

Broughty Ferry Community Council

Minute of Ordinary Meeting held in Broughty Ferry Library on Tuesday 1st November 2022.

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. Community Councillors Present

Neil Cooney (Chair), James Doig (Secretary), John Watson (Planning Secretary), David Easson (Treasurer), Stan Nutt (Licensing), Charlie Delaney, Fiona Potton, Norma McGovern, Tara Javed, Isabel McLean.

Ex-Officio

Bailie Derek Scott.

Apologies

Doreen Phillips (Vice-Chair), Chris Johnson, Doug McLaren, Gavin Mackenzie, Christine Rea, Joanne Kelly, Cllr Craig Duncan, Cllr Pete Shears, Cllr Kevin Cordell, PC Steven Wallace, PC Fiona Hall.

Members of the Public Present

6 members of the public were in attendance (including B/F Rotary President).

2. Minute of Previous Meeting (4th October 2022)

As there was no minute of the October meeting available, it therefore could not be approved and was held over to the December meeting.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minute

N/A

4. Chairs Report

Chair Neil welcomed all to the meeting stating although notes had been taken the minute was not yet available. He thanked both Derek Scott and Pete Shears for their updated report regarding Forthill Road (20mph zone ?) which is a 'C' class road and is to remain at 30mph.

Although there was concern regarding problem events in the city last night (31st October), there was no report of any disturbance within Broughty Ferry.

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

Speeding bikes on pedestrian / cycle shared paths; There was a short discussion regarding this issue which apparently requires a change in the law by the Government. Baillie Scott to check with DCC legal department regarding a possible by-law for shared paths. Secretary to inform John Berry, Team Leader Sustainable Transport.

Ukraine children, donation of toy's for Christmas; It was noted Moraig Piggott of Broughty Ferry Baptist Church is the contact for collection of toy donations. There is also a shoebox appeal which commences on 5th November.

6. Police Report

Nil Reporting on this occasion

7. Secretarys Report

Correspondence

The following correspondence has been received since our last meeting of 4th October 2022.

5/10 Older Peoples Network (Energy Workshop), understanding energy use.

10/10 Age Scotland, Dementia workshops (how it affects individuals).

11/10 Web contact; Speeding bikes on pedestrian/cycle shared paths.

11/10 ASDA launches £1 café meal deal for over 60's, to help with cost of living.

11/10 Older Peoples Network; Scam awareness session.

14/10 From Pete Shears; (Forthill Road – 20mph limit to remain at 30mph).

17/10 Hugh Begg, email to DCC; (The role of the BFCC as statutory consultee in Land use Planning Matters. (raised under AOCB).

18/10 From DCC; (Western Gateway – 20mph zones – various areas). Not B/F.

19/10 Elected Member Training for Planning Reps. (9th November).

19/10 From DCC; (Dighty Burn Court - 20mphzone). Not B/F.

20/10 From Derek Scott (Forthill Road – 20mph limit to remain at 30mph).

23/10 Web contact; Ukraine children, donation of toy's for Christmas ?.

23/10 John Watson; New information regarding the Regal cinema Planning Application. Previously circulated to members.

28/10 Older Peoples Network; Scam awareness session (Tuesday 8/11/2022).

1/11 Older Peoples Network (Absent Friends Festival Reception) Friday 4/11/2022.

8. Planning Report for the period 3rd – 28th October 2022 (Previously distributed)

During the above period 8 validated planning and 2 tree applications were examined. No response was deemed necessary.

22/00616/LBC – 49-51 Queen Street, Broughty Ferry Dundee DD5 1AP Demolition of a Listed Building

At its regular meeting on 4th October, BFCC supported this application. However, subsequent to that decision the Planning Secretary became aware that a site meeting had been held between representatives of the applicant and Dundee City Council (DCC). That meeting led to a letter being sent to the applicant from DCC

dated 14th October after an updated Structural Appraisal Report had been attached to the application dated 10th October. The content of these two documents caused the Planning Secretary to reconsider BFCC's agreed formal response dated 27th September 2022. The Case Officer was advised, as a preliminary view, that BFCC wished to withdraw that response.

A new preliminary response was prepared and sent to the Case Officer on 24th October and circulated to members. Its content will be explained to members by the Planning Secretary at the November meeting to allow a better-informed decision on the response to be taken.

New plans were attached to the application dated 21st October but were not included in the DCC web site until 24th October after the new preliminary response had been sent to DCC. The plans will be available at November's meeting.

John highlighted points, letters and revised reports, also the historical importance of the building had been reduced from category 'B' to 'C'.

BFCC's preliminary view being it has no objections to the revised plans subject to conditions and although some members were still concerned the east elevation was to be partially demolished, it was highlighted this was for safety reasons.

