

NORTH QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> March 2002.

<u>Present</u>	P Dennison	- Chair
	J Dyce	- Vice Chairman
	A Neville	- Vice Chairman
	A Montieth	- Councillor
	J Taylor	-Councillor
	C Ewen	- Councillor
	J Hawkings	- Secretary
<u>In attendance</u>	J Cook	- Fife Councillor
	G Docherty	- Locality Manager
	1 Resident	

1. Apologies

R Thomson, N Kerr, I Mitchell

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The name of I Mitchell to be added to those present

Otherwise, minutes approved by A Monteith, seconded by C Ewen

3. Matters Arising-

6b PD had written to Scott Harper requesting input for this meeting but no response had been forthcoming. ACTION: JH to ascertain whether Scott Harper is still in post and why the Community Council has not had the courtesy of a reply.

6c Still waiting for a response

6d Sewage was still flowing onto the drying green at 58/60 Main Street and also through the outfall at The Albert Hotel. ACTION- J Cook to raise matter with the Environmental Health Office. It was also reported that the town pier was affected by a green algae and this was presumably the result of raw sewage flowing into that area.

It was reported that there were no litterbins in the vicinity of Helen Place. If people, especially dog owners are to be encouraged to act responsibly, then litterbins must be provided. The Marina was also considered a problem area. ACTION: J Cook to follow up.

4. Fife Councillors Business

[a] Concerning the cutting of the gorse on Ferryhills Road. The gorse had been cut with a chain, which had torn the gorse rather than cut it, which resulted in a very untidy appearance. This will improve as the gorse begins to grow. Fife Region had collected the litter, which had collected in the hedgerows.

[b] Library. At the recent Fife Council meeting when the library was discussed, J Cook had asked that the decision concerning the library be delayed because correspondence from North Queensferry Community Council had not been presented to the meeting. This request was refused.

JH reported that he had been advised, by letter, that Fife Council were not prepared to amend their decision, in spite of well documented concerns, and that the plan to close North Queensferry Library and replace it with a mobile library would go ahead. It was noted that Fife Council had provided North Queensferry Community Council with their guidelines for conducting questionnaires and it was commented that to call them facile would be granting them undue respect. A letter from Mr Mair was read out and it was agreed that the Community Council would wait until a further letter from Fife Council Head of Law arrived and then a response would be made. ACTION-JH to provide J Cook with past correspondence.

[c] Railtrack. There would be a meeting on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March to address, amongst other things, the matter of car parking for the contractors of The Forth Rail Bridge. It was agreed that Anne Montieth and John Taylor would attend.

Bill Mair raised a road safety concern and asked that the traffic sign which is located at the exit of the contractors' car park be improved. ACTION JH to write asking that Railtrack confirm that the contract will be reviewed annually, and that the Community Council concern about what happens under the bridge be addressed. The fact that visitors were not able to use the area under the bridge was noted.

#### 5. Police Matters

There was no Police Report.

#### 6. Chairman's Business

[a] Rosyth Port Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> March. J Dyce agreed to attend. PD asked that the remaining feral cats be collected and given to her for re-housing.

[b] A number of comments were made concerning the unpleasant odour in the vicinity of the sewage works. Councillor Cook reported that odour control work was ongoing.

[c] Despite widespread criticism and concern from local Community Councils on the matter of Local Forums, it was evident that Fife Council was going to ride roughshod over North Queensferry Community Council in this matter and impose their will in spite of well documented criticism and concern.

[d] A request was made that the edges to the steps to Ferry Barns be painted white- ACTION- J Cook.

[e] Tree removal. Railtrack had embarked on a substantial programme of tree removal. Since it was their land, the Community Council noted that they were entirely at liberty to do this work. ACTION- JH to write to Railtrack asking that they put in place an attractive landscaping proposal to replace the trees.

It was also noted that for some four years, requests had been made for a light on the bridge, which links the platforms, and for an emergency/information contact point. ACTION- JH to write to Railtrack. J Cook asked if a member of North Queensferry Community Council attended the Community Safety Group Meeting as it was thought that this would be an appropriate time to make such requests.

[f] An approach had been made asking whether North Queensferry would provide a Garden of Remembrance for the scattering of ashes. It was suggested that St James Chapel might be appropriate. ACTION- Pat Dennison to make enquiries.

## 7. Vice Chairman's Business

[a] J Dyce asked that Councillor Cook investigate signage for the Community Centre- ACTION J Cook to follow up.

[b] J Dyce asked that the path from the Community Centre to the Forth Road Bridge be cleared- ACTION Gordon Docherty to arrange.

[c] It was reported that the skin of the Community Centre had been completed and the building was now water and wind proof. All associated bills had been paid.

## 8. Correspondence Secretary's Report.

[a] JH reviewed the correspondence that had been received in the past month.

[b] Pat Dennison to follow up with Teresa Constable two Planning Permission applications.

[c] Action on the SEPA letter to be continued to the next meeting.

## 9. Treasurers Report

The Treasurer was not present but it was agreed that any surplus funds should be earmarked for village enhancement.

### AOCB

Village enhancement Scheme.

A Montieth reported on the recent meeting, which was attended by 16 people. A number of sites had been provisionally earmarked and work was now needed to be done to ensure that these locations were the right ones. There would be a further meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> in the Community Centre. It was encouraging to note that there was enthusiasm for much more than just the planting of flower tubs in the village.

A Montieth reported that she had received a telephone call concerning an area of ground in Mount Hooly. JH said that a letter had also been received. After some discussion it was agreed that Gordon Docherty would make contact with the occupants

of the 4 houses adjacent to this area to explore the formation of a partnership, which would improve and then look after this piece of land. It was agreed that the area should not be used to create parking space.

Anne Montieth asked if a small narrow bench could be provided opposite Battery Road next to the Black Cat Inn. John Taylor offered to help make such a bench and Gordon Docherty kindly agreed to earmark a sum of £500 as a local environment project for these two items.

Bill Mair asked if there were plans to develop the two village piers and the harbour. With the improvements to the Forth Clyde canal, North Queensferry could be of strategic importance to yacht owners. ACTION- Gordon Docherty to investigate Fife Council's view and to establish whether the Council would ever be prepared to hand over the harbour to a group of people who wished to look after it. A Neville to create a sketch of what might be achieved.

It was reported that the East of Scotland Water pipe was very dirty. ACTION- A Neville to follow up.

**NEXT MEETING Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2002. at 7.30pm  
North Queensferry Community Centre  
ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME**