



QUEENSFERRY and DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Monthly Business Meeting

Monday 22 March 2021 at 7.30pm

MS Teams – Virtual Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Terry Airlie (Vice-Chair), Keith Giblett (Chair), Diane Job (Treasurer), Grant Sangster, Graeme McKinley, David Flint, Neil McKinlay, Anne Mitchell, Andy Malarky, Muir Kay (QBC), David Learmond (QHT), Liz Holmes (Minute Secretary), Cllr Norman Work, Cllr Louise Young, 1 local resident, 1 guest (Karen Stewart, FBTS Manager).

<p>1. QDCC Chairman’s Welcome</p>	<p>The Vice-Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the online meeting via MS Teams. He particularly welcomed back the Chair who was ‘sitting in’ at this meeting, following a short period of illness. Keith thanked everyone for their best wishes during his absence and added that he and his family had been touched by the kindness received during their recovery.</p> <p>In addition to members, meeting links are available to the public on request and one local resident was also attending. There was no guest speaker for this meeting, but the Committee welcomed back Karen Stewart as a guest, following her update on the Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy in February.</p> <p>Terry noted that planning activity had continued during the month, meetings held with both Cala (Springfield & Builyeon Road) and Ambassador (Ferrymuir), and ongoing activity regarding the affordable homes proposal at Dalmeny Park.</p>
<p>2. Apologies</p>	<p>Laura Sexton, Martin Crow (Police), Michelle Gordon (QHS), Jenni Meldrum (interim rep for town centre businesses), Gillian Smith (QCCC), Cllr Graham Hutchison, Cllr Kevin Lang.</p>
<p>3. Police Report</p>	<p>The Police Report was circulated before the meeting. No questions raised.</p> <p>Neil updated the Committee on the fresh reports of late-night antisocial behaviour (ASB) and inconsiderate driving at the Hawes and Ferrymuir Gait car parks, following the lifting of restrictions at the Hawes. Neil would meet with Martin, and others, to discuss further engagement with the drivers responsible and if necessary potential escalation measures. Contacts at BEAR to be approached regarding Ferrymuir car park.</p> <p>Cllr Young had visited the Hawes following increased complaints from residents and had also spoken with the Police. They had agreed to increase Police presence and residents were asked to report all incidents for action and review. Neil asked Cllr Young keep him informed of further liaison and correspondence to ensure a joined up and co-ordinated approach on both sites.</p> <p>Karen was asked if this was an issue observed elsewhere. North Queensferry CC said they had similar instances also involving the Police.</p> <p>ACTION – Cllrs Lang/Young to liaise with QDCC on further action re Hawes and Ferrymuir Gait driving related ASB. Neil to contact BEAR regarding the Ferrymuir Gait</p>



	car park.
4. Minutes from Last Meeting (Feb 21)	Terry thanked Liz and Grant for preparing the February minutes. No amendments were requested, minutes proposed by Anne and seconded by David F.
5. Matters Arising	<p>OUTSTANDING ACTIONS</p> <p>MAY 2019 Harbour Wall: Update from CEC received March 21, published on QDCC website. Limited funding has been made available for urgent repairs to structure. Work to focus on most significant damage to the ends of both piers. Site investigations ongoing to determine next steps re repairs. ACTION CONTINUES</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 2020 Leisure Facilities: A new timetable issued in November 2020, but then quickly withdrawn due to further coronavirus restrictions. ACTION CONTINUES</p> <p>OCTOBER 2020 Development Management Sub-Committee (DMSC): Ongoing dissatisfaction on the questionable basis for making decisions at CEC. Investigate formation of a community forum. The purpose of such a forum being to act as an engagement vehicle. No movement, Terry to re-engage. ACTION CONTINUES</p> <p>JANUARY 2021 Development Trust for Queensferry: Terry to arrange a meeting to see what direction this could take next, particularly relating to Queensferry's community facility existing 'seed fund'. To liaise with Keith and bring back to Committee. ACTION CONTINUES</p> <p>Antisocial Behaviour (ASB): Norman to make enquiries on whether either CEC or a development trust could invest in CCTV coverage to monitor activities outside shops and residences around Scotstoun Grove. Likely that CEC may say that responsibility for CCTV lies with the Shopping Centre, but potential for CCTV at the recycling facilities being looked at. Police report notes increase in patrols at Scotstoun shops to help deter ASB activity. ACTION CONTINUES</p> <p>Road & Pavement Adoption Dalmeny Park: Norman and Graham to clarify adoption status of Dalmeny Park streets. Understanding is that developers should approach CEC and apply for adoption. Has to be an adoptable standard, can be problems with new materials used, eg monobloc. Correspondence between Cala and Cllrs Hutchison and Lang notes delays in completion process in 2020 due to Covid. Inspections by CEC/SW due early March 21 and thereafter roads should go onto a 1-year maintenance period, and then be formally adopted. ACTION CONTINUES</p> <p>Harbour Lifebuoys: Correct Lifebuoys have now been delivered. ACTION CLOSED</p> <p>FEBRUARY 2021</p>