BFCC's view was proposed by David Easson seconded by Tara Javed.

John also highlighted the previous notification of a 20-metre-high telecoms mast proposed siting in the Queen Street car park. He had visited the site at the back of the telecoms building adjacent to the Post Office Bar where there was sufficient space for the erection of the proposed mast.

9. Licensing Report.

No information received from Dundee City Licensing Board.

10. Public Relations Report

There had been no approaches from the local press.

11. Treasurers Report

David Easson presented the Annual Statement to date and has received the receipt (£120) for the wreath purchased and placed outside the library on the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

The balance sheet distributed shows a balance of £1575.71, this will be reduced by the above amount of £120, giving a total of £1455.71.

12. Matters Raised by Community Councillors

It is noted that the temporary structures agreed by DCC due to Covid outside the Ship Inn in Fisher Street and Gracies in Brook Street are still in situ. They should have been removed by 1st October 2022.

These temporary structures are being reviewed by DCC Enforcement officers. It was also highlighted there was a new policy directive to utilise outside spaces for pubs etc which will come into effect from 1st April 2023.

Flooding in Claypotts Road was highlighted again due to choked drains had been reported, Derek will check if this has been completed.

The Ferry 'Hot Spot' / 'Cosy Space' along with Barnhill Blethers as meeting places is proving to be a success.

There is a Beach Management group walkabout tomorrow 2nd November, a report will be available for the December meeting.

13. Contributions from Elected Members

Cllr. Pete Shears Report (Previously distributed)

Xplore Dundee – I had a lengthy meeting with the Commercial Manager of Xplore. A range of issues were discussed, but the majority of the discussion revolved around the poor service currently being offered on the No.5 and No.10 services. I've had assurances from the company that there are enough new drivers currently being trained in order to meet their service commitments by the new year. I also raised the issue of the new estates at Clearwater and Balgillo Heights being without a bus service and I will continue to engage with the company to establish a plan for understanding if a service would be commercially viable.

Hamilton St. – Following a street surgery, the condition of Hamilton St. and liability of the drains to flood was repeatedly raised. I took this to the council's City Development department who explained to me the costs and hyperinflation in the economy means the surface repairs may not be completed until 2023/24. The drains are cleaned every 24 months and were last cleaned between 6-14 months ago. The council assured me an area inspector would investigate any regular flooding of the gullies.

Warm Banks – Several churches in The Ferry are offering warm spots for people who may struggle to afford to heat their homes this winter. While it's incredibly sad that such schemes are needed in the current economic climate, I have attached details should anyone need to use the spaces.

Ambrose St. – The one way of Ambrose St. is now at the point of a resident's survey.

Forthill Rd. – Following discussions at the last BFCC meeting, I spoke to the director of City Development who confirmed that the road will not be subject to the 20mph zoning as it is a class C arterial road. Concerns about speeding on the road were passed to Police Scotland.

Bailie Derek Scott's Report (Previously distributed)

I circulated the response to the two issues I was asked to raise with the City Council at the last meeting. In brief these were that Forthill Road forms part of the principal road network and isn't proposed for 20mph speed limit and the blocked gullies in Claypotts Road were reported for inspection and cleaning.

I mentioned at a previous meeting that the council was rolling out the school streets programme following the successful pilot at Fintry Primary School and that Eastern Primary School was on the list of schools suitable for the initiative. The City Development Committee on 31st October will be asked to approve a provision of driving order Monday to Friday between 8.30 to 9.15 and 15.00 to 15.30 in Church Street, Camperdown Street, Harley Street, Stanley Road and Seafield Road to Davidson Street. Residents will be provided with permits to allow them to drive in the street at any time. If approved it will be implemented during 2023/24 financial year. Barnhill Primary School is likely to be included in the 2024/25 programme.

When the new shared pedestrian/cycle path was installed along Arbroath Road, residents asked why it didn't connect to the pavement on Fairfield Road. I raised the matter with the council's roads team and was advised that it wasn't done due to the proliferation of utilities at that location. They agreed to look at it again and consequently a solution was found that has allowed a link path to be constructed during the recent duct works to connect the two toucan crossings on Arbroath Road. I was asked if the junction at Arbroath Road could be widened to make it easier for vehicles to turn left while other vehicles queue to turn right. This wasn't done as the road engineers are currently working on a traffic calming scheme for Fairfield Road to reduce speeds and volumes of cars using this route and widening the junction would compound the problem.

I continue to pursue action on roads and pavements that require resurfacing. Three I have highlighted as being in a poor state, Morlich Gardens, the west end of Torridon Road and Bayfield Road have recently been, or soon to be attended to. I still have a list of other roads and pavements that require attention and will keep chasing these up.

