

# Froghall, Powis and Sunnybank Community Council

Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup>. September, 2020 at 7pm

## Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

### Minutes

Attendees: Community Councillors Stephen Clarke. Geoff Goolnik, Linda Presslie, Alex Mess

Also, in attendance: Aberdeen City Councillors Michael Hutchison, Dell Henrickson, Sandra Macdonald & Karen Finch (ACC Community Council Liaison Officer)

#### 1. Welcome and apologies:

The Chair (Geoff) welcomed those attending the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Community Councillor John Singer (Vice-Chair) and Sergeant Michael Stobie (Police Scotland)

#### 2. Minutes of previous meeting (5<sup>th</sup>. August 2020)

Linda pointed out incorrect meeting date.

Cllr. Hutchison pointed out that he was present if only for the latter part of the meeting.

Proposed that they should be adopted Linda; and seconded by Alex

#### 4. Matters arising

Local Development Plan submission: Linda apologised for not circulating her submission on behalf of the Community Council beforehand. It was however completely based on our existing deep concerns on the excessive number of Multiple Occupied properties in the area, (discussed previously at CC meetings) the clustering of which were the highest in Aberdeen and possibly Scotland. The process of what happened next to our submission was explained by Cllrs. Hutchison and Henrickson.

On this topic, Alex pointed out that ACC should keep a rigorous check more widely on multiple-occupied properties, many gardens were a disgrace, overgrown and full of rubbish and ensure landlords ensure that the front gardens, for example, were properly cared for. Cllr. Hutchison responded that the Council could only take action about public health matters and this became a risk they would act. If tenants were disturbing from other points of view, e.g. noise pollution, then matter could be considered when landlord's permit was renewed but it would have to be backed by hard evidence of repeated complaints.

#### 5. Police/City Wardens' reports

Sergeant Michael Stobie (by email) reported that there had been a number of youth annoyances in Bedford Avenue area and growing rise in bike thefts generally. Linda had come across lots of youths cycling around at night without lights, on the pavements and on

the roads dicing with cars. Not sure if police have noticed such antics and if they can deal with it.

## **6. Aberdeen City Councillors' reports**

Cllr. Henrickson; Nothing specific related to the area. Linda asked about how problems with street lights be best reported. Cllr. Henrickson recommended going through Council website

Cllr. Macdonald: Water has been discharging for some time from a mains supply pipe in Sunnybank Walk and Scottish Water has finally agreed to fix it. Not sure though when it will happen.

## **7. Representations from received from members of the public**

None

## **7. Planning matters**

No new applications relating to CC area have been forwarded.

## **8. Chair's report**

Follow up on 2 bridges murals project , i.e. relating to Canal Road bridge and Bedford Road pedestrian bridge. Canal Road bridge's structure is owned by Network Rail while surface owned by Council. Lightning response from Network Rail. Keen on the draft proposals as long as access provided to the structure should repairs become necessary. Can't offer any funding though. Bedford Road footbridge is, on the other hand, owned completely by the City. ACC 's Environmental Services department is keen on proposed ideas for both bridges. Steven Bly of that department will act as liaison person – on leave at the present, but look forward to discussing issues with him when he returns.

Geoff had looked at possible sources of funding but agreed with Linda that it was vitally important to get community buy-in for the project. This would prevent any vandalism. Geoff also believed that present blank surfaces invite vandalism and that having the bridge decorated – with community's approval - has shown elsewhere that tagging is deterred. It was agreed that a draft note about the project would be circulated to Linda so that she could work it up into a notice for the three community centres in our area, inviting comment. A notice would also go up on the website.

Karen Finch suggested we possibly make contact at some point with local muralist group "Graffiti Grannies" for advice or ask around other Community Councils asking for their advice and experience. Karen will give Geoff contact details.

N. B. Condition of Firhill Well, in Sunnybank Park, referred to at last CC meeting – Linda said that the Management Committee had not yet had another meeting

## **8. Secretary's report (including correspondence)**

Stephen (Secretary) reported that a letter had been received from Lieutenant Charlotte Stewart of 40th. Boys Brigade Company asking for a grant of £250. This request is submitted annually. They meet in Macdonalds in Kittybrewster Retail Park and it is spent on craft materials, scissors, glue, etc. There was concern expressed that it being given at the risk of similar sums not going to the three Community. Questions were also raised about if the

membership really came from our area? Alex and Stephen confirmed membership totalled 40-50 children and the overwhelming majority did come from our area. It was mostly Muslim too despite the organisation's Christian background. Alex agreed to get confirmation about membership for the next CC meeting. We would then take a formal decision at our next meeting.

There was then some discussion about if the CC had sufficient money to address this and similar applications along with what we had already paid out in recent months for expenses such as web hosting and for virtual meetings. We needed to keep these matters under continuing review but at present it would seem to have matters under control.

It was hoped to co-opt two individuals who were interested in serving on the CC: Daniel Warren (previously of Old Aberdeen Community Council) who was moving into our area; and Rachel Smith, already a resident. Completion and submission of the appropriate official ACC forms were in hand.

Meanwhile, Victoria Pirie was officially resigning from the CC. Completion and submission of the appropriate ACC official form was in hand.

**9. Treasurer's report**

None

**10. Reports from other Community Councillors**

Froghall Community Centre's food distribution and soup service. No news about whether it can be resumed at present.

**11. AOCB**

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**12. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>. September at 7 p.m., online.