

Broughty Ferry Community Council

Minute of Ordinary Meeting held in Broughty Ferry Library on Tuesday 5th July 2022.

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. Community Councillors Present

Doreen Phillips (Vice-Chair), James Doig (Secretary), John Watson (Planning Secretary), Charlie Delaney, Chris Johnson, Doug McLaren, Norma McGovern, Fiona M Potton, Isabel McLean.

In Attendance

Christine Rea, Joanne Kelly.

Ex-Officio

Bailie Derek Scott, Cllr Pete Shears.

Apologies

Neil Cooney (Chair), David Easson (Treasurer), Stan Nutt (Licensing), Tara Javed, Cllr Craig Duncan.

Members of the Public Present

One member of the public was in attendance.

2. Minute of Previous Meeting (7th June 2022)

The Draft Minute previously distributed to all members was agreed in its entirety and proposed by John Watson seconded by Doug McLaren.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minute

Lack of police report (action, chair). No update.

Removal of Queen Street toilet block and alternative arrangements (continued discussion). Email sent to Tony Boyle Head of Environment DCC, with regard to BFCC's concerns in utilising the library toilet as the alternative following the last meeting.

Cllr Pete Shears had confirmation in writing that the library toilet facilities would not be signposted as the replacement for the present toilet block although it is presently highlighted as a public toilet on the Dundee City Council web site.

A discussion followed regarding use of toilet facilities within Broughty Ferry Traders businesses (community services) as is presently the case in Angus and Perth & Kinross, also the possibility of 24-hour coin-in-slot but this has a cost implication to

DCC. Norma to discuss (community services toilet facilities) with Steve James chair of BF Traders and invite them to our meeting's.

The two X-Officio members present will raise the matter with DCC

Broughty Ferry rail station do not now have toilet facilities and units within the station area are lying empty.

Bollards have now been erected on the old pier in Fisher Street.

4. Chairs Report

Doreen stated the Community Fridge was still in the frame and making progress.

5. Matters Raised by Members of the Public (Previously Intimated)

Web Form regarding swimmers being struck by stones thrown by children.

Actual area of incident not known but it is a normal practise for children to throw stones (or skimming) into water. BFCC noted the concern and Fiona will discuss the issue with Sandy Boyd DCC Area Manager.

6. Support from Community Empowerment Team

The draft Ferry Community Plan 2022-27 was presented at the June meeting and forwarded to members.

Christine stated the members appeared to be a capable, articulate group capable of addressing issues highlighted, but the Empowerment Team will provide support and give council information and legal governance where required.

The Plan is a rolling document, reviewed annually.

The team has a statutory obligation to run a BFCC election every four years.

There was discussion regarding Empowerment team attendance at each meeting but Christine pointed out they had many other obligations and there had to be a realistic time management balance.

Further discussion of attendance of Empowerment members held over until the September meeting.

7. Police Report

No Report

8. Update on Broughty Ferry Flood Protection Scheme (Previously distributed)

Secretary & Planning Secretary and member Fiona attend the opening of the Flood Protection Scheme tribute sculpture to Broughty Ferry Lifeboats at Beach Crescent on 30th June 2022.

McLaughlin & Harvey completing work at the section at Beach Crescent / Castle approach / St Vincent Street prior to Broughty Ferry Gala week.

Note; As intimated at the last meeting, the secretary is on holiday 30th September to 15th October 2022 and therefore will not be in attendance at the meeting on 4th

October 2022. Arrangements required for recording of minutes and lock up of the library.

Correspondence

The following correspondence has been received since our last meeting of 7th June

7/6 Briefing on the investing in Communities Fund, open for applications.

9/6 Email ref Planning Application 21/00125/FULL.

13/6 Email ref closure of Queen St. APC. There will be no signage.

14/6 New seated exercise class (Older Peoples Network).

14/6 Part Time Prohibition of Driving (School Streets) – Not in the Ferry.

14/6 Prohibition of Driving Order (Union Street – Dundee).

29/6 Web form; stones being thrown by children at swimmers.

