

NORTH QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at the Community Centre on Thursday 8 September 2005

Present: Peter Dean (Chair)
Ian Mitchell (Vice-Chair)
Karen Trotter (Secretary)
Christina McKenzie (Treasurer)
Jenny Robertson
Anne Monteith
David Greig

In attendance: 11 residents

Apologies: Cllr Jim Philp

Absent: Catherine Ewen
Freda Bastianelli

Police report: Constable Smith being indisposed, Constable Crews attended the meeting. He reported that from a police point of view the village had been quite quiet over the preceding month: some thefts of small items from cars, wanton damage to two cars (headlights) and two incidents of mountain bikes being stolen (one from a locked garden shed). Gary Bald drew attention to rowdy behaviour above his house on the coastal path which Constable Crews noted.

At this point in the meeting the Chair asked for a volunteer to take the minutes. Christina McKenzie agreed to minute this meeting.

Minutes of previous Meeting: The minutes of the meeting on 11 August 2005 were approved.

Matters arising:

- a) Toilet block off Ferry Road –
(see Local Councillor's report)
- b) Electoral Boundaries –
A response to the proposal to change the electoral boundary is required to be submitted by 13 October. Ian Mitchell offered to draft the response confirming the motion, which was passed unanimously at the last meeting, and issue to the members for their comments/approval then submit before 13 October. (action – IM)

Filing of casual vacancy in membership and appointment of minute secretary:

Having exhausted the list of candidates nominated at last year's election, it was agreed that invites would be made to the residents. This will be added as a note to the agenda, for the October meeting, and delivered to all households.

None of the members attending the meeting offered themselves for the position of minute secretary. The Chair also mentioned that a vacancy also arose in dealing with planning applications. It was agreed that co-opted members would be sought and considered at the next meeting.

Reports:

a) Local Councillor

The following had been submitted to the Secretary:

Toilet block – Environmental Services have confirmed that the building will be sold. Any interested parties should contact John O’Neil, Environmental Services, Elgin Street, Dunfermline.

There was concern over Fife Council selling off public land. A proposal was made that we liaise with Environmental Services to delay the sale pending the formation of a Community Company. This was agreed unanimously and the Chair agreed to contact John O’Neil. (action PD)

Community garden work – still waiting to receive a reply from Peter Howden regarding ownership of the land areas concerned.

Young people – spoken with Community Services. Officer who deals with NQF currently on holiday. Advised that he will be attending the Community Centre meeting next week with an update.

b) Chairman -

Dunfermline and Coast Associations of CCs – raising further questions with Scottish Executive. 1) Shortage of planning & enforcement officers. 2) Monitoring delivery of developers’ commitments. 3) Naming of developers who fail to meet their commitments and maintain a register.

Congratulations were given to the Wells Committee with the progress so far. There is however concerns that there have been no recent reports made to the CC and minutes of their meetings have never been received.

A letter was received from Deirdre Bald confirming that her husband Gary would be interested in taking up the casual vacancy.

The Stirling-Aloa-Kincardine rail line is running a year behind and the cost has almost doubled.

c) Vice Chair –

Confirmed that the Heritage Trust would be responding to the Planning white paper as reported from the D & C A of CCs. An offer to do similar for the NQCC. This was accepted.

Forth Bridge Memorial Committee – has all but decided on an Arts Council sponsored competition. If this route is taken the resultant monument is likely to benefit from a much larger budget.

Arts Trust – The Revenue has now approved the Trust Deed and they are now a recognised Charity.

Railway station – nothing to report

Coat of Arms – now that the holiday period is over it is hoped that this will move forward.

d) Treasurer –
The annual grant of £398.90 had been received. The current balance stood at £2,939.05 of which £2,624 has been set aside. £400 environment, £119 floral enhancement and £2,105 balance of FETA grant. It was agreed that the Treasurer would write to FETA with an update and propose that the £800, originally to be spent by the Boat Club on youngsters sailing training, be earmarked for a future project involving our youngsters. **(action CM)**

e) Secretary –
The full list of correspondence was read out and is available from the Secretary.

A letter to BT was still to be written advising the motion passed at the previous meeting. **(action KT)**

Wastewater Treatment

Works – upgrade:

Following the on-site meeting with Scottish Water on Monday 5 September there was nothing more to report and they could give nothing more to resolve the concerns which are –

- six months work commencing in December 05
- the inconvenience to the residents in the vicinity
- add cars – workman
- smells – demolition of current works
- twice weekly de-slugging from temporary works

There were also concerns over Rowan trees, which had been planted by Brownies in 1990.

Susan Rowe of Scottish Water, who attended the last meeting, had written to the Secretary advising that the purpose of the attendance of Scottish Water representatives at our last meeting was purely to communicate what was about to happen. It was had not meant to be a consultation. The works have to go ahead. She also confirmed that to close the WWTW in the Village and use the Dunfermline Works (by St Margaret's Hope) was not an option due to the cost.

It was agreed that our concerns would be put in writing to Helen Eadie, SEPA and to Scottish Water. **(action KT)**

Traffic calming:

The Chair went over the proposal again. The issues, which caused concern at the meeting were –

- the proposed humps
- the number of signs painted on roads
- the proposal not fully addressing the problems in the Village

It was agreed that the views of the meeting would be taken to Fife Council by the Secretary. **(action KT)**

**Overgrown &
untended public
areas:**

Jenny Robertson reported she had taken various photographs around the bottom central part of the village and would extend this further to all parts of the village. The findings would then be passed on to the Fife Council Locality Manager, Gordon Docherty, Fife Council's Chief Executive and the Parks Department. **(action JR)**

**Planning
applications:**

Only one application was relevant, renewal of porch at Fourteen Falls, Helen Place, and the application was presented for review. No comments were made.

AOCB:

There being none, the Chair closed the meeting.