

North Queensferry Community Council
Minutes
12th June 2008

Present:	Iain Mitchell	Chairman
	Christina McKenzie	Treasurer
	James Lawson	Councillor
	Colin Bell	Councillor
	Jan Short	Councillor
	Pat Dennison	Councillor
	Brian Armstrong	Secretary
	Cllr Keith Legg	Fife Council

In attendance: 2 Residents plus Lynn Hoey, Locality Manager Fife Council.

Apologies for absence:

No Apologies.

Police Report:

No police representative was present but a report had been given to BA which he read out. Police want to alert residents to the problem of thefts from unlocked cars. The spate of vandalism on village signs and walls has been stopped and the culprits identified.

A proposed South Fife Community Council Police Forum is to be set up. IM confirmed NQCC's support of this initiative but it was felt that an informal structure was best and that there was no need for a constitution or other formal structures for the group.

Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Matters Arising:

BA to write a formal letter of thanks to Jenny Robertson.

IM confirmed that a small honorarium or fee could be offered to someone who was willing to take the minutes at NQCC meetings.

JL had reported the state of the toilet block at the marina to FC Transportation.

The quarry viewing platform seems to have been cleared. CM will check.

Cllr Chapman to investigate the tidying up of public areas around West Sands.

JL will pursue Balfour Beattie with regard to the mess in the Marina Car Park.

Cllr Chapman has sent a letter to Development Services to ask for a detailed map of North Queensferry. JL showed the meeting a dossier of photographs of the rigs in the Forth put together by a concerned resident worried about the line of the new Forth crossing. PD expressed great concern about the bridge's potential for disruption of village access and life. JS also expressed concern. DG stated that the bridge building would be the dominant issue of the next five years of village life. The line of the bridge is much closer to the village

than many people realise. IM agreed to contact the contractors and ask what the current plans are and for them to send a representative to speak to the CC.

Youth Justice Work Teams

Youth Justice Work Teams (young people doing community service) have offered to do appropriate work in NQ. They have agreed to build new noticeboards for the village and refurbish the board next to the station. They have also agreed to help at a beach clean on Port Laing beach. JS will supervise them weeding around the wells on The Brae.

Election of Vice Chairman:
DG was elected as Vice Chair.

Minutes

There is now a formal NQCC Minutes Book.
Finalised minutes are entered into the book. They are also available on the web and the noticeboards.

Reports and Procedures

IM proposed that NQCC strive towards having reports issued in advance of meetings so that the meeting may be more efficient.

DG would like to see a general list of correspondence rather than the necessity to read out each item.

BA proposed that he forward emails to those CC members who have expressed particular interest in certain areas. For example – if an email is about Floral Enhancement – he should simply forward it to JS for attention.

Lynn Hoey

Lynn Hoey is the new Locality Manager for North Queensferry replacing Gordon Docherty. She introduced herself to the CC and outlined her responsibilities.

JL discussed with LH an access problem at East Bay where some steps have fallen into disrepair.

Chairman's Report:

IM had attended a Community Council training day run by FC. He was particularly impressed with the Fife Dataset. This contains a great deal of information about the population of NQ. It is available on www.fifecouncil.org

Helen Place: FC deny all knowledge of there being a public right of way at Helen Place. PD disputed this saying that Helen Place was not a Right of Way but a Road. There is a legal difference. PD and JL to liaise with FC

Railway Station: IM will try to persuade Network Rail to pay for repairs to the station interior.

IM and PD will be involved in the route wardens scheme.

SMG Location filming: SMG will be filming a short sequence on main street on 3rd July. They have offered NQCC fifty pounds.

NHS at 60: IM Proposed asking Jimmy Dyce and Anne Monteith if they would like to be our representatives at the NHS Birthday party.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurers report was held over until July.

Secretary's Report:

NQCC have been informed by the Data Commissioner that we must register as Processors of Data under the Data Protection Act. This costs thirty five pounds a year. This year we will have to pay this but FC may pay in the following years.

Supplementary Guidance in planning on wind energy had been sent. DG to investigate.

An invitation was received to attend a meeting about the Dunfermline and West Fife Plan. CB and PD to attend and report back to NQCC with details.

Resident Trevor Watkins emailed proposing a car club scheme. Dave Dempsey to publicise the idea in Ferry News.

The Scottish Executive have sent out a consultation document on a new Scheme for Community Councils and a code of conduct. KL suggested that it was, in fact, based on FC's own scheme under which NQCC operate. IM will investigate and report.

Clr Chapman has written letters to the relevant officials regarding the Main St. sign, verges near the Queensferry Hotel, the unrepaired wall by the road bridge and a Brock St. house.

Planning Applications:

PD reported no controversial planning applications.

Floral Enhancement

JS has taken on Floral Enhancement. She has spoken to the residents who look after the various areas of the village. She has recruited people to look after plants and water them in both the top and bottom of the village. She invited residents to make contact with her if they are willing to adopt an area.

AOCB:

CB reported that sewage works are to begin in East Bay and they may last up to a year. These works were discussed by Scottish Water at an NQCC meeting two and a half years ago. Only now the work is beginning. CB to draft a letter asking for more details.

Resident reported the problem of the road surface on the Brae. JL to contact Ian Jones.

JL reported that FC had agreed to lease the lighthouse to the Heritage Trust for 21 years.

DG proposed that resident Marisa Ferrier be co-opted as a new community councillor. JS Seconded. This will be voted on at the July meeting.