

Froghall, Powis and Sunnybank Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th August at Powis Community Centre.

1. Present:

Janet Potter, Linda Slessor, Rhona Smith, Alex Mess (Chair for the meeting), Clive Kempe (minutes), Karen Riddoch, Hilda Meers, Lidia Revello de Toro (Evening Express), Gordon Ritchie (Friends of Sunnybank Park), Fiona Lynsey, Nicol Ferguson, Sarah Mackenzie, Andy MacLeod (George St CC), Tom Bruce (GSCC)

Apologies:

Dauna Matheson, Katja Brittain, Albert Craig, Councillor Ross Grant

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes of the meeting of Wed. 3rd July were approved by the members.

- Proposed: Janet Potter
- Seconded: Rhona Smith

Matters Arising:

- a) Old Aberdeen CC minute secretary currently has too many other commitments to do our minutes, but Alex Mess has recruited a minute secretary for future meetings.
- b) CK is still to make up the flyer template for advertising our future meetings.
- c) CK has advised the Community Council Forum that JP and AC will be representing our CC.

3. Police Update:

There was no police presence at the meeting. Items on the Agenda were presented for the record viz Theft from gardens, vandalism to fencing in Sunnybank Park, nuisance from cars and motorcycles (passengers throwing liquids at passing pedestrians – clearly as a prank, but with undertones) and anti-social dog owner(s) in Sunnybank Park intimidating others.

4. Aberdeen City Councillor Reports:

No Aberdeen Councillors were present, but Ross Grant asked the CC to submit issues for him to address. The CC voted on this, and agreed. CK will tabulate issues for RS.

5. Planning Matters:

The McDonalds planning application was further discussed. Article in the "Local Citizen". There have been no other new local planning applications since our previous meeting.

DM has asked for some time out from being the CC planning officer. Planning issues will be monitored collectively by the CC as an interim measure.

6. Maintenance of public spaces:

LS has registered a complaint with the environment services department about poor maintenance. The pavements in Sunnyside Avenue and Sunnyside Road are in a bad state. FL was complimentary on the Council's record on repairing tree damaged pavements. KR will look into provision of sandboxes (for the winter months). CK will ask Steven Shaw about temporary handrail provision in key places during winter.

AM noted positive outcomes of walkabouts pointing out areas of concern with Steven Shaw. Suggested these are continued periodically with Steven Shaw and/or with the City Councillors (RG).

7. Reports / Feedback from other meetings:

Community Council Forum – no CC attendance, but the report recommends that CC send members for Planning Training. Craig and Rhona will attend the training workshop on 7th Sept 2013.

8. Financial Matters:

JP Reported on the CC accounts. Current balance £130-60. There have been no recent transactions. City Council grant will be £876-42. Account signatories are JP, AM and CK.

It was agreed (CC vote) to hold all CC meetings for this year at Powis Community Centre, with donation of £30 per meeting, with 9 meetings likely, totalling £270. While this is a substantial part of our budget, it was agreed that it is appropriate use of funds.

9. Correspondence:

CC Training (members of the cc attended a training evening with Sandy Mathers on 31st July 2013).

Green Space Project (from FL). Discussion will be deferred until the next meeting.
Letter from Surfraz Ali with invitation to an open day (since postponed) for discussing proposals for a new mosque and community centre in Nelson Street.
Planning training for Community Councils

Letter from Amy Gray – waste strategy manager. Recycling bins will be changed (with separation at depot rather than at the collection point). Blue top recycling may be provided as in George Street. RS will invite Amy Gray to a CC meeting or dedicated meeting. (LS noted that there are streets where pavements are obstructed by wheely bins).

Letter from Mary McCabe asking for nominations for Awards for best practice in Community regeneration. Closing date Mon 14th August, so will consider for next year. The Civic Forum provides grants of up to £1m. AM suggested that we apply for money for suitable projects. This could include money to improve cycling safety. (ask RG).

10. Publicity for CC. Increasing CC involvement. Co-opting new members:

CK still to produce leaflet to publicise meetings.

It was proposed setting CC Meeting dates for the whole year to allow publication to improve publicity (eg in Citizen newspaper). KR is setting up a CC online diary.

It was voted to co-opt Fiona Lindsay to the CC. KR will update the paperwork..

11. A.O.C.B.

Linda suggested we discuss improving path provision with RG.

Powis Community clean up on 24th August (Saturday 10-00 – 12-00)

Gordon Ritchie reported on Sunnybank Park AGM.

- Break-in to shed.

- Improvements to signage for the park is being discussed with the City Council.
- Dog bins are being added.
- Proposals to add a Portacabin on the tennis courts during winter as a maintenance hub.
- There are problems with flooding for some properties backing on to the park. Rhona will notify Friends of Sunnybank Park (with implications for land management).

Firewarden training: Powis has a relatively high incidence of fires (P&J article from November 2012 was circulated). Ask Fire brigade to give safety training presentations at secondary schools.

Linda commented on the positive behaviour of youths from St Machar playing football in the Park.

The next meeting will be at 7pm on 9th October at the Powis Community Centre Meeting Room.