

Cowdenbeath Community Council – Minutes for 19th January 2017

1. **PRESENT**

Community Council Members - A Haddow, C Gourlay, A Stott, J Allan, A Dziennik, T Crawford, I Cuthbertson & L Rae (new community councillor) (EIGHT COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)
Co-opted Members - A Dunlop (Civic Week), W Aitchison (Street Pastors)
Elected Members - G Guichan
Police - PC C McDougall
Members of the public - I Burt, K Turner, Capt J Robertson

2. **APOLOGIES**

Community Councillors - A Lockhart, D McLean (post meeting notification)
Co-opted members -
Elected Councillors - P Lockhart
Police - PC F Menzies

3. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES** - Proposed : A Stott Seconded: A Dziennik

4. **MATTERS ARISING** – *Updates from GGuichan for issues raised at November 16 meeting*

Dog Fouling 5 new free standing larger multi use bins have been sited in the Park which replaced small open top bins – the team responsible for emptying will be contacted and asked to look at the frequency of emptying of these bins. The high Street is cleaned by one man and is in the area daily (High Street and Streets leading off the High Street) Monday to Friday. Weekends are serviced in the morning by a 4 on 4 off team which cleans shop areas throughout the west Fife area. In 2015 FC received 1277 complaints of dog fouling and the 32 people who were convicted were issued with a fixed penalty notice of £80. Fixed penalties are extremely difficult to issue based on the fact that the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003 requires FC to be 100% certain that the dog fouled and the owner did not cleanup. They cannot use circumstantial evidence at all.

Work is underway to roll out the 'Just Bin It' campaign to encourage people to use the bins available for dog fouling and litter. FC have had new signs and large banners designed that will put up in hotspot areas which will be identified by our colleagues in Parks, Streets & Open Spaces. FC also have large stencils which will be power washed onto the ground and will highlight to people where the nearest bins are located.

Drain Cleaning - All gullies are cleaned once a year. Due to breakdowns in the tanker fleet FC are slightly behind programme but operations are addressing this. FC will deal with any chocked gullies as and when they occur.

Dalbeath Crescent. The area beside the shops is being soiled and turfed with large rocks / stones put around the edges. The plan is to put posts in however there is a power sub station in close proximity and the team were concerned after running the CAT scan over the ground that there may be an issue with digging

Food disposal bags. If a household runs out of food waste bags then they can:

- use newspaper to wrap food waste
- put food into the brown bin loose, especially dry foods such as bread
- buy their own food waste from local shops or online. These can be used in our system provided you see the compostable symbol attached. 7-litre compostable bags fit into the food waste caddies provided by Fife Council. Fife Council will deliver an extra roll (25 bags) every 12 months to households that have 5 or more people living in the household or a medical condition that generates extra food waste. Contact Recycling Helpline on 03451 55 00 22

5. **POLICE UPDATE** – PC C McDougall

- Crime – early spate of thefts in December from motor vehicles. One person apprehended
- Housebreak-in on 10th December at Curiosity Shop – person apprehended
- Spike in shoplifting. Enquiries ongoing
- Rascals Nursery – 3 youths apprehended. Arranged with nursery staff to go to schools. Retrospective Justice.
- Post Office Incident – Cowdenbeath PO least affected. 3 people charged.
- Incident in Cowdenbeath involving large group of youths. Lots of work being done with police and Fife Council. Police need to speak to youths/parents and this takes time. Police will keep on top of situation.
- Community Woodland – joint patrol scheduled next week with Community Safety Officers.
- Underpass at Stenhouse Street – Police working with Community Safety Officers and local residents
- Beath Malawi Project – Quiz night on 27th Jan to raise some funds.
- After Easter holidays – 8 week programme of work with kids.
- Question asked about Cowdenbeath business where there has been number of complaints. What can be done. Not a police matter. Suggestion was that matter be referred to Trading Standards.

