original position outside St. Aidans. Derek has since spoken to the residents who are now happy with the outcome.

Question raised as to the Wonder wood set up; Derek stated investigations are ongoing by the Planning department and although as owners, some things are allowed others such as the erected fence, power supply, dropped kerb require consent from Planning.

4. Co-Option of new BFCC Members

All

Brian Stewart who has attended the previous few meetings has agreed and was proposed by John Watson, seconded by James Doig to be co-opted as a member of Broughty Ferry Community Council. His nomination was agreed by the other five members present at the meeting.

Since then the secretary has emailed all members of the Community Council (with the exception of one councillor who has been given the required notice by letter) to provide notice of the intention to officially co-opt Brian Stewart at the January meeting. As there had been no objections, Brian Stewart was hereby co-opted as a member of BFCC.

5 Chairs Report

Anna wished everyone a safe and Happy New Year in these uncertain times and it is great to see everyone here. Anna intimated she was stepping down as chair due to significant pressures which requires giving full attention to work as well as being mindful of health and wellbeing. The role of chair currently requires a full-time attention particularly due to an administrative burden and the number of emails received recently and she is not able to commit to the role as a result.

Anna still wishes to be an active member particularly in relation to communication and links with other groups and is keen to drive projects such as the Community Fridge idea.

She is also happy to chair the next meeting (February) until a new Chairperson can be found. As we do not currently have a vice-chair, it was stated we can have a rolling chair.

John stated he had approached a member who may be interested in the position.

Carole advised that BFCC should hold an AGM in May 2021, especially for the accounts. David Easson confirmed that although a full AGM had not been held in 2020 due to the Pandemic, the accounts had been produced and agreed.

6. Matters raised by Members of the Public (previously intimated)

See also Item 13; Dog fouling in Broughty Ferry initially raised by Cllr Craig Duncan following which there was an article in the Evening Telegraph.

The following item (20/00534/FULL) which had not previously been intimated was raised by a member of the public, Mr Mark Calliston on behalf of the residents of The Esplanade/ Rugby Terrace area. The loss of car parking spaces, no physical barrier between footpath and cycle way where electric bikes can reach speeds of 28mph. He also stated there were problems associated with the Windmill Gardens car park and the plan had not been contested by Broughty Ferry Community Council.

In reply BFCC stated all points had previously been considered and it had ratified on 6th October its preliminary view sent to the Case Officer on 30th September that it supported the application subject to three conditions.

After further discussion amended plans were produced which satisfied BFCC's concerns allowing it to amend its view ratified on 6th October in a letter to the Case Officer on 17th November in support of the application without conditions? That amended view was unanimously endorsed by BFCC at its meeting of 1st December 2020 and remains its formal response.

Carole queried whether Mr Callison and his neighbours were aware of receiving neighbourhood notification in respect of the planning application? It was stated they had not. Carole went on to explain that neighbourhood notification was not the responsibility of BFCC.

John Watson clarified that although residents may not have contacted BFCC regarding these plans one resident from the Esplanade had previously been a Community Councillor of BFCC and was in attendance when a presentation was made regarding the proposed pedestrian walkway / cycle path and associated infrastructure in December 2019.

7. Public Engagement Campaign Ideas

PR re-branding held over until the February meeting.

8. Police Report

Nil Report

9. Secretary's Report – Information received

National Grief Awareness Week (First week in December)

Dundee Fairness Commission Report.

Festive Newsletter

Proposed biodiversity grasslands and naturalised grasslands in our parks and green spaces.

The consultation period commences on 31st December 2020.

Online beginners Exercise classes.

Pen friends project (Companionship Society at Dundee University).

Public Entertainment Licence Timeline information.

Zoom meeting with Xplore Dundee held on 7th December,

I attended this meeting and although the N0.5 and 9/10 route remain status quo there are changes to the timetable? Some details for post pandemic are;

During lockdown, patronage dipped to 13% compared to the previous year and in August it reached 60%. There is a fare freeze for 2021 and although it remains exact fare only, there are additional methods of payment (cash, contactless, online by Smartphone and smartcard). Some bus stops (close together) will be merged to save time and bus lanes will be introduced in certain areas.

Initial frequency changes will take effect from Sunday 24th January 2021 and will change again when government funding * ends.

Service No.	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Evening
5	15 min	15min	*15min/20min	30min
9/10	30min	30min	60min	60min

Broughty Ferry Flood Protection Scheme; We continue to make good progress as we move along Douglas Terrace installing U channels, sea defence walls, drainage and the footway infill down the length of section 1. The stonemasons have started work at the west end of Douglas Terrace on the set back wall which is being built with stone local to the area and the width of the walkway can now clearly be seen.