	<p>Tourism Signage: Terry to set up meeting Karen Stewart, Forth Bridges Tourism Strategy Manager, with QHT to go over the background and work carried out on signage. ACTION CLOSED</p> <p>Roadside Parking: Significant number of parked cars from Hawes Brae up to and then also along from Chapel Gate to Dalmeny Main Street observed at weekend. Potential road safety issue for pedestrians and cyclists at some pinch points, as well as buses heading to/from Dalmeny. Grant to raise with CEC. Issue discussed, no formal action agreed but situation seems to have eased. ACTION CLOSED</p> <p>Echline Roundabout Crash Barriers: Potential safety issue involving damaged crash barriers near the Shell garage. Repairs carried out. ACTION CLOSED</p> <p>Harbour Benches: QBC request for CEC contact details re permission for commemorative seats at the Harbour, as someone had been seen measuring up for one recently. Details passed to Muir by Norman. ACTION CLOSED</p> <p>Harbour CCTV: Muir also asked for CEC contact details for CCTV at the Harbour. Norman advised no commitment from CEC to progress CCTV at present. ACTION CLOSED</p>
<p>6. Chair's Report</p>	<p>No report this month</p>
<p>7. Councillors' Reports</p>	<p>Cllr Work. Report circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>Norman gave an update on the recycling facility at Tesco. CEC has proposed removing the community bins due to problems with leaving waste next to bins or putting it in the wrong bin, which means when bins are emptied the contents have to go to landfill as they contain mixed waste. Given that most householders have their own recycling bins it was felt that commercial sources may be using these bins. Cllr Young added that similar misuse has been reported elsewhere, at Kirkliston and Silverknowes. Norman advised that CEC to organise a meeting to discuss, Neil to be invited.</p> <p>ACTION: Neil to be included in meeting with CEC to discuss future of recycling bins at Tesco.</p> <p>David L raised the question of sufficient funding for the Harbour Wall reported in the CEC briefing (Renata Wilson) and what would happen if more is needed. Is there a risk that the Harbour could be closed. Norman agreed this needed to be checked and QDCC should follow up with CEC, along with Cllrs. Terry to follow up with Renata.</p> <p>ACTION: Terry to follow up funding status for Harbour Wall repairs with Renata Wilson, and liaise with Ward Councillors.</p> <p>Anne queried the new Cramond Brig to Barnton bus lane times, as CEC website contradicts Norman's report. Confirmed that the lanes are weekday peak hours only, morning and evening.</p> <p>Cllrs Lang/Young. Report circulated before the meeting.</p> <p>Louise commented on the status of future plans for schools in West Edinburgh, particularly High Schools, noting the pressure points on capacity. Delays to the</p>



	<p>Development Plan have impacted on decisions and CEC need more information on plans for land around the South Queensferry, Kirkliston, Barnton area as all available land is privately owned. Placing temporary units on site at QHS has been discussed, but there is some dissatisfaction with that and doesn't solve the issue. QDCC has contacted Crawford McGhie, CEC, on how plans for QHS capacity are taking shape. Response awaited.</p> <p>ACTION: Terry to chase response from CEC on plans to address QHS capacity in the event of another school not being available for Kirkliston children.</p> <p>Diane asked if the Dundas mast application and particularly QDCC comments would be passed onto the new Planning Officer, given that some were after the submission date. Louise undertook to check and report back to Diane.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Young to check with CEC that all QDCC comments on the Dundas mast application, including those post submission date, have been forwarded to the new Planning Officer for this case.</p> <p>Cllr Hutchison. Apologies tendered. Post meeting note - report submitted 23 March, available for review on website.</p>
<p>8. Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>Report circulated before the meeting. No questions raised.</p> <p>Diane reminded the Committee that the Financial Year ends on 31 March and that she would issue an updated version of her report if any further expenditure incurred. All other matters were up to date.</p>
<p>9. Secretary's Report</p>	<p>Report circulated before the meeting. No questions raised.</p>
<p>10. Spaces for People</p>	<p>Terry introduced this item and invited Grant to outline how it had progressed. The initiative was led by Transport Scotland (TS) in response to Covid. Councils were encouraged to allocate space for people to exercise, especially in town centres. Funding provided by TS, administered by Sustrans, and delivered via CEC. Longer term it was recognised that schemes like this have merit meeting wider environmental or climate change targets. For South Queensferry the High Street was recognised as needing better access for cyclists and pedestrians. This also met the existing High Street improvement objectives. A one-way system and wider pavements in place, week commencing 8 March. Initial views are that signage at the Sealscraig end could be better; possible pinch point at the Stag with loading/deliveries; and improved signage for 'businesses open as usual' would help, especially when premises start to open up again. Noted it's an experimental scheme and can be reversed. CEC seeking opinions and ideas on what is felt good or bad. Some initial non-compliance had been observed, as noted in Cllr Work's report, but no formal feedback received so far.</p> <p>A question from the floor was raised on signage. The sign at Bankhead, advising road ahead closed, had too much information for drivers to read and absorb so most would drive on. Norman added that this was also true at the Stag, for those going east along the High Street. Feeling was that too many signs, and that some were misleading as the road isn't actually 'closed'. Overall agreement that some signs need to read better, and subject to further review.</p>



