

## North Queensferry Community Council

### Minutes of Community Council Meeting on Thursday 8 December 2016

<b>Members Present: Christina McKenzie (CM) , Jim George (JG), David Shields (DS), Barbara McKechnie(BM), Peter Selbie (PS)</b> <b>Members of the Public: David Neill (DN)</b> <b>Cllr D Dempsey (final 15 mins of meeting)</b>		
Agenda Reference	Description	Action
<b>1. Apologies</b>	Iain G Mitchell (IGM), Lin Collis (LC), Sheila Foggon (SF), Cllr Mike Shirkie (MS) Mary Finlayson has Leave of Absence LC supplied information for some Agenda updates and additional Agenda items for this meeting.	
<b>2. Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>	Approved	
<b>3. Matters Arising</b>	None	
<b>4. Police Report</b>	None	
<b>5. Survey re Beamer Light Relocation</b>	DS advised the meeting of an update on the West Bay site meeting held on 06/12/16 re possible alternative location of Beamer Light. Present at the meeting, Iain Mitchell, David Shields, Lin Collis, Cllr Mike Shirkie, Lucie Macaulay and James Lawson. DS advised of sense of fatigue with the discussions relating to the default location at the top of the steps at North end of Forth Road Bridge; of the potential effects of additional visitors within the West Bay area; of possible leverage/trade off of earth works for MUGA in return for use of the default site. Following the latter discussion, Members of NQCC present at the monthly meeting believed trade off would be contrary to the public survey results and they could not recommend going ahead with further negotiations. BM will advise IGM as soon as possible of the meeting discussions.	BM
<b>6. Forth Replacement Crossing</b>	JG advised of good progress with road contracts. It is now possible to walk from North side of Queensferry Crossing all the way to the final gap at end of the South side supports. Draft plans for the opening weekend in May 2017 (date to be determined) progress, with the public allowed to cross on the Saturday and Sunday. It is expected that there will be a Public Cycle event in June and an official opening with a VIP in July 2017. A website will be launched in January 2017 to ballot the 50k places available to walk the Crossing. Next meeting for the Opening Celebrations group is 18 January 2017. PS attended meeting of the Forth Replacement Forum. PS advised of the strong feedback that any Community Benefit must be educationally based and was referred to the Community Liaison Officer, Ewen Macdonell (EM); the Community Council has been in touch with EM numerous times to ask for Community Benefit. PS advised 3 homes in the village have been fitted with dust and noise monitors and donations will be made to the three homeowners' nominated charities. Contact with South Queensferry representatives confirmed the gearing	JG

	<p>toward educational benefit only.</p> <p>BM will circulate David Climie (Transport Scotland) email chain to all Members outlining the Community Benefits attributed to the Forth Crossing project as identified by Transport Scotland. All Members will be requested to give their feedback/thoughts on these stated benefits.</p> <p>DS is following up on the routing of the public pathway under the Bridge following an update from Raymond Kirk of the Forth Crossing Delivery Team indicating access issues for up to 5 years.</p>	<p>BM</p> <p>DS</p>
<b>7. Tourism Project Group</b>	None	
<b>8. Cruicks Quarry Liaison Group</b>	LC advised in Notes prior to Meeting, there have been no further meetings but funding application for tubs and benches is urgent. DS /LC are liaising on the issue and on land ownership of the possible area for a bench on Port Laing coastal path area.	DS/LC
<b>9. Christmas Tree</b>	JG gave thanks to those who assisted erecting the tree on 03/12/16 including Duncan Foggon who supplied the timer for dusk to dawn lighting. LC suggested planting of live tree at War Memorial location. Discussion followed on costs of such a tree. LC to follow up. CM will contact James Lawson with regard to possible Network Rail electric connection for lights outside the station entrance near shop. DS expressed concern re condition of planting outside the station and will follow up with Fife Council.	<p>LC</p> <p>CM</p> <p>DS</p>
<b>10. Community Group Updates</b>	<p>Community Centre: CM confirmed Grant has been received toward the annual Ceilidh held in January which will allow funds raised to go toward the Community Centre building. The Ladies is about to be refurbished and the Centre is looking at ways to improve the heating.</p> <p>Community Trust: Disappointing turnout for AGM resulted in no formal meeting. CM will follow up with IGM re alternative date.</p> <p>HONQ: SF had confirmed no update, no meeting in December and next meeting in January 2017.</p> <p>Heritage: NQ Station Trust is looking for more volunteers to help with cafe etc. DS stated that there are some reservations over the use of volunteers at the station. The Workforce Memorial at the Station is in progress.</p>	CM
<b>11. Fife Councillors' Reports</b>	None	
<b>12. Planning Applications</b>	JG outlined: 14 Nov – internal application; None on 21 and 28 Nov and on 5 Dec – application for external down pipe in passageway at 16 Main Street. No comment on planning from CC as such but this is Charles Black Lane and it was queried why sign is missing from this part of the local conservation area. DS will notify the Heritage Trust and advised that LC is following up with Rights of Way office of Fife Council. The application in East Bay to which the Community Council objected was refused and another rear extension in East Bay was approved.	DS/ LC
<b>13. Defibrillator</b>	This is now with the Heritage Trust and Community Centre.	

<b>14. Treasurer's Report</b>	No Grant as yet, so still £67.27 negative amount between bank balance and assigned funds. CM to follow up.	CM
<b>15. Floral Enhancement</b>	Two new volunteers have started weeding on The Brae. DS has worked on redistributing tubs in the village. Some maintenance is required on benches. DS is liaising.	DS/LC
<b>16. Communication Strategy</b>	CM is working on looking for a volunteer to help be the Social Media Liaison for the Community Council. Volunteer required!	CM/All
<b>17. Fife Council's Investments in Arms</b>	LC asked if the Members supported writing to Fife Council in support of a Letter from Common Weal South Lanarkshire who had revealed arms investments in Fife Council Pension funds. BM suggested this was a matter for Fife Council pensioners. It was determined no further action.	
<b>18. Co-operation among Fife Community Councils</b>	LC asked if we should have more co-operation between the Fife Community Councils eg on the Arms Investments (17) and on the Airport Consultation. On the latter, at earlier meetings, it was understood that there was no desire to comment on the airport consultation – see <a href="http://www.letsstofurther.com">www.letsstofurther.com</a> for the Initial Findings Report. There will be a second round of consultation beginning early 2017.	
<b>19. Correspondence</b>	BM confirmed correspondence has been circulated.	
<b>20. Any other competent business</b>	LC had raised 3 points: Aviation consultation – see#18 Forth Bridge Tidy Up – The unused contractors' huts have been removed from the area below bridge. Grass cutting and fence maintenance continues to be an issue with Network Rail property. The Albert – it was brought to the Community council's attention that for unconfirmed reasons, the Hotel is currently closed to sale of alcohol. It is hoped this is a temporary issue for the village landmark.	

**Next Monthly Meeting:** Thursday 12 January 2017, North Queensferry Community Centre  
7.30pm

Residents of North Queensferry are welcome to attend all Monthly Meetings