

Broughty Ferry Community Council

Minute of Ordinary Meeting held in Broughty Ferry Library on Tuesday 7th June 2022.

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. Community Councillors Present

James Doig (Secretary), David Easson (Treasurer), John Watson (Planning), Stan Nutt (Licensing), Doug McLaren, Fiona Potton, Tara Javed.

In Attendance

Christine Rea.

Ex-Officio

Bailie Derek Scott, Cllr Pete Shears.

Apologies

Doreen Phillips (Vice-Chair), Charley Delaney, Isabel McLean, Chris Johnston, Joanne Kelly, Cllr Craig Duncan.

Members of the Public Present

Two members of the public were in attendance.

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, members present agreed that Secretary James should take the Chair. He welcomed all to the meeting and especially Christine Rea, DCC Community Empowerment Team, newly elected Councillor Pete Shears and re-elected Bailie Derek Scott.

2. Minute of Previous Meeting (3rd May 2022)

Following discussion on the accuracy of item 9 referring to the meetings decision on application 22/00237/FULL, it was decided that the matter would be considered under item 9, Planning Report of the current meeting. David Easson proposed approval of the minute, seconded by Fiona Potton and agreed by the members.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minute

Lack of police report (action, chair), no information as the chairman was not in attendance.

Removal of Queen Street toilet block and alternative arrangements (continued discussion). There was a lack of communication from Dundee city council who

decided removal without consultation and terminate the lease of the Broughty Ferry and Lochee toilet blocks due to cost savings.

They had also decided to utilise the Broughty Ferry library toilet as the replacement without an environmental officer viewing the facilities which are totally unsuitable to be used as a public toilet. Presently there are a number of young children and mothers utilise the library which is considered a relatively safe area and although DCC state the toilet will not be signposted as a public toilet it appears no thought has gone into it, there has been no discussion and no Broughty Ferry views were sought. At present there are staffing problems and the library is only open 47 hours/week.

Broughty Ferry Gala week (action, Doreen). Doreen had submitted her apologies but emailed the secretary with regard to a stall at the Gala Day and although she had contacted the organiser had not received any feedback. Hopefully next year ?.

Broughty beach; Bailie Scott provided an update on the meeting held on 17/5, (see his report to the June meeting). Action points include, animal exclusion zone; additional and larger signs to be provided at the approach to the east end of the beach.

RNLI are again supplying life guard cover from 18th June and will educate anyone wandering into the exclusion zone with a dog and the beach to be visited regularly by an animal control officer who has authority to issue a fixed penalty notice.

He also raised the issue of dogs off leads at Castle Green and again assured the environmental department staff who operate out of the location will be reminded about challenging any dog owners who ignore the park management rules. Hopefully there will be an improvement during what will be a very busy summer season for Broughty Ferry.

Camperdown Street electric charging, misuse of spaces (action Bailie Scott). This has been addressed and signs fitted.

Anti-social behaviour, Abercromby Street, Bailie Scott has forwarded the relevant Information to the Community police officers.

4. Chairs Report

No Report.

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

Web Form regarding Planning requirements in Ambrose Street (see Secretary's report).

Vehicles parking on the Fisher Street pier which could cause an accident as there is no barrier at the edge, there was a removable bollard to allow entry for emergency vehicles prior to the present project (see secretary's report).

6. Community Plan (Christine Rea)

The Community Empowerment Act places a legal obligation on Local Authorities to produce Local Community Plans to identify how partners in the area will work together to address inequalities. The new Local Community Plan 2022-2027 is in its first draft and still open for consultation.

There are four key priorities;

Community resilience.

Providing training, action planning, community hub.

Impact in rise of cost of living (Barnhill blethers).

Promoting well-being & promoting recovery, community safety in the area (looking at hotspots).

This document will be reviewed on an annual basis and can be amended or added to if priorities change. A copy to be sent out with minutes for comment.

7. Police Report

No Report.

8. Secretary's Report (Previously distributed)

Reference the Web form submission of 13/5/22; Potential resident requested Planning information in Broughty Ferry Conservation area.

Enquiry – 08.18am, passed to John Watson and resident given advice at 09.52am, Resident replied, thanking us for the advice at 09.59am.

Fisher Street pier; Secretary informed by contractor McLaughlin & Harvey, bollards are on order and will be fitted once received.

Following local elections on 5th May 2022, the following elected Councillors represent the Ferry Ward; Baillie Derek Scott, Councillor Craig Duncan, Councillor Kevin Cordell, Councillor Pete Shears.

