

# **Froghall, Powis and Sunnybank Community Council**

**Wednesday, 2nd December 2020 at 7pm**

**Online (Zoom)**

## **Minutes**

**In attendance:** Geoffrey Goolnik (Chair/Host and Website Manager), John Singer (Vice Chair), Stephen Clarke (Secretary), Linda Presslie (Planning Officer), Alexander Mess (Community Councillor), Daniel Warren (Community Councillor) and Rachel Smith (Community Councillor)

**Also in attendance:** Alex McLellan (Aberdeen City Councillor). Michael Hutchison (Aberdeen City Councillor) and Sergeant Michael Stobie (Police Scotland)

### **1 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair (Geoff) opened the meeting and welcomed all present. No apologies received.

### **2 Minutes of the previous meeting**

Noted Stephen's name was spelt incorrectly.

Geoff pointed out that Constable Jenny Taylor be amended to Police Sergeant Jenny Taylor.

Proposed by Alex; and seconded by Daniel.

### **3 Matters arising from November**

Potholes on Canal Road Bridge – No update on the matter but Michael is chasing this up.

Electronic newsletter – Alex pointed out that an electronic newsletter would be ideal to reach the majority. Geoff suggested that the Minutes Assistant could take on this task. Daniel noted that the task would be beneficial to the Minutes Assistant in terms of experience. It was suggested this be discussed once the necessary resources are available to produce an electronic newsletter. The matter was put on hold.

### **4 Police Report & City Wardens.**

Sergeant Michael Stobie reported that the Bike theft campaign is underway and is in the local press. There will be increased patrols in retail parks on George Street during the festive period.

Linda raised an issue of a vehicle that has been parked in the Froghall Community centre carpark since at least 17<sup>th</sup> September. The vehicle was

described as orange (but is registered as silver) with the number plate WX02WYA. Sergeant Stobie will run checks on the vehicle.

Alex had raised a point that he has spoken to Officer Gibb about cycling on pavements and that the campaign should be longer than a week. Sergeant Stobie will take this forward to his senior officers.

John raised an issue that the graffiti on the junction between Bedford Avenue and Bedford Road has become worse. Sergeant Stobie noted that there must be a report by owners of the property and, although currently there haven't been any reports about vandalism in the area, he will look into the matter.

Daniel also noted that between 42-44 Bedford Avenue there is a white van with off road motorbikes which are driven around on the pavement and the road nightly between 6pm to 3/4am. Sergeant Stobie will look into this.

## **5 Councillors' Reports**

Alex reported on the matter raised with Cllr. Sandra Macdonald about the raised pavement and extended hedge on the lower part of Sunnyside Road which was causing limited access to the pavement. This was particularly a cause for concern for a blind woman and her guide dog. Cllr. Alex McLellan proposed that he will look into it and get someone to trim down the hedge.

John asked about the graffiti on the junction between Bedford Avenue and Bedford Road. Cllr. McLellan took a note of this and will get someone to clean it up.

John had emailed four Councillors on the Integrated Joint Board regarding registering his disapproval of the proposal regarding Old Aberdeen Medical Practice and has not received a response yet. Cllr. McLellan noted that Cllr. Cooke had raised concerns about the proposal and that he had registered his dissent. Suggested that John can email Cllr. Cooke to gain more clarity on the matter. The proposal has been overwhelmingly rejected by medical staff in a vote and many are leaving or planning to leave. Currently seven out of nine GPs have left. Michael suggested getting in contact with Sandra MacLeod who is Chief Officer in charge of the NHS Health and Social Care partnership.

John submitted the following motion: *This Community Council notes with concern the proposal made by NHS Grampian and the City Health and Social Care Partnership (ACHSCP) to put the management of Old Aberdeen Medical Practice and five other medical practices out to tender, to be taken over by a private practice. This move will put a profit motive into the service, will threaten the quality of the service, it may mean some practices close. It has been overwhelmingly rejected by staff in a vote. Staff are now leaving or planning to leave. Five GPs have resigned. We call on NHS*

*Grampian and the City and Social Care Partnership to review this decision immediately and keep Old Aberdeen Medical Practice and the five other medical practices in the NHS.*

Linda noted that the public have not been consulted on this new proposal. Michael added that there has not been much public consultation as it was not seen as appropriate at this stage. He offered to forward to the Community Council the response that Kevin Stewart MSP received when he enquired about the matter.

The motion was then put and there was an unanimous vote in support. Agreed that John would email Sandra MacLeod in regard to this matter noting that it was decided upon a unanimous decision by the Community Council. John has also been in contact with the Welfare Officer and Communities Officer at the University about the matter. He had received an email back from the Welfare Officer who was aware of it. John further agreed to email the Secretary of Old Aberdeen Community Council.

## **6 Members of the Public**

No members of the public were present.

## **7 Planning Matters**

Linda reported that no new applications relating to the community council area had been forwarded.

## **8 Chair's Report**

Update on the two bridges project: Geoff had submitted a funding request to National Lottery and is waiting to hear back, should hear back in the next 10 weeks.

There had also been a response from another muralist based in Edinburgh which is less costly. The cost would be £1,314 plus any accommodation they might need and would work over 2-3 days whereas the other muralist was 11 days in total. They were also suggesting recruiting local artists. Agreed to make a decision after hearing back about the funding.

Minutes Assistant: One application received. Geoff asked whether there should be an interview held for the applicant. Discussed and agreed based on unanimous opinion to offer the position to the applicant. Concerns raised about whether applicant is based in Aberdeen and discussion about practicality once face-to-face meetings are allowed. Geoff agreed to raise this point with the applicant. Furthermore, Geoff would discuss with applicant if she would like to be paid monthly, quarterly, sixth monthly or annually.

New Internship Scheme: Asked by Tracey Innes from Aberdeen University whether there are any existing projects which would be beneficial for students for a new internship programme. Geoff suggested potential projects could be the

concern about multi-occupancy or Alex's concern about cycling on the road. Alex suggested as a fundraiser to go to the national lottery and ask for a large sum of money which is spread over all the community councils and centres in Aberdeen. Councillors agreed to come back to the next meeting with any ideas for potential projects. There would be a public announcement from the university in January about the internship programme.

Community Resilience: Communication from the Aberdeen's Community Council Forum about guarding against natural disasters and whether this needs to be set up by the FPS Community Council. Alex noted there is already a system in place and perhaps we should consider finding ways to assist physically.

City Fibre: Also from Community Council Forum; the internet service providers will notify if there is any planned work to be done in the area that may cause disruption.

## **9 Secretary's Report**

No new correspondence had been received.

## **10 Pro-tem Treasurer's Report**

Alex gave an update that the cheque book has been handed back to the Treasurer. The Community Council's accounts stood as follows; One cheque to Geoff for £43.17 which left a balance of £1,439.65.

Geoff suggested to suspend the Zoom subscription for a month until the next meeting in February. Agreed.

## **11 Reports from other Community Councillors**

None given.

## **12 AOCB**

It was agreed to have the next AGM in March.

## **13 Date and Time of the next meeting**

Agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 3rd February 2021, 7pm (Online via Zoom)