5/7 Prohibition of Driving (Craigie Street & Eliza Street Dundee) – Not in the Ferry.

9. Planning Report for the period 1st – 30th June 2022 (Previously distributed)

Of the 16 planning and 8 tree applications validated and examined during this period, none required attention.

Mill Street Stopping-up order; The order is confirmed by the Scottish Government without modification.

Planning Secretary was thanked for his dedication and perseverance. Thanks also go to, Gerry Conway Project Manager Flood Defence Protection Scheme and Broughty Ferry /Monifieth Active Travel Improvements and to Michael Sandeman (Beach Management) Dundee Central Waterfront Development team for their work and dedication in Broughty Ferry.

10. Licensing Report.

Stan Nutt had intimated there was no licensing issues of note.

11. Public Relations Report

No Report.

12. Beach Management Report

Larger A2 signs have been erected and are more noticeable, there are presently few problems with animals on the beach.

It is noted litter is being left on the new steps down to the water on Beach Crescent.

It is suggested the lifesaving buoy be relocated to a more appropriate position.

Keep Scotland beautiful funding is available.

13. Matters Raised by Community Councillors

Doug again raised the question of parking spaces within the proposed plan in Long Lane 22/00237/FULL, highlighting the consultation document NPF4 which states there should be a cut back in vehicular traffic and therefore parking spaces should not be provided. This should be taken into consideration by BFCC and the Planning Department.

It was again highlighted NPF4 is presently a consultation document and we (BFCC) must abide by the current legislation, leaving it to the council to consider.

Doug requested a vote to amend the decision taken at the meeting on 2nd May 2022 to support the application by objecting to it. A vote was taken resulting in seven against, one for and one abstention to the proposed amendment. The decision taken to support the application therefore stands.

14. Contributions from Elected Members

Cllr. Pete Shears Report (Previously distributed)

King Street Parking; Remains an ongoing concern with the two businesses involved refusing to make cessions, and parking issues still remain. Ultimately this an issue between residents and the two businesses, and council officer time won't be given as there is no realistic resolution that the council can offer. I've updated residents in the area with this information.

Lawers Drive Park/Grassy Park Children's Play Area; Residents and families around these areas have been in touch with myself to discuss their ongoing issues with the unusable state of the play parks. These issues have been going on a long time, and the responsibility lies with Greenbelt. The Council has made multiple attempts to contact Greenbelt with no reply, so I have written directly to the Managing Director of the company. We want them to plan how the parks will be maintained in future, and a dedicated Dundee contact for future issues.

Giant Hogweed; Giant Hogweed is again becoming an issue with particular growths around Panmurefield and the Dighty Burn. I've asked the council to assess and treat the spots, and attempt to find the source of the growths. It's believed the seeds are being washed down by the burn, and the wet weather has given them a perfect opportunity to take root and grow.

Gannets/Avian Flu; Gannets and other sea birds have begun washing ashore and it's believed to be an outbreak of Avian flu. I've asked the environmental department to clear these as soon as possible given the potential impact of the flu, and ensure relevant government departments are also alerted.

Eastern Primary Crossing; The crossing was assessed by Tayside Contracts and still doesn't meet the criteria for a manned crossing; however, the usage has gone up significantly and so another assessment will be taking place after the summer holidays until October. I'd encourage people to use this crossing as much as possible to keep it going.

Cllr Shears highlighted update points on his report.

Bailie Derek Scott's Report (Previously distributed)

Winkie the Pigeon; Continue to raise the issue of the possibility of a 'Statue'. I am advised a plinth has become available on Beach Crescent and consideration is being given to utilising it for a 'Winkie' themed artwork.

Queen Street car park; Since the additional landscaping area was created I have been following up with the Neighbourhood Services Department on when it might be planted out. I have had confirmation that the planting plan has been agreed and it is anticipated that works will be carried out in July.

Railway Underpass; I asked the Roads Maintenance Partnership if it could arrange to repaint the yellow lines, which have worn away, on the steps of the railway underpass in Gray Street. This has now been done; the top one and bottom three on each side. The council has also agreed to install tactile paving at the top of the steps to further assist visually impaired people.