	<p>ACTION: QDCC to continue to review impact and effectiveness of the Spaces for People initiative.</p>
<p>11. QDCC Subcommittees</p>	<p>Planning & Housing Report circulated before the meeting. Items highlighted included Stoneycroft Road – planning approved for martial arts centre. Nothing further on the town houses application. Diane to enquire.</p> <p>Dalmeny Park – objections from QDCC and 60 members of the public for affordable flats proposal. CEC Committee meets next on 21 April, also anticipate Springfield development to be on agenda.</p> <p>Builyeon Road – awaiting submission for planning from Cala.</p> <p>Ferrymuir Gait – meeting with Ambassador had been productive. Ongoing dispute between residents and developers on ownership of land abutting Varneys road access, residents seeking legal opinion.</p> <p>ACTION: Diane to check planning status for Stoneycroft Road townhouses.</p> <p>Transport</p> <p>Report circulated before the meeting. Grant highlighted the City Mobility Plan approved by CEC and encouraged the Committee to review the Plan, and policies now in place. Impacts are potentially over next 10 years with some radical changes on lifestyles and behaviours from those currently used to - more bus lanes and parking allocation reductions in new developments. Terry queried whether CEC might consider reintroducing a congestion charge. This was possible, or perhaps road pricing.</p> <p>Environment</p> <p>Report circulated before the meeting. Neil noted the recycling and noise concerns had been covered earlier in the meeting. He thanked Norman for his involvement in the positive action on the cycle path sewers.</p> <p>Terry asked if there was anything more on path subsidence at the Bowling Club. Neil advised nothing further, but inspected regularly.</p> <p>CEC were to provide summer plants for the street boxes.</p> <p>Queensferry Heritage Trust (QHT)</p> <p>Response received from Queen’s and Lord Treasurer’s Remembrancer (QLTR) regarding sale of land at the Sealscraig informing QLTR under no obligation to consult on sales and had no interest in Rights of Way (RoW). Advice is to refer to Planning if have queries. David L has written back to QLTR re Sealscraig land below the high watermark which wasn’t sold, asking whose land it is; if any further vacant plots; and can they agree to consult with QDCC and QHT on any future sales with a community interest. On RoW it was thought there had been something in the past for this piece of land. David L to check with Scotways. Diane thanked David on behalf of the Committee for his work on the Sealscraig land.</p> <p>Met with Karen on Tourism Strategy and signage. Karen added that it had been a very helpful meeting with lots of ideas.</p> <p>High Street refurbishment, set up meeting with QDCC and other interested parties including CEC.</p> <p>OSCR are advising charities that for this year, dates for virtual AGMs should return to the timetable set out in their constitutions. For QHT this means an AGM by end April</p>



	<p>2021 even though the delayed 2020 AGM was held only a few months ago in November. Terry to check situation re QDCC. ACTION: Terry to contact CEC regarding QDCC AGM requirements in 2021</p> <p>Queensferry Boat Club (QBC) Terry noted that the Harbour Wall repairs had been discussed earlier under Items 5 & 7. No other points raised.</p> <p>Health & Wellbeing Report circulated before the meeting. Anne advised that a member of the public had fundraised to provide an additional defibrillator and box. A suitable site had been identified on the High Street and the Committee agreed to Anne pursuing this with the premises concerned.</p> <p>Education & Recreation Report circulated before the meeting. David F confirmed new equipment to be installed at Inchcolm play park later that week.</p> <p>Communication Report circulated before the meeting. Graeme reported that a resident had contacted him about cars racing alongside each other on Station Road. Terry to pursue with Martin. ACTION: Terry to contact the Police regarding resident report of car racing on Station Road.</p> <p>Forth Bridges Tourism Terry invited Karen to comment on any recent items of interest. These were - Historic Environment Scotland, had met with HES that day, seeking nominations for the Green Tourism award. Karen asked if there are any known local businesses who might qualify. Network Rail Forth Bridge Experience, application for the development requires some changes, Network rail still committed to it.</p>
<p>12. CEC/QDCC Business updates</p>	<p>Terry notified the Committee of a recent formal complaint against another CC in Edinburgh, involving alleged inappropriate conduct regarding minute taking. The anonymised details had been circulated to other CCs by CEC for information and awareness, together with a reminder of the Code of Conduct and expected Committee member behaviour. Ward Cllrs confirmed that all CEC meetings remain online. Anticipated that this would continue through the summer.</p>
<p>13. AOB</p>	<p>QDCC had been contacted by Neil Walker regarding a Friends of the Cemetery organisation. Neil is in the process of setting up a committee for a Friends body for Queensferry Cemetery and the Vennel Cemetery, and had asked if QDCC wished to be represented on the committee. Diane advised that the local History Group had also been contacted. Agreed that formal membership was not appropriate but that</p>



	engagement on matters of interest would be welcome. Diane agreed to be the point of contact. ACTION: Terry to pass on Diane's details as QDCC PoC to new Friends of Queensferry Cemeteries Group.
14. Questions from the floor	No questions raised.
15. Date and time of next meeting	Monday 26 April 2021 at 7.30pm.