

Froghall, Powis and Sunnybank Community Council

Wednesday, 4th November 2020 at 7pm

Online (Zoom)

Minutes

In attendance: CC's Geoff Goolnik, Alex Mess, Linda Presslie, Rachel Smith, Daniel Warren
City Councillor Michael Hutchison
Elaine Sinclair, Aberdeen University Community and Regional Engagement Officer

Welcome and Apologies

The chair (Geoff) opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

Apologies had been received from Sgt M. Stobie, Ann Pirie (Treasurer)

Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising from October.

Corrections: Delete "vociferously" and correct mis-spelling.

Matters arising: Sgt Stobie sent a report which is attached. Linda to give copy or report to Alex.

Flu Jab: Some problems with appointment letters arriving after appointment time etc but NHS are apparently catching up now. Alex had a bad experience and has reported it to Michael Hutchison who is dealing with the enquiry.

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Alex and seconded by Linda.

Elaine Sinclair, Aberdeen University Community and Regional Engagement Officer, introduced herself and explained that she is working with a new team hoping to engage with regional partners for example Aberdeen City Council and local Community Councils. Elaine told us about the Uni's new newsletter, Civic News, which is issued every two months or so. We are already on the mailing list. Councillor Hendrickson had a walkabout on the campus with the principle and mentioned the problems within the community regarding some students unsociable behaviour. Her team will also be working on producing a Good Neighbour Guide, which will be available on their web site. It will be part of the student induction and will be regularly updated with guidelines. Elaine mentioned several headings under which they would write ie, Covid regulation updates, Local Resident complaints on persistent problems, Volunteering opportunities in the community, Personal hygiene, Being a good neighbour, rubbish disposal etc.

The Uni will be looking for students to comply with the guidance in the Guide. They already have a Code of Conduct and a formal procedure in place which will be used if need be. Elaine will forward the list of guideline headings and would welcome any suggestions we may have. She thinks it will be the end of January 2021 before this all comes together. Alex advised Elaine that Police Sergeant Jenny Taylor might be a good contact as she is tasked with working with students in the area.

Aberdeen Uni has signed up as a Civic University whose aim is to liaison with key community groups and Aberdeen City Council with an aim to help by providing information to assist an economic bounce back etc. and map a plan of action with the local community. Elaine says if we have any questions to get in touch with her and if required she is happy to attend our community council meetings. Daniel asked if the Uni have a person who deals with drug and substance misuse. Elaine said she will check this out.

Police Report

Alex Mess said there was an article in the Evening Express on 11th October re cyclists on the pavement. It reported that this was a problem and PC Daren Gibbs took on the roll of looking into it. He lasted a whole week. There are a number of cyclists who have a total dis-regard for the pedestrians.

Alex wanted to ask Sgt Stobie what police are doing about this. Aberdeen City Council have turned Union street into a core path and he had a look for legislation regarding core paths and could find nothing.

Daniel agreed there is a lack of "policing" and highlighted that children are no longer taught cycling proficiency in the schools. There is a distinct lack of guidelines for cyclists. There is no speed limit for cyclists. Alex said he wanted to ask Sgt Stobie why the police force thought five days was long enough to deal with this problem.

City Councillor Michael Hutchison's Report

There were no issues in particular but to get in touch if we had anything.

Daniel asked about tagging in the area. Geoff spoke about the surface of the Canal Road Bridge being in a terrible state and asked who is responsible for repair of the road surface there. Michael said ACC are responsible for maintenance and that he would make enquiries. Alex reckons the previous repair has reached its end of life and any repair now needs to go beneath the tarmac. Daniel queried potholes and cyclists – where do cyclists stand. Micheal: Cyclists have to prove negligence by ACC in not carrying out repairs of reported potholes before ACC can be held liable. It is important to flag up potholes, then ACC will repair them. All Aberdeen road users should be insured. Daniel mentioned Linksfield Road was very bad. Michael agreed and said it was now being resurfaced.

Chairperson's Report (Geoff)

Bridge project has moved forward. Canal Road bridge requires aluminium sheet screens to provide a smooth surface for the mural.

Identified a muralist Mark Delay	£2,295
Estimate for walkway at Bedford Bridge	£2,870
Fabrication of covers on Bedford Bridge	<u>£2,520</u>
Total funding required	<u>£8,335</u>

Both Muralists said that in their experience tagging is less likely once a mural is up.

Both bridges have been cleaned by ACC.

Geoff has identified National Lottery – Creative Development - as a possible funding source.

Geoff will draw up the application.

Daniel asked if he had approached Network Rail. Geoff said he had approached them and Mark Henderson, Senior executive said they had no identifiable funds for this type of thing.

We now need to discuss and decide what we want the subject of the mural to be.

Secretary's Report. In the absence of Steven Clark, Geoff gave the report.

Resilience Fund and City Fibre Optic will be put on the agenda for another meeting. Geoff mentioned the Community Council Forum and said two Community Councillors have voting rights on the forum, in our case Alex and Linda. Any of the other Community Councillors can attend the Forum meetings, can speak but cannot vote.

Stephen Clarke, Secretary, has written to say that he no longer wants to do the minutes as he is busy with his OU course. He wants to remain as secretary. Geoff has done the minutes for the last two months but technically he is not allowed to be Chairperson and Secretary. After some discussion Linda offered to do the minutes until the AGM or until we got a new minute secretary. Alex suggested we ask Elaine Sinclair if she thought a suitable student might be interested. The committee agreed this would be a good opportunity for the right person but they would have to be reliable. Geoff will write to Elaine Sinclair.

Planning Matters

Only one planning application for this area. Replacement of signage at Canal Road & Causewayend site 48 digital bill board. Alex thinks it might be next to the Manchurian Restaurant.

The committee have no objections.

Treasurers Report given by Alex

Cheque no 079 to Boys Brigade for £250 has been cleared leaving a balance of £1.482.08

Message from Karen Finch saying that CC's don't need to spend their money before their AGM this year. Geoff was requested to pass on his outstanding request for payment. Alex informed that at first opportunity he will return the paperwork to Ann.

Other Community Councillors Reports

Daniel noted that a lot of Community Councils have newsletters which enable people who are not digitally connected and minded to get local community news. After a lot of discussion we decided to think about this and come back to it at the next meeting. Alex's final comment was "As a non digital person I think a digital and facebook newsletter would reach the majority of the community and is a good way forward."

AOCB

No other business

Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday, 2nd December 2020, 7pm on Zoom