BFCC agenda and reports for 7th June 2022 forwarded to all four.

Update on Broughty Ferry Flood Protection Scheme (Previously distributed)

McLaughlin & Harvey informed the secretary the project is almost complete.

An extension to the project, around by the castle to the Esplanade is in progress, completion is expected by the end of June, thereafter there will be removal of equipment etc.

Our Zoom contract is due for renewal on 1st September 2022.

Treasurer David Easson stated it had been worthwhile over the past two years and suggested we continue the contract. It was agreed we renew for the forthcoming year (2022/2023), proposed by Stan Nutt seconded by John Watson.

Note; 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 3rd May 2022.

11/5 Stobswell Forum “Stobfest” (Neighbourhood Representative Structures.

12/5 DCC – School Streets (Part Time Prohibition of Driving) – Nil in the Ferry.

13/5 Web form; Information requested regarding planning requirement, see Secretary’s report.

17/5 Update from Bailie Scott regarding beach problems, meeting held 17/5.

18/5 Systra; survey on improving transport in Tayside (survey closes 17/6/2022).

20/5 Email from Joanne Kelly regarding new Community plan.

23/5 Older Peoples Network; Workshop on Social Security, 9/6 – 10am-12.00 forwarded to members.

3/6 Email ref; food etc for Ukraine appeal, collection in Broughty Ferry ?.

6/6 Older Peoples Network, awareness sessions regarding, visual, deaf, deafblind, dementia and inclusion.

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

9. **Planning Report for the period 2nd – 31st May 2022 (Previously distributed)**

The Planning Report presented to the meeting of 3rd May 2022 contained errors in regards to two tree planning applications. The preliminary view reported on application **22/00252/TREE** was sent to the case officer on application **22/00261/TREE**. The preliminary view reported on application **22/00261/TREE** was that sent to the case officer on application **22/00252/TREE**.

The original views sent to the case officer are reproduced here:

Applications 22/00252/TREE and 22/00261/TREE

A member of the community has made contact with Broughty Ferry Community Council (BFCC) expressing some concerns regarding these applications, both made from 80 Monifieth Road, particularly 22/00252/TREE where it is proposed to remove two trees, although your letter to the applicant of 4th April refers to ‘Cut back overhanging branches on eastern boundary with 80 Monifieth Road’.

In the circumstances the Planning Secretary visited the site without prejudice on 15th April to establish the facts to provide BFCC’s preliminary views on each application to assist in the planning process.

22/00261/TREE; The tree identified for removal is not within the Reres Hill Conservation Area. The proposal to remove it is justified because of its condition as stated in section 6 of the application where the danger to property is highlighted.

Broughty Ferry Community Council’s preliminary view is that it supports this application.

22/00252/TREE; Section 6 in the application form proposes to ‘remove two trees’. These trees are located in the eastern end of the garden of 10 Yewbank Avenue, they are within the Reres Hill Conservation Area and not of great age. The proposal is open to misinterpretation which is highlighted in your letter of 4th April where there is no full stop at ‘trees’. The proposal becomes ‘Remove two tree’s dead branches’. As a result of the site visit and subsequent investigations the Planning Secretary has established that the owners of the trees in the garden of 10 Yewbank Avenue are

content to allow the applicant to prune the trees as required or indeed remove them. However, it has been suggested that if only branches overhanging the boundary of the applicant's property were to be removed it would result in the trees having a poor and one-sided shape and leave them more prone to collapse with the canopy with the canopy weight being one sided.

It is clear that the concerned party and the owner would prefer the trees to be retained but would be content to have the crown of each reduced to an acceptable level. A sensible interpretation of the applicant's proposal would be satisfied should that be approved.

Broughty Ferry Community Council's preliminary view is that it supports this application subject to a condition that the trees remain but that the crown of each be reduced to a level of one metre above where the branch spread begins from the main trunk (illustrated in a photograph).

The Planning Secretary apologises to members for the error and requests that the Community Council note it and ratify its preliminary views sent to the case officer dated 16th April 2022.

Planning Applications

During the period of this report 9 planning and 3 tree applications were examined. None required further comment.

Mill Street Stopping Off Order

The latest information is that the Reporter has finished his work and made his decision known to the Scottish Government. Dundee City Council now await the Government's response.

With regard to the temporary structure outside the Ship Inn in Fisher Street, review is to be held on 14/6/2022. Many residents in the area have requested it be taken down. It is hoped refusal continues to be upheld.

