

NORTH QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL **HELD ON 12 February 2004**

Present: A Neville - Chairman
 J Dyce - Vice Chairman
 P Dennison - Vice Chairman
 N Kerr - Treasurer
 R Thomson - Minute Secretary
 A Monteith - Councillor
 B Mair - Councillor
 J Taylor - Councillor

In Attendance: J Philp – Fife Councillor
 PC Maylin
 10 Residents

1) **Apologies**

C Ewan, I Mitchell, J Hawkings

2) **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Approved by N Kerr, seconded by A Neville

3) **Police Report**

PC Maylin reported that 25 calls were made from the village in the previous month. 6 crimes were reported, 4 of which were Road Traffic Accidents on the Road Bridge. There had been 2 break-ins to property a person has been apprehended and a quantity of jewellery recovered. The Police wish to thank all those who assisted them during the investigation. A new approach to dealing with gatherings of youths in the area is proving successful.

4) **Northcliff Development**

The Anderson family, who has owned the property for about 30 years, gave a short presentation on the proposed development and the surrounding woodlands. They stated their intentions to maintain the woodland, which is protected by a Tree Preservation Order. Their Woodland Management Plan has been approved by Fife Council and any work carried out will be in accordance with that plan. This includes a replanting program.

The proposed development of three houses is on sites that do not required cutting of trees. Nor is it intended to remove trees to improve the views from these houses. A Planning application has been submitted incorporating amendments made following comments by various parties.

Residents have raised concerns about slippage of land on the site. The Andersons stated that they would have a ground survey carried out. A previous landslip was due to the failure of a retaining wall. Access for larger vehicles to the site during construction work may be via Mounthooly. The Planning Authority has placed restrictions on access times.

5) **Rail Bridge Works**

Railtrack and Balfour Beatty gave a presentation on the works to be carried out during from April. The works are progressing on time at present. It is anticipated that the level of activity will remain similar to the last year. Some night-shift working will be undertaken on Saturdays to enable delivery of materials to the work areas and lowering of scaffold materials on the hoist.

The continued use of communal land and the disputed ownership of that land was also discussed. A meeting will be arranged with Railtrack's Property Department and the Community Council to discuss this further.

6) **Matters Arising**

a) Scottish Water – A Neville has written to the Chairman of Scottish Water requesting a meeting to discuss the various outstanding local issues.

b) Conservation Plan – Deferred to the next meeting

c) Quarry Blasts – Deferred, to invite P Mawhood of Environmental Services to a future meeting. **Action - R Thomson**

d) Harbour Development – A meeting was held by I Mitchell and A Neville with Stuart Nicol, Strategic Manger with Fife Council. He confirmed that any development proposal would include the community. He also confirmed that any income from the development would be invested in the village.

e) Wells Project – An architect has been appointed and the project is progressing. Design details and costings to be prepared to enable funding to be applied for.

7) **Fife Councillor's business**

a) Broken setts (cobble) in village centre – deferred

b) Right of Way sign on The Brae – Planning is investigating

c) 40th Anniversary of the Forth Road Bridge – South Queensferry Community Council have asked if a joint celebration could be arranged.

d) Pedestrian access route from the FRB to the village – work is planned to improve road safety. Site drawings to be requested and signs to be checked. Investigate if this could be included in the "Safer Routes to Schools initiative. **ACTION - J Philp.**

e) Play park refurbishment – Brock St play park has been earmarked. Consultation is underway.

8) **Vice Chairmans' business**

The Out of School Club has closed due to a lack of support. This will lead to a reduction in income for the Community Centre. Facilities at the Centre are at risk of being lost if they do not get used. Computer Training will be offered soon.

9) **Chairman's business**

A Seal Sanctuary has been proposed for DSW. Planning Permission has not yet been applied for. This may create the opportunity to discuss ongoing issues with DSW. A request for a DSW Liaison Meeting should be made.

ACTION - J Hawkings.

There are concerns that this development may replace the SSPCA Centre at Middlebank that the Community Council has supported in the past. Further information is required **ACTION - A Neville**

10) **Correspondence**

A list of correspondence is available from the Secretary on request.

a) Community Council Elections – These will be held on the 7th October.

11) **Treasurer's Report**

£1033.36 in the bank, of which £400 has been allocated for environmental improvements and £365 for floral enhancements. Expenditure items will be discussed at the next meeting.

12) **AOCB**

a) Charles Black Lane – A resident has problems getting their wheelie-bins to the kerbside due to the uneven surfaces. **ACTION – Locality Manager to investigate with Environmental Services**

b) Public Transport – A resident raised complaints about the non-arrival of bus service from Inverkeithing and the general poor level of service. Cllr Philp responded that Stagecoach are a commercial company and surveys indicate low usage on the routes to/from the village, they do not intend to increase the service. A letter is to be sent to Stagecoach. **ACTION – J Hawkings**

c) Boxes in West Bay – Correspondence from Heriot Watt University has been uncovered. A letter requesting their removal to be sent to Heriot Watt. **ACTION – J Hawkings**

d) Co-option of member – Lyn Collis was invited to join the Community Council.

e) Quarry Blast – A strong blast was reported recently. Environmental Services reported it was within acceptable limits.

**NEXT MEETING – Thursday 11th March, 7.30pm at the
Community Centre.**

All Residents Welcome