

NORTH QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9 October 2003

Present: A Neville - Chairman
 P Dennison - Vice Chairman
 N Kerr - Treasurer
 J Hawkings - Secretary
 R Thomson - Minute Secretary
 I Mitchell - Councillor

In Attendance: J Philp – Fife Councillor
 L Mentiplay – Fife Council
 N Butter – Scottish Water
 Police Constable

1) **Apologies**

A Monteith, J Taylor, G Docherty (Locality Manager)

2) **Minutes of previous meeting**

a) Obstructions on Charles Black Lane – this was omitted, in error, from the previous minute. Discussions have been held between Fife Council and the residents who have blocked this right of way. Other local residents are applying to Fife Council for funding to upgrade this historic right of way; the Community Council supports this application.

3) Accepted as true record with the above amendment. Proposed by P Dennison, seconded by J Hawkings

4) **Matters arising**

No matters to be discussed.

5) **Scottish Water**

N Butter of Scottish Water attended to respond to concerns raised about the withdrawal of proposals to upgrade the waste treatment plant at Helen Place. Previously, assurances had been given that the waste from the village would be transferred to the Dunfermline treatment works. This will now not be undertaken as the current system of “primary treatment” undertaken at Helen Place meets the requirements of the Urban Waste Water Directive.

The persistent ongoing problems of foul smells during work at Helen Place and the escape of sewage by the Draught Beach would have disappeared when the treatment plant was superseded. Scottish Water were unable to satisfactorily answer how these problems would be dealt with and were asked to formally respond to these complaints. The Community Council also requested that the Chief Executive of SW attend to explain why the previous undertaking has now been withdrawn and how the issues will be addressed.

6) **Village Conservation Planning**

L Mentiplay of Fife Council gave a short presentation on the North Queensferry Village Conservation Plan. The first stage of which is the village wells project, which has just received initial funding from Fife Council. It is hoped that further funding can be obtained to extend this particular project.

A Public Meeting will be held on Thursday 20th November at 7.30pm in the Community Centre to discuss the conservation plan and allow the village to comment and make suggestions for further projects. Posters with some details of the plan are on display in the Community Centre.

7) **Police Matters**

There were 20 calls since the last meeting, no particular incident so of note. Enquiries are ongoing into the vandalism at Port Laing in August. Parking is being monitored and action will be taken against offenders, particular attention will be paid to untaxed vehicles. Speeding will be monitored.

The council were informed of death of former Community Officer PC Ferry and requested that sympathies were passed on to his family and colleagues.

8) **Fife Councillor's Business**

- a) Road Safety Initiatives – Funding has been provided for these including; improved cycle routes, 20mph zones near schools and other projects.
- b) Senior Citizens awareness campaign – a village event to promote the availability of funds, benefits and support for senior citizens and carers will be held in the spring.
- c) Community Centre car park – It was suggested that Vocational Training may be able to paint the lines required. **ACTION R Thomson**
- d) Felling of trees – T Constable of Planning is investigating the complaints. Further discussions were held regarding ongoing felling of apparently healthy trees. Community Council are pressing Planning to take enforcement action if breaches of the tree preservation orders have occurred.
- e) Quarry blasts – Fife Council monitor blasting from a couple of location in the village. Copies of the results are available on request from Environmental Services. It was suggested that monitoring sites be moved to the lower part of the village where problems are currently being reported.
- f) Edinburgh Congestion Charges – A flyer will soon be distributed, by Edinburgh Council, providing information on the proposed charges. Fife Council are opposed to the congestion charging proposal.
- g) Harbour – Fife Council are considering the development potential for the harbour area. It was noted that any development will have to be sympathetic to the conservation plan and the village as a whole. The Community Council will write to Fife Council to raise these issues and request that they are involved in discussions. **ACTION J Hawkings**

9) **Vice Chairmans' Business**

- a) Proposed closure of Paper mill – due to the proximity of the mill, it is felt that the Community Council should be involved in any discussions regarding redevelopment of the site.
- b) Conservation Area – application forms for lottery funding have been received. Further meetings will be arranged to complete these applications with support from Planning.
- c) Snack Bar at Ferrytoll – concern about the lack of toilet facilities was raised.
- d) West Bay – boxes placed by Heriot Watt Research unit have not been removed and are now an eyesore. Letter to be sent. **ACTION J Hawkings**

10) **Chairman's Business**

- a) Environmental Improvements – suggestions for suitable projects to be discussed at the next meeting.

11) **Locality Manager**

Unable to attend. Request to be passed to arrange for the ivy at St James' Chapel to be cut back. **ACTION R Thomson**

12) **Correspondence**

A full list is available from the Secretary on request.

13) **Treasurer's Report**

Balance of £1244.28 in the bank. £400 allocated to environmental projects, £465 for floral enhancements.

14) **AOCB**

- a) Main Road – road safety concern raised by a school pupil who has to cross the road at the steps by the Road Bridge. Suggestion that the pavement could be extended to improve sight-lines and move the crossing point away from the bend. This may be suitable for inclusion in the safer routes to schools initiative. **ACTION J Philp**
- b) Railtrack works – The area that the works site is occupying is increasing. No response from railtrack to previous undertaking to provide information on the ownership of the land. Railtrack to be invited to next meeting. **ACTION J Hawkings**

**NEXT MEETING – Thursday 13th November, 7.30pm at
the Community Centre.**

All Residents Welcome