With regard to Planning applications 22/00237/FULL; BFCC's preliminary view was sent to the case officer noting the objectors views.

Member Doug McLaren stated the Community Council did not have a lot of power in planning issues and there must be a cut back in vehicular travel and the National Planning Framework 4 should be a material consideration.

The planning Secretary intimated it is presently a consultation document and not yet approved, therefore, current legislation prevails.

Doug McLaren moved objection to the application, there was no seconder.

The decision of the committee to support the application taken at its meeting on 3rd May stands.

10. Licensing Report.

No new applications to report, Stan Nutt intimated some applications he previously received came in after the objection date and asked Christine Rea if she could request the reports to be sent directly to him.

10. Public Relations Report

No Report

11. Local Community Planning Partnership (LCPP) Report

The meeting highlighted the closure and removal of the toilet block in the Queen Street car park. This issue requires addressing by the council and the meeting requested the secretary email the council regarding their concerns.

As far as they were aware, there were no rough sleepers in the Broughty Ferry area and there were no recorded homeless people in the ward.

The covid recovery fund is now closed but the Dundee Partnership has provided £20,000 will be made available this coming year. This funding will be allocated to community groups who apply and fit the criteria for funds.

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Review of Fire Safety in schools related to a Tick Tock challenge.

Drug and Alcohol funding is available and a planning group are meeting to look at how those in recovery can be supported in the community, it has been agreed that some of this funding can support diversionary work for Young People.

There will be no reduction in the capacity of the McKinnon Centre.

13. Matters Raised by Community Councillors

Fiona Potton intimated there had been a beach walkabout and discussion with regard to the problems associated with the removal of the Queen Street car park toilet block. The Harbour Master is now known as the Harbour Manager.

14. Contributions from Elected Members

Cllr. Pete Shears Report (Previously distributed)

A massive thank you to the people of the Ferry who put their faith in me to be their Labour councillor after 5 years without a Labour voice in the ward. It's very humbling, and I'm looking forward to serving the people of the ward for the next 5 years and hopefully further on into the future.

King Street Parking; Residents on King Street contacted me concerned about the availability of residential parking spots on the west end of the street – especially during day time hours. Two businesses in the area have a policy which doesn't allow for staff to park in their customer car park and forces them to use on street parking. I asked the Sustainable Transport & Roads team to write to the businesses concerned in regards to this policy, and also to explore public transport options with them which they have, There has been no improvement, and I am meeting with a team leader from the division on 6th June to discuss these issues further and find a balance between business/residential needs.

Queen Street ACP's; Friends of Broughty Ferry library wrote to all councillors of the ward, and I wrote back in kind supporting their campaign to keep these facilities open. It was raised to my attention by council officers that the lease had already been terminated, and this was wholly a cost cutting measure. I expressed my disappointment to the officer concerned that public amenities are first in line on the chopping block. I also raised concerns that the single toilet in Broughty Ferry library

was unsuitable given its size and potential for very high footfall. Officers took these points on board and will be liaising with L & C Dundee to monitor footfall, push to increase the cleaning of the toilet from once a day and assured me that the toilet would not be signposted as an alternative.

Gillies Playpark; We have been informed by Wicksteed that there is a delay in the upgrade works to the play park. Providing the weather allows, this is now expected to be completed by June 24th.

Tay Estuary Water sports Hub; I was pleased to be informed that the Tay Estuary Water sports Hub has been set up with a variety of local and national organisations including the RNLI. Anti-social jet ski use has been brought to my attention and it is hoped that this hub will both educate users of the river for sports and also encourage safe participation in water sports.

The following update was presented to the meeting;

King Street Parking. Further discussions had, agreed to again contact two large businesses. Residents pushing for restricted parking and advised very unlikely due to previous schemes rejected by local communities (West End).

Dawson Park Sunken Garden. State of the garden raised with Environmental Department, has now been tidied and request for further plans for the future of the garden.

Flood Defence cycle/footway. The path between Home Street and Grassy beach on Douglas Terrace has been dug up due to poor surface quality and will be re-laid within 7/8 days at the contractors cost.

Bailie Derek Scott's Report (Previously distributed)

Beach Issues; A few action points were to be progressed from the 17th May meeting but in respect to the animal exclusion zone, additional and larger signs will be provided at the approach to the east end of the beach, which is something BFCC members have been asking for.

RNLI are supplying life guard cover again from 18th June and while they will educate anyone wandering into the exclusion zone with a dog I asked that the beach be visited regularly by an animal control officer who has the authority to issue a fixed penalty notice.