Xplore Dundee; In June I met with the general manager to discuss the bus services in the city and the timetable adjustments which will take effect from 15th August in response to the phasing out of Scottish Government recovery funding. The 5/5a will operationally split from the 10 at Broughty Ferry to improve reliability. I also passed on the issues that have been raised with me by residents.

Electric Vehicle charging; At a previous meeting with the Community Council, I was asked about these charging points in Camperdown Street. Signage has been installed restricting the use to school staff during term time 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday. The public can access them at all other times and I am advised that so far the signage has worked well.

Park Improvements; In January the council reviewed its 5-year capital plan and reduced the intended spend on Dawson Park improvements by 400k and Castle Green by 700k. The council's 2022/23 revenue budget included £2.86m for citywide investment proposals. Last month's Policy and Resources Committee determined what these proposals would be. Some of the Broughty Ferry spend was reinstated. It was agreed that £200k would go towards a refresh of the existing play equipment and kiddie rides at Castle Green, with an emphasis on improved accessibility. £64k of drainage and path improvements at the Arbroath Road entrance to Dawson Park will also be carried out.

Litter Prevention; A litter prevention campaign which targets 'Schools to Shop' routes is also included in the proposals. This will allow enhanced litter management and preventative measures to be introduced through consultation with local communities and engagement with secondary schools/pupils. I have frequently raised this as an issue so am pleased to see this initiative being progressed.

Pickleball; Local pickleball players asked if it would be possible to have a pickleball court as part of the refurbishment works currently being carried out on the tennis courts at the Esplanade. The council has agreed in principle to marking out a pickleball court in Broughty Ferry. This will either be at the new courts on the Esplanade or at Dawson Park.

Bailie Scott highlighted points with regard to his report including Gillies Park where there will be improved Community Warden patrol.

Cllr Craig Duncan's Report (Previously distributed)

Brook Street Bus stop; Sharp eyed residents may have noticed that the toppled bus stop outside M&Co has still not been replaced and I continue to press for a new pole to be installed in the vicinity, although perhaps not in the same spot as this is the third time it has been damaged in recent years.

Brook Street Jet Wash; As I agreed with the council in recent years I have again asked that the “fancy” pavement in Brook Street and ideally other street’s in central Broughty Ferry be jet washed for the height of the tourist season and again around the time of the Christmas Lights Switch On as appearances do matter in a much-visited destination such as Broughty Ferry.

Beach Crescent Amphitheatre Steps – Slime; I have previously raised concerns with the council about green slime on the bottom most of these steps following complaints from people slipping there and as I have received yet more I have reiterated my request for much more prominent warning signage and the installation of hand rails at appropriate points and have received suitable assurances.

Orchar Park Pavilion – Vandalism / Graffiti; As recently reported in the press there has been more vandalism at the site of the former Bowling Green Pavilion including a swastika daubed there. I reported all this to the council and police, reiterating my many previous requests that the site be better secured until a new and positive future is found for this much-loved building and I am pleased to say that security has at last been significantly improved and I hope that a new long-term role for the site will be found and I am given to understand that the council are evaluating several expressions of interest.

Red Phone Box; Given previous false starts I am reluctant to give an exact date but will go so far as to say the return of the “Red Heritage Style Phone Box” to Beach Crescent is imminent at which time the now decommissioned box will be formally handed over to its new owners ‘The Broughty Ferry Traders Association’, for those who miss this familiar feature it can currently be seen in storage in the Flood Defence Contractors compound on Broughty Ferry Harbour.

Giant Hogweed; As in previous years I have reported several instances of this potentially harmful invasive species to the council in recent weeks who have quickly dealt with the issue on their land. In addition, I have contacted some private landowners and am due to meet with representatives of a major Utility Company about examples on their land.

15. AOCB

Norma informed the meeting, Ukrainian families located in the area have been impressed by Broughty Ferry.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 6th September 2022 at 7.00pm.