

North Queensferry Community Council

Minutes of Community Council Meeting on Thursday 9 July 2015

Members Present: Iain G Mitchell (IGM), Lin Collis (LC), Christina McKenzie(CM), Barbara McKechnie(BM), Jim George(JG)		
Peter Selbie (PS), Brenda Bruce (BB), Cynthia Bruce (CB), Brian Armstrong (BA), Frieda Allan (FA), John Mark Di Ciacca (JMDC), Mike Low (ML)		
Agenda Reference	Description	Action
1. Apologies	PC K Blackwell (KB)	
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting	Minutes of June 2015 Approved, proposed by JG, seconded by LC	
3. Matters Arising	Re AOCB of 11 June, MS advising the Chair to contact Forth Crossing Construction re support for the local community, CM will draft a letter detailing the support requests previously raised and will forward to IGM for review.	CM IGM
4. Pontoon Consultation	The letter from NQCC detailing the objection comment is copied to the June Correspondence file in the NQCC website. (www.nqcc.co.uk). JDCC gave thanks on behalf of HONQ for NQCC objection. LC queried the next steps. BM will email Mike Shirkie in his role of the local councillor asking for guidance as to next activity/meetings within the planning process.	BM
5. World heritage announcement - discussion	The approved recommendation for World Heritage status for the Forth Bridge,(see: http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2015/whc15-39com-8B-en.pdf) include references to the Network Rail plans and notes that planning should be with the “full consultation with residents”. Local effective lobbying may be possible. The Forth Bridge World Heritage Nomination Steering Group (sub group of the Forth Bridges Forum) will now move into a Forth Bridge Partnership Management Agreement Group. IGM and MF currently are involved in representation; BA highlighted the need for fair representation of all residents’ views to the Management Group. JMDC advised that members of HONQ had attended the Open Day and had talked with Ian Heigh of Network Rail. Ian Heigh had offered to give a presentation to HONQ and IGM indicated that feedback from HONQ on that presentation would be appreciated. NQCC will liaise with HONQ via JMDC and BM.	BM/ JMDC
6. Tourism project Group	No Meeting	
7. Forth Bridge Visitor Centre	Following the World Heritage decision, this will attract a great deal more attention. Currently until the format of the application is available, it is felt that there is no benefit to meeting with Network Rail.	
8 Forth Replacement Crossing	It was confirmed that rough state of ramps on the B918 had improved slightly but it is unlikely that the road will be reinstated to acceptable standard until the road/bridge site is finished. CM indicated that vehicles/persons are parking on the Network Rail land	

	<p>claiming they have permission from Forth Replacement Crossing team to carry out their tasks. CM was unable to make contact with the claimed source of authorisation. Comments were made by MF, PS and JMDC re how we ensure that residents' views and benefit to residents are forthcoming. JMDC said that it would appear only commercial interests are being considered by Fife Council and not residential interests. BA pointed out that Fife Council has a statutory duty to the village and the UNESCO status. MF indicated that the village has a position of leverage at the moment and we should utilise that position. BM will email MS re what Fife Council are doing to promote help for the village.</p>	BM
9. Police Report	<p>KB had given apologies for not attending meeting but had given synopsis of any ongoing issues. A break in at Ferry Hills Road had not resulted in any police action. KB also confirmed that 2 police were present in the village on the night of the firework display on June 23.</p>	
10. Community Group Updates	<p>Community Trust: IGM confirmed negotiations are completed for lease for West Bay but signatures still required. IGM confirmed harbour dues are payable to the Community Trust (following lease signing). Railway Station New operator for railway cafe is Grill42 from Dunfermline. The company have advertised the opening on North Queensferry facebook. Community Centre: New Facilities Supervisor is settling in well. Following participation costs, £2700 donation was received from the Forth Bridge abseil. The Fife Council grant for the MUGA is available but two other grant applications have been unsuccessful. Community Trust may be able to assist with sourcing funds. Boat Club: JG advised that it was possible that one of the West Bay lease signees may be on holiday, hence current delay.</p>	
11. Fife Councillors' Reports	None	
12. Planning Applications	<p>150615 – No new applications; approvals at Rock House and Carlingnose 220615 and 290615 – no new applications 060715 – application for solar panels Update on East Bay amenity land – application for garaging withdrawn and Change of Use application awaited. The Council confirmed it would also make an objection comment to a Change of Use application</p>	
13. Treasurer's Report	<p>CM outlined the current bank balance and the monies available for Floral Enhancement – £343.87 less an imminent £20 charge. Other committed expenditure results in a £57 deficit.</p>	
14. Floral Enhancement	<p>LC confirmed all planting has been completed and it is appreciated that volunteers keep up the watering. 5 helpers assisted the planting and LC has shown NQCC appreciation with boxes of chocolates.</p>	

15. Correspondence	BM confirmed online correspondence up to date and drew attention to Fife Cultural Trust notification of planned closure of 16 libraries across Fife. A public consultation period is open until Friday 28 August 2015. BM will post further information on the NQCC website – www.nqccc.co.uk	BM
16. Any other competent business	<p>JMDC updated the Council on the objectives of HONQ (107 Members) which meets monthly on the last Tuesday of the month. JMDC will forward information and updates to BM and it will be posted/or a link will be provided, on NQCC website.</p> <p>CM will contact her original correspondent at Stagecoach and ask they attend an NQCC meeting. Although Fife Council commissioned the local bus service it is up to the village to discuss compatibility.</p> <p>MF asked that fundraising for the village Christmas lights be on the Agenda for September.</p> <p>BM asked that the Port Laing Commemoration for 2016, requested by Colin Bain, be on the September Agenda.</p> <p>LC highlighted increased presence of ticks encountered by pets and humans when walking in the NQ area – possibly due to deer increasingly straying into cultivated areas. LC asked that the public let her know if they have found this pest issue so she may collate the information.</p>	JMDC/ BM

Next Meeting: Thursday 10 September 2015, North Queensferry Community Centre 7.30pm