

**North Queensferry Community Council  
Draft Minutes  
10 February 2005**

Present:	James Dyce	Chairman
	Peter Dean	Vice Chairman
	Iain Mitchell	Vice Chairman
	Karen Trotter	Secretary
	Christina McKenzie	Treasurer
	Freda Bastianelli	Councillor (Minutes)
	Lin Collis	Councillor
	Catherine Ewan	Councillor
	Ann Monteith	Councillor
	Councillor Jim Philp	
In Attendance:	PC Smith`	Fife Constabulary
	Gordon Drysdale	Lead Officer, Traffic Management, FC
	14 Residents	(approx)
Apologies:	Jenny Robertson	Minutes Secretary

	<b>Action</b>
<b><u>Minutes of Previous Meeting:</u></b>	
<b><u>Amendments:</u></b>	
<p>1) Under Apologies – Iain Mitchell is Vice Chairman and not Councillor.</p> <p>2) Under Chairman’s Report – It was decided that clarification was required following Ann Monteith’s appointment to the Community Council. Following the elections in October, Mrs Deirdre Bald received the next highest votes and was invited to join the Council by the Chairman. Due to other commitments, Mrs Bald declined to accept and Mrs Monteith was then invited to join as the next candidate with the most votes. Councillor Philp advised us that it would have been acceptable if we had co-opted a member to the Council, but the procedure we had followed was still in order.</p> <p>Approved by Iain Mitchell Seconded by Peter Dean</p> <p>As suggested by Iain Mitchell, the Community Council would like to record their thanks to Mr Renny Thomson for all the hard work and enthusiasm that he devoted to North Queensferry Community Council during the years he was a Councillor.</p>	
<b><u>Matters Arising:</u></b>	
<p>Mr Gordon Drysdale, Lead Officer, Traffic Management, West Area, Fife Council, spoke about the crossing at the Bridge Steps, following the letter to the Community Council from 12 year old Munro Bastianelli. Mr Drysdale is part of a small team involved in implementing 20 mph speed limits in residential areas and the Safer Routes to School Programme. They have a budget available of £110,000. Mr Drysdale told the Community</p>	

Council that plans were already in place to improve signs and markings at the Bridge Steps as well as an additional drop kerb. This will be done by the end of the financial year, i.e. end of March 2005. Discussion took place on the effectiveness of improved signing etc at the Bridge Steps and most Councillors and Residents felt that this would not be sufficient. Mr Drysdale admitted, when asked the question by Karen Trotter, that there was no guarantee in gaining capital funding if we wanted more done to improve the safety at the Bridge Steps. Christina McKenzie asked if the money could come from the Safer Routes to School Programme and Mr Drysdale admitted that this was a possibility. The Safer Routes to School Programme is not limited to Primary School children only.

**Action**

Discussion followed on the congestion of parked cars in Brock Street and, following suggestions to turn the grassed area at Brock Street into a car park, Mr Drysdale advised that this would cost at least £20,000. It was also suggested that 20 mph would be harder to enforce if the parked cars were not there. Councillor Philp asked the village to consider their priorities in terms of car parking and to advise him accordingly, since he is currently involved in meetings with other Councillors concerning residential parking.

The extension to the Park & Ride is currently on schedule for April.

Mr John Done commented on his wall on The Brae being knocked down by lorries. Discussion took place on appropriate signs for lorries which Mr Drysdale agreed to take on board.

The Chairman thanked Mr Drysdale for coming to the Community Council Meeting and that we would contact him again in due course.

### **Reports:**

#### **(a) Police Matters:**

PC Smith reported 11 calls to North Queensferry. Two crime files:

1 break-in into the Corus Hotel

1 vandalism of garden furniture at Carlingnose.

PC Smith also reported that youths at the school now seemed to be getting the message and there were fewer nuisance calls re kids running about.

The issue of speeding in the village was raised again and PC Smith intimated that, normally, it was residents themselves who were guilty of speeding. He advised the Council that the police would be coming to the village periodically with the speed gun and it was also suggested that we should try to enforce the message about speeding via the Ferry News.

#### **(b) Chairman's Business:**

Jimmy Dyce reported that the Community Centre were now the owner of the four computers and were now, therefore, responsible for their maintenance. This will mean that the cost to use the computers will increase.

#### **© Treasurer's Report:**

**Action**

Bank Account now in place. Balance £3,092.77 of which £2,751.00 has been set aside - £400 environmental and £246 for floral enhancements and £2105 for FETA grant. This leaves a balance of £238.06.

Between now and the end of March, the only expense envisaged is the hire of the hall and the Secretary requiring some Stationery items. Do we keep the money or spend? Decision to be made at March meeting.

Iain Mitchell reported that funding for the village Coat of Arms will be given by Gordon Docherty

**(d) Secretary's Report – Correspondence**

Letter from David Henderson following Ann Monteith's appointment and also the Wells Project.

Letter from Adrian Neville responding to a letter regarding the location of previous Community Council correspondence. Mr Neville suggested contacting previous Secretary as he only holds Chairman's correspondence. Iain Mitchell suggested that Jimmy Dyce contacts Mr Neville to ascertain the relevance of the correspondence held by Mr Neville.

**JD**

It was suggested at this point that a copy of any correspondence written by a Community Councillor should always be given to Karen Trotter for filing. Catherine Ewan also suggested that when a Community Councillor had finished serving on the Council, they should hand over any correspondence or copies thereof.