Following complaints received about the vegetation that remains in gutters, I was informed that these would be addressed manually.

I met and advised a volunteer from St. James Church about making a funding application to the LCPP on behalf of Broughty Ferry churches to provide a warm space, which has been approved. The up-to-date times and dates of where warm spaces will be provided can be found on the participating churches Facebook pages.

Cllr Craig Duncan's Report (Previously distributed)

Grass/Leaves/Hedges – As mentioned in my last report I had called for badly overgrown foliage at the old curling pond in Claypotts Road to be tackled and I am pleased to say this has now been done. There are of course other areas in need of attention which I have raised and officers advise me that all being well, grass cutting has now ceased for this year which will free up staff to attend to other matters such as overgrown hedges and fallen leaves.

Sainsbury's Bus Service – I contacted the council to inform them that the only bus service currently advertised on the bus stop at Sainsbury's is the Moffat & Williamson run 88, whereas Xplore Dundee also call there these days and it is important to encourage the uptake and use of public transport. Accordingly, officers assure me that they will arrange for current information of services available at that stop to be

displayed. This is welcome and I also urged them to have printed details of services calling at all stops to be displayed as by no means all potential bus users have apps installed on mobile phones, particularly visitors.

Castletroy Road / Bennan Gardens Steps- As previously reported these have at last been upgraded and handrails have just been installed to complete the job, which is most welcome as we head into cold / icy weather.

Seven Arches Lighting – As the days shorten I have received several complaints about inadequate and / or non-functioning lighting on and around this location which is very popular with walkers and cyclists. Responsibilities are split between Dundee City Council and neighbouring Angus Council depending on the precise location and I have therefore asked the Lighting Partnership to pursue each authority as appropriate.

Dawson Park Lighting – Residents have complained that pathway lighting is not lit early enough or at all as dusk falls earlier and earlier and accordingly I have asked the council to ensure that such lighting is illuminated at or before dusk.

School Streets, Part Time Prohibition of Driving – There is an item on the City Development Committee for 31st October which among other things seeks to introduce more of these zones (similar to the existing one at the top of Fintry Place at Forthill Primary School) and one of the new ones proposed is Eastern Primary which is something I have pursued over the last few years meeting with police, residents, parents, parking enforcement etc to tackle the perennial abuses by a minority of selfish drivers who endanger pupil safety. Should the measure be approved the vehicle prohibition zone would be in effect on school days only 8.30am – 9.15am and 3pm – 3.30pm, emergency vehicles and contracted taxis will be exempted as will local residents who will be issued with permits.

Accordingly, I welcome this scheme as an enhancement of pupil safety and would like to see a similar scheme at Barnhill Primary School.

Warm Spots – I was pleased to visit Broughty Ferry St. James Church for the first of their free to attend “Warm Spots” to help people cope with the cost-of-living crises And what might be an extremely harrowing winter for those struggling to heat their homes or even eat properly. Those involved explained that in conjunction with some other churches in Broughty Ferry they aim to offer a place where people can come and keep warm for a while, getting something to eat and drink and perhaps socialise. Although it saddens and angers me that there is a need for such provision in the 21st Century in one of the wealthiest countries in the world, I hugely admire those who have of their own volition stepped up to help out and I have been happy to publicly promote full details of venues/ times etc.

14. AOCB

From 2019, under the new Planning Act which requires planners and those associated with planning to have some form of training, John as Planning Secretary will be attending a session this coming week.

It has been highlighted in the press that Network rail are looking to electrify the east coast line which runs through Broughty Ferry and will have an impact on certain

bridges into central Broughty Ferry. BFCC have not been approached on this matter but will work with Dundee Civic Trust and others as a team to review any plan and put their joint view's forward.

A lengthy email and accompanying note had been sent to DCC from a former member of BFCC and resident in the Esplanade who disagreed with the BFCC agreement to approve The Esplanade Mill Street stopping-up order which was subsequently approved by the Scottish Reporter. The email stated an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct of Broughty Ferry Community Council. It should be noted, BFCC, when making decisions, represents the majority of Broughty Ferry residents. At present, we (BFCC) should remain silent on the matter.

There was a short discussion on the non-attendance of Communities Officer's (Christine and Joanne) at meetings. Although it was noted that they were only part time it was felt we did not receive the required support when making decisions. This item to be discussed further at the December meeting.

A member of the public present raised the question of the Ferry House closure as there has been a lack of information from the owners who have recently taken ownership of the building and although it's future is in doubt it is believed it will remain a home for approximately 2 years. The future of the home has been in doubt for a number of years but as a commercial establishment, it is not within BFCC's jurisdiction to get involved.

Arrangements for the January meeting will be discussed at December's meeting as the library is closed on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

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