Local contractors Kilmac will commence road works in this section in the New Year which will include the installation of new pavements and new road surface as well as the stonework within the walkway. A short section of road was closed to vehicles for a few days to allow the safe removal of the south footpath and stone revetment.

Further road closures will be required in February, alternative arrangements will be provided to residents and it is hoped there will be minimal disruption.

We have continued to roll out our Virtual Site Visit created by Abertay University reaching over 80 students at Abertay University, Dundee & Angus College and Perth College.

We have also agreed to support 10 Foundation Apprenticeship students with remote work placements over the next few months.

Grove Academy continues to paint at the Esplanade as part of a Princes Trust Award when the weather allows. As stated previously we launched a competition to design 2 sets of decorative gates with a Broughty Ferry theme, details have been circulated to local schools and are available on our Community Boards and online.

We are pleased to welcome a graduate engineer to our team last month who studied Civil Engineering at Abertay University. A further local undergraduate engineering student from Abertay University will commence a 12 week placement in mid-January.

McLaughlin & Hardy had previously stated they donated £500 towards the Broughty Ferry Christmas lights appeal, we have also donated gifts to the Radio Tay Cash for Kids Mission Christmas Appeal.

The McLaughlin & Harvey team wish the residents of Broughty Ferry a Happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

10. Planning Report;

Report previously intimated; for the period 2nd December 2020 – 1st January 2021

20/00642/FULL – Change of use from public convenience to healthcare clinic – Queen Street car park, Broughty Ferry. Change of use approved 4th December 2020.

20/00534/FULL – New cycleway, footpaths and infrastructure improvements – The Esplanade, Broughty Ferry.

This application has provisionally been placed on the draft agenda for consideration by the Planning Committee at its meeting on Monday 18th January 2021. The Committee will convene at 5pm. BFCC have supported the application.

11. Licensing Report.

Public Entertainment Licence, Timeline.

12 Public Relations Report;

Website; Not a great deal has happened over the last 3 / 4 weeks. I have continued to add information mainly with regard to the proposed new cycle / pedestrian routes along the Esplanade & Flood Defences. I asked our website administrator to update our homepage pictures with appropriate seasonal greetings and Happy New Year images.

Facebook; Community engagement, as discussed at our last meeting, we could run a photo “competition” asking the public to post their favourite pictures of the Ferry which BFCC could use instead of the current Castle image (we could still decide to pick a castle image as is icon to Broughty Ferry), it’s a great way to update our profile with a more contemporary image (see rebranding idea further down report).

Our number of followers has increased from 240 last month to 249 this month (31st Dec).

Further Publicity; We were contacted by the Evening Telegraph (Lindsey) between Christmas & New Year for a statement on a forthcoming article regarding increased Dog Fouling in the Ferry. In conjunction with Chair Anna I provided a very short statement which as yet from writing this report has not been used.

Re=Branding; It would be worth considering a “re-brand” for the BFCC along with a new image. Points to consider include:-

New image

New Lettering for BFCC

New Colour for Lettering (Tie in with Website)

Where new logo would be used (website, Facebook, Letterhead, Pop-up banners etc).

Can use re-branding as publicity in Spotlight, Evening Telegraph etc.

13. Matters raised by Community Councillors.

Dog fouling in the Broughty Ferry area; There appears to be an increase in dog fouling on the streets within Broughty Ferry. Discussions indicated that that dog bins are full to overflowing which may be due to an increase in people walking dogs or people with new dogs which will add to the problem. The area ranges from the Grassy beach through central Broughty Ferry, along the Esplanade and beach areas to Monifieth boundary.

A hedge in Queen Street (outside Broughty Ferry Library) at the bus shelter is overhanging onto the pavement causing pedestrians to walk round the shelter on the road to adhere to social distancing.

The Secretary was requested to contact the Head of Environment (Tony Boyle) raising these concerns (email sent on 6th January, copied to Community Councillors).

14 Contributions from elected Members;

Note: Due to new Government restrictions, dates stated in the following reports will not now be correct and members will be notified as and when they take effect from.

Baillie Derek Scott reported the following information;

Queen Street Community Garden; At the last meeting there was a discussion with regard to the community garden in Queen Street Car Park. The councils contaminated land officer has advised that the issue isn’t due to petrol tanks, which were previously removed, but because the site was used as an ash pit by railway steam engines.

The topsoil will be replaced as soon as possible following the COVID restrictions.

Sakura Cherry Tree Project; Fourteen Japanese cherry trees have now been planted at Dawson Park as part of the Sakura Cherry Tree Project. Signage will be erected in due Course explaining the background of the project.

Safety cameras on the A930; I attended the first visit of the mobile safety camera to the A930 Dalhousie / Monifieth Road corridor on 14th December. The cleansing department has given permission for the safety camera unit to write to frontages with an invitation to attach a sticker to their wheelie bins to help remind drivers of the speed limit.

