

Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank Community Council

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday, 6th April 2022

Present: Community Councillors Geoff Goolnik (Chair),
Linda Presslie (Planning Officer), Stephen Clarke, Anne Pirie, Fred Bayer
(Online Manager) and Alex Mess
ACC Councillor Dell Henrickson, ACC Councillor Michael Hutchison

Welcome. Apologies received from Community Councillors Albert Craig (Secretary), Daniel Warren (Treasurer), John Singer, Sgt Michael Stobie and ACC Councillor Harrison

Minutes of previous meeting of 2nd March 2022 – GC would like the Actions to be typed in bold font. Councillor Henrickson does not have a 'd' in his surname. LP proposed. FP seconded.

Matters arising from minutes of 2nd March 2022 – GG believes that the constitution states that if any community councillor is absent from FPSCC meetings for 6 months that they rethink their positions.

No update on planning application for 94 Sunnyside Road. Councillor Henrickson couldn't remember if it was discussed at Planning Committee.

Virtual meeting with June Begbie regarding Plant Based Investment Fund Programme – These funds are for projects that would cost large sums of money, ie the upgrading Canal Road/Froghall Bridge. A Structural Engineer should probably be involved. LP spoke to ACC and the costing would likely be in the regions of £16million in funding. **Action – Councillor Henrickson will ask ACC tomorrow if they can look into the upgrading of the area.**

Councillor Hutchison said the old BT site on Froghall is looking to be made into student accommodation.

Police Report – Shoplifting is consistent. Acquisitive crime is down. All residents to be vigilant about property safety. No reports on vandalism. Operation Armour is now up and running (Anti-social behaviour and bike thefts). There is one Sergeant and four PC's dedicated to this operation during the summer months. Police Surgeries now in place for Powis area. **Action - Dates for Froghall and Sunnybank to be decided and arranged.**

ACC Councillors Reports – Councillor Henrickson confirmed that the bin areas in Froghall housing scheme as well as the communal bins and some of the gardens will be cleaned up, commencing this week. AM pointed out that flat/home owners who rent out their properties, in Sunnybank area especially, are not notifying their tenants of when the allocated bin days are. Communal wheelie bins could be fitted to the streets but that would lead to loss of car parking spaces. Communal bins are being emptied fortnightly but a preferred option would be weekly if possible like other streets in the city.

Action – Councillor Henrickson will ask Environmental Health/Licensing to see if they could contact these homeowners.

Air B&B – Councillor Henrickson has no update to make and has received no further information about this.

The litter picker in the Powis area is not on at the moment.

The tree and lamppost on Powis Terrace have been sorted.

Action - SC to do his action from previous meeting tomorrow.

Cycling on pavements – A sign would be beneficial advising that Bedford Road is not safe for cyclists. A local cycle route could be established. AM stated that cyclists on the pavement regularly endangers the safety of pedestrians. **Action – FPSCC Secretary to add this to Agenda for May’s meeting. A member of ACC Roads (if that is the right department) to be invited to attend May’s meeting.**

Street lighting has finally been fixed.

“No football playing” signs to be removed as they have no legal standing.

Representations received from members of the public – None

Planning Matters – None

Land beside Skinny House, Elmbank Terrace – FP’s report about the land between No’s 9 & 37 Elmbank Terrace was circulated to FPSCC. FP has sent to ACC a FOI request. LP asked if FPSCC really want to own this piece of land as after 17.10.23 the land would be available to be owned by anybody who wants to purchase it. If the land is ‘ownerless’ anyone can claim the land by doing landscaping work on the land. LP would like to see ACC take on the responsibility of maintaining it. **Action – Subject to be added to Agenda of May’s FPSCC meeting for further discussion. . FP will make contact again to follow-up on the status of his FOI request.**

Chairman’s Report – Footbridge Team working hard. ACC’s Anne Knight agreed money can be spent next year. Print out of the design for the walkway circulated. Unanimously agreed at tonight’s meeting that the wording “Lots of different fish swim here” is unnecessary.

Action – GG to advise University team not to include the wording. He will also remind them that they need to get their information correct as the Head Teacher of Sunnybank Primary is under the impression that this project is being led by ACC and the team of students and it is not; it is being led by FPSCC and the team of students are working for FPSCC.

Councillor Henrickson asked ACC if they could take on the cost of the VAT and labour – he is awaiting a response.

Benches for Erskine Street Bridge – A new date for installing to be advised by ACC’s Mark Robb. FP is the Risk Assessor for this project. He will need the measurements of the benches as well as the measurements of the bridge. The H&S for the benches would be the responsibility of FPSCC. FPSCC’s Public Liability Insurance would cover any accidents that occur on the benches but it would not cover any criminal damage. A plaque with FPSCC contact details could be made and fitted near the two benches. AM suggested that the planters could be filled with gravel instead of plants to dis-encourage vandalism/removal of nice flowers and plants.

Defibrillator Scheme – The owners of Kittybrewster Retail Park received an email from Oak Furniture who have expressed an interest in siting the defibrillator but that would mean that it would be accessible within shop hours only. Any defibrillators that are sited externally tend to have “Break Glass” to be able to use them. The Manager of the McDonalds branch is very community minded and could be approached directly by us or Pure Gym as they are open 24 hours. LP asked how the £750 is going to be raised by FPSCC. Crowd Funding could be an option on how to raise the funds. **Action – FP will try to speak with Pure Gym.**

Secretary's Report – AC not present.

Treasurer's Report – DW not present. GG advised that the online banking facility is now accessible. SC asked if members cannot attend in person could they attend via Zoom. GG didn't think that would be a problem but a new Zoom account would need to be purchased.

Online Managers Update – FB shares updates on the facebook account. He will speak with SC. SC will contact Alan tonight. Back-up in FB's absence briefly mentioned.

Forum Meeting Update – LP stated that they would like a representative to attend different projects and report back to the Forum. There will be a big meeting on the 28th April. Lavinia Brown believes more planning applications are being lodged. LP has noticed that sometimes a decision of refusal can be overturned by a reporter, even if the refusal decision was made by 25+ people. The reporter works on behalf of the people who have submitted the planning application as they can lodge an appeal if the application is refused. The Forum also mentioned the growth of the City, (will it still be oil related or something else) and what is the future going to be for the City's young people now that the Kick Start Scheme has come to an end. These topics will be on the Agenda for the next Forum meeting.

AOCB – None

Date of next Community Council meeting – 4th May 2022 at Froghall Community Centre at 7pm. Councillor Henrickson has submitted his apologies as he will be unable to attend.