I also raised the issue of dogs off leads at Castle Green and again was assured that the environmental department staff who operate out of the location will be reminded about challenging any dog owners who ignore the park management rules.

Winkie the pigeon; As mentioned at the last meeting, Broughty Ferry cub / scouts contacted me about bringing home Winkie the pigeon. Leisure & Culture Dundee has advised that she is a firm favourite at the McManus Art Gallery and Museum and from its collection of some 150,000 individual items, it was included in its top 150 museum objects for the McManus 150th Birthday in 2018. They don't feel it would be beneficial to move her to Broughty Castle Museum, not only because of the cost involved but there are significant accessibility issues at the castle which cannot be overcome. Based on average annual numbers since 2015, 132,405 visitors have seen Winkie at the McManus compared to that of 33,000 visitors to

Broughty Castle Museum. So, if Winkie was brought home a large number of visitors would be unable to see her and read about her fantastic story.

However, they fully support the idea of a statue in her honour. I am now pursuing this with the council's public art officer and also the project team for the active travel corridor.

David Easson had seen Winkie in the McManus museum and stated he thought this was where it should be located as many visitors had viewed it and read the story.

Basketball at Dawson Park; Residents have asked if there are plans to do anything with basketball provision in Dawson Park. I raised the matter with the council's Neighbourhood Services Department and in response was advised that a review of the existing condition of the basketball area will be carried out. The department will also ascertain if there is scope within its revenue budget to install new hoop stands (one was removed following the storms) and to improve the existing surface. An estimate of costs to undertake a more extensive refurbishment will be prepared in the event that additional funds become available in the future.

Weeds in Gutters and Channels; I have received a few enquiries over the last couple of weeks from residents about this. The council is working through its street spraying programme at the moment. Locations will be assessed once the herbicide has had time to work to see if further attention is required.

Road Safety; There is an ongoing issue with road safety at the Strathern Road/Fairfield Road junction, which has seen several nasty accidents in recent years. The council has advised the ward members that it is proposing to install a raised table at the junction to slow vehicles down on the approach to it. There is also a proposal to install a build out with a priority system on Fairfield Road, just north of the Dawson Road junction.

Cllr Craig Duncan's Report (Previously distributed)

Monifieth Road – Bus stop at Reres Hill Park; I have long been pursuing the absence of pole/flag at this location with the council as there have been several complaints from confused travellers and am pleased to report this stop has been reinstated on the north side of Monifieth Road at Reres Park.

Beach Crescent Bins; Although I welcome the recent installation of "Gull Proof" bins on the new waterfront at Beach Crescent, I have been dismayed to find these all too often overflowing and the new walkway and steps strewn with litter. This is obviously a very popular area with locals and visitors alike and indeed the whole new route from Douglas Terrace to the Castle and eventually beyond must be regarded as something of an "Ambassador Route" for Broughty Ferry and the best of the weather and the height of the tourist season is not even here yet. Accordingly, it needs to look its best and I have urged the council to ensure that bin provision is adequate and that bins particularly in the busiest areas of Broughty Ferry are emptied with increased frequency and that the surrounding areas are regularly swept.

Elected Members; have recently been advised of measures under consideration to improve road safety around the junction with Strathern Road and Fairfield Road which has seen multiple vehicular accidents over the years. I have spoken with

officers who advise that consultations particularly with residents in nearby properties are underway but that proposals include the installation of a “raised table”, potential “build outs” and perhaps introducing some parking controls.

Accordingly, the details are not set in stone and timelines are still fluid but I welcome anything which enhances road safety at and around the approaches to this junction and I will feed back any views residents may have to the council.

Broughty Ferry Beach; Keep Scotland beautiful has again included Broughty Ferry Beach (for the 19th time apparently) in its Scotland’s Beach Award scheme and this surely reflects the excellent efforts of not only the council but also of the many groups and individuals who carry out frequent beach clean ups and this welcome news is in addition to the recent “excellent” water quality status awarded by the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA),

Stony Beach at Fisher Street – Douglas Terrace; I have again asked the council to ensure that following the completion of the bulk of the Flood Defence works in the area, that the contractors must restore the condition of the beach to a condition as near as possible to that which pertained prior to the works and this ought to include removal of unsightly membrane material as well as the uplift of aggregate and stones etc used in the construction of the temporary works access road on the beach and I have received assurances this will be done.

15. AOCB

Lanyard badges from DCC for Community Council members are in progress.

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Community Council is Tuesday 5th July 2022 at 7.00pm.