Karen reported that North Queensferry Community Council had been unsuccessful in being selected to attend the Community Council Working Group because too many people had applied. The Chairman expressed his disappointment at this and asked if Karen could write again enquiring about places and/or possible cancellations.

**KT**

A letter had been received from L'eau Maintenance who are a group proposing to come to the village to water our plants if we can provide the funding – noted.

A letter received concerning the reorganisation of the Scottish Regiments including the Black Watch – noted.

A letter from Fife Fire & Rescue Service – noted.

A letter from Mrs Deirdre Bald concerning the register of Public Land in relation to the minutes of October 2004. Mrs Bald states that there are inaccuracies in these minutes which has resulted in damage to her garden and she feels her property and privacy have been undermined. Iain Mitchell suggested that he and Peter Dean meet with Mr Stuart Crosby from FC to establish authority/control of Rights of Way between FC and the Community Council.

**IM/PD**

Invitation to a conference from Fife Coast Trust & Countryside on 23<sup>rd</sup> February at Kinghorn. Catherine Ewan and Ann Monteith expressed an interest.

A letter from Mr Heigh of Network Rail stating that a representative could come to either our March or April meeting. He has been invited to come in March. The letter also suggested that one or two Community Councillors could visit the Bridge – Lin Collis, Iain Mitchell and Karen Trotter expressed their interest. Mr Heigh also confirmed that the object found in Mr Bald’s garden did not appear to have come from the bridge.

### **Planning:**

12 Nov – 44 Brock Street extension – passed  
19 Nov – North Craig Cottage extension – passed  
17 Dec - Pierhead House decking and alteration –passed  
14 Jan - Realignment of roads at Ferry Toll Interchange  
21 Jan - Scottish Water (near roundabout) – renewal of temporary access  
28 Jan - Garthill – erection of triple garage.

### **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**

Mr John Done reported that himself and his committee of three had kept the village scheme going but now felt they would like to retire and let some others take over. He felt the Police input had been virtually zero and PC Smith admitted that it had been neglected. Jimmy Dyce asked if Mr Done could stay on for another month and the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme would be put on the Agenda for next month to see if we could coerce new volunteers.

### **Oil Marks on Pavements**

Mr John Taylor reported on the number of oil marks on the pavements along the Main Street due to the number of cars parking on pavements. It was agreed to report this to the Roads Dept to ask if they could come and remove the stains.

### **Rights of Way**

To be continued on Agenda for next meeting.

### **Formation of Sub-Committee on Coastline Development**

Jimmy Dyce proposed the formation of the above committee to consider any proposed development that would affect the coastline of North Queensferry. It was unanimously agreed that this was a good idea. Christina McKenzie, Lin Collis, Karen Trotter, Jimmy Dyce, Simon Tate and John Taylor put their names forward.

### **Proposed Council Charges for Special Uplifts**

Jimmy Dyce reported that the council would charge £10 a time up to a maximum of £40 for any special uplifts. Jimmy proposed that we send a letter outlining our concerns.

**KT**

**AOCB**

Mrs Pat Dennison, Chairman of the wells sub-committee) updated the Council on the progress of the project to repair and upgrade the village's 3 wells. A contract is now signed and work will commence soon. It is hoped that, once the contractor starts, the refurbishment will be completed in four weeks. The matter of lighting at Willies Well is still unresolved. Wording for the plaques beside the wells has been agreed, but anyone who wishes to comment on these before manufacture should contact Pat Dennison now.

In respect to funding of the project, Mrs Dennison indicated that there would be some £4,000 available for our use. However, the Wells Committee does not hold this money, the Grant is held by Fife Council and can only be claimed subsequent to audited receipts being produced by the Project Treasurer.

Jimmy Dyce asked that we formally record our thanks to the wells sub-committee for all their hard work and commitment to the wells project, which received unanimous applause.

Iain Mitchell intimated that he had received a formal proposal from Network Rail in respect to the Railway Station.

Jimmy Dyce commented on the meeting with EWS on Coal blow-off issues which took place at the Ferrybride Hotel on 3 February. The meeting raised more questions than answers. Mrs Carol Dean highlighted the fact that a local number was needed to call if residents saw overloaded trains crossing the bridge and not a number down south. Karen will write a letter requesting a local number.

Mr Gary Bald mentioned the amount of dog fouling in the village. Lin Collis has already highlighted the problem to the Environmental Dept.

Mr John Taylor reported that he'd seen sewage leaking into West Bay.

Mr Stephen Reid highlighted the problem of crossing the road to the rubbish bin in Helen Lane where there is no pavement and that it would be safer for the bin to be on the other side of the road to avoid crossing. Mr Reid also suggested it would be better to install a zebra crossing with lights at the bridge steps to provide a safe crossing.

Mr John Done suggested that a beach clean up was necessary at West Bay following all the high winds and high tides in recent weeks. It was agreed to hold one on Tuesday 15 February at 10.00 a.m.

Mr Simon Tate informed the committee that the next prospectus for West Bay would be issued in 6 weeks and were we aware of it? After discussion, it was agreed that Karen would do a holding letter to FC and that a special meeting would be held on Thursday 3 March at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre to discuss the prospectus. A flyer would be issued to each villager.

**KT**

**KT/FB**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 10 March 2005**  
**COMMUNITY CENTRE – 7.30pm**  
**ALL WELCOME**