Strathern Road / Fairfield Road junction; I have previously reported problems at the Strathern Road / Fairfield Road junction. There were another two accidents there in December within 10 days of each other. I am pursuing with the council what other measures can be introduced to improve the safety of the junction.

Cycle path – Arbroath Road; A section of cycle path is currently being constructed on the Arbroath Road west of Dawson Park. It is funded from the Scottish Governments cycling, walking and safer streets initiative. The council has an aspiration, as part of its cycling strategy, to provide a network of high quality continuous cycle paths and lanes in and around the city. Other sections along Arbroath Road will be provided / improved in due course, funding permitting, to link in with this one.

Coronavirus Restrictions – Update; All Leisure & Culture Dundee venues are closed until at least 18th January 2021, this includes Broughty Ferry Library. People can still download eBooks and take part in other activities online.

Parking at all Dundee City Council on and off-street provision is free until 18th January when it will be reviewed and a decision taken in light of the circumstances at the time.

Parking attendants will continue to enforce parking restrictions to ensure that no vehicles are parked dangerously or causing an obstruction for other road users or pedestrians.

Nurseries and schools will now only be open from what would have been the start of term from Thursday 7th January for children of key workers and vulnerable children.

The festive holiday period has been extended for all other pupils until Monday 11th January.

Remote learning will then be provided until at least 18th January.

4th January 2021 update, With regard to the recent cold spell the council's chief executive has advised that the entire gritting fleet is presently deployed.

Pavements and carriageways are categorised as priority and secondary routes.

Footway gritting is ongoing and all priority routes should be treated today.

The council is responsible for gritting approximately 340 miles of roads and 560 miles of pavements which takes some time to get round.

Cllr. Craig Duncan reported the following information;

I attended a meeting of the Councils Personnel sub committee on 10th December at which Judy Dobbie was unanimously recommended to become the permanent Head of Leisure and Culture, a post she had previously been appointed to in an “acting” capacity. She has steered Leisure and Culture Dundee through what has been an unprecedentedly challenging time and she acknowledges that the immediate future in terms of what facilities can be offered will be very much governed by whatever restrictions are in force to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic and that the safety of public and staff are paramount. The current Tier 4 severely limits what can be offered and although we may hope it will be eased around the 18th January, there must exist a possibility that the duration of these measures may be extended or even increased in severity.

Esplanade closure to through traffic, the Scottish Government inspired measure to promote social distancing has again been reinstated. I contacted the Councils Head of Roads and Transportation who advises that the measure was again applied as a result of Dundee being placed into Tier 4 and I sought and received assurances that the measure will be lifted as soon as we move out of Tier 4 and possibly sooner. In my view access for all is important particularly during these stressful times and can surely be accomplished on one of the widest and most windswept prospects in Broughty Ferry.

Dawson Park flooding, following the recent planting of additional cherry trees as part of the Japanese Embassy inspired Sakura Project, I raised the matter of repeated and extensive flooding of the existing “Cherry Tree Walk” which can prevent access or force people into a muddy detour. I am pleased to say that the council has thoroughly cleared the drains on this popular walkway and cleaned the mud, leaves and other detritus from it. The improvement is quite apparent but will need to be monitored to ensure that existing drain capacity is sufficient.

Esplanade former Tennis Pavilion continues to deteriorate and attract graffiti, an attempted break in and anti social behaviour to the alarm of nearby residents and a continuing drain on the public purse. I have passed on a couple of commercial enquiries to the council but am advised that the building has deteriorated beyond an acceptable standard to let out. I have asked the council to explore realistic longer term options for this building, as a charity has expressed a tentative interest which may perhaps go down the Community Asset Transfer path but obviously the condition of the building may preclude this and the building cannot be left forever to deteriorate and drain public funds.

Winter Maintenance, as always there have been complaints about untreated roads / pavements but there are set priorities which govern which routes are attended to first and I understand from the Head of Roads and Transportation that there have been one or two unfortunate incidents involving winter maintenance vehicles which can hardly have helped.

Explore Dundee has been taken over by West Coast based McGills and is therefore no longer part of the National Express Group. The implications are unclear but assurances have been issued by local management that no significant changes are expected, including to the recently announced proposals to amend existing services.

15. AOCB

One member of the public in attendance stated they were interested in joining BFCC as a member. Three members have been co-opted so far this year.

Although items 9, 10, 12 and 14 had been previously intimated to BFCC members, time constraints due to presentation and discussion at item 6 did not allow members to deliver their presentations or answer questions regarding their report.

It was agreed the next Ordinary Meeting of the Community Council would be held on Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 7.00pm.