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6 CORRESPONDENCE

Lochore Meadows – General discussion held on the subject of Lochore Meadows. G Guichan gave an update of the background to the consultation and the recommendation which would be submitted to the Executive Council on 24th January. There were varying comments and opinions about the current issues surrounding Lochore Meadows but the one thing that came through was that all viewed it as 'the jewel in the crown' in this area and hopefully the matters and issues will be resolved so Lochore Meadows will continue to be 'the jewel in the crown'.

It was also stated that if Fife Council felt that issuing their weekly planning notifications was sufficient to encourage CCs to enter into a consultation, then their process needs to be revisited. The weekly planning notification is received by the secretary. It is a 40-50 page document of planning applications, and unless comments are specifically asked for in relation to other communities, Cowdenbeath CC would only be notified of the plans associated with Cowdenbeath.

After the discussion, it was agreed that in light of the meeting on 24th January, we wait to hear what the Executive Council decide.

Scottish Urban Regeneration Awards (SURF)

Congratulations to Lochgelly on winning the 'Most Improved Town in Scotland' award at the annual SURF Awards ceremony which was held in Glasgow in Dec 2016.

Community Noticeboards – Proposals put to community councillors that we try to get funding for a community noticeboard which would hopefully be placed on piece of land outside Morrisons. We have approached Morrisons to ask if it would be possible. If it is, we will then approach places to seek funding. Community Councillors in attendance agreed to the proposal. CG will progress.

Micro Grants (Mossmorran WindFarm Ltd Community Fund) – As per previous discussions at community council meetings, the community council has been allocated £1591 to distribute to local individuals and groups. This Scheme is to award grants to individuals or groups whose work benefit residents living in the Cowdenbeath Community Council area. CG will organise to promote the Scheme (with agreement from Foundation Scotland). Intention is for Applications from individuals/groups to be submitted during February (closing date 28/02/2017) with decisions being made by community councillors at the March meeting.

Town Centre Development – Public Access WiFi switched on 3&4th December. Please promote and encourage folks to use. TC advised that access not great withing JKirks. CG to advise project manager of launch.

Fife Voluntary Action – most recent ebulletin issued to community councillors. Hard copy available from CG

Community Resilience – winter edition of bulletin available

War Memorials Update to Area Committee members towards the end of 2016 on the progress to clean-up and restore the Area's Memorials. Nicola Pereira of Property Services is leading on this project and has liaised with the War Memorial Trust (WMT) regarding funding a proportion of the work through the Centenary Memorials Restoration Fund (CMRF). There has been difficulty in getting a sufficient range of contractors to tender given the nature of the work and the standards set by WMT. The Area is making two applications to the CMRF – one for the minor works required to the majority of the Area's War Memorials and the other for the major works required to Cowdenbeath's World War One Memorial and to the Cardenden War Memorial. Nicola has had feedback regarding the first application as detailed below. The full tenders were as follows :

Cowdenbeath High Street - £800 (No grant funding given) Hill of Beath Memorial - £1,968.52 (Grant offered above)

Kelty War Memorial - £14,758.06 (No funding offered at this stage, pending agreement on external landscaping)

Lassodie War Memorial - £10,000 (No grant fund given) Lochgelly War Memorial - £3,860.16 (Grant offered above)

Lumphinnans War Memorial - £2,374.64 (Grant offered above)

Mossgreen War Memorial - £4,616.71 (Grant offered above)

It has been agree that the work should go ahead with the exception of Kelty. The Committee will be advised of the outcome of the second bid when it is known.

The Scottish Civic Trust is calling for nominations from local civic trusts, amenity societies, community councils and other heritage or community groups around Scotland for new buildings, restoration projects, landscape designs and other placemaking projects for the annual My Place Awards.

The trust is also looking for nominations for a winner of the My Place Civic Champion award. Last year the Scottish Civic Trust My Place Awards was won by Atlantic Islands Centre, Isle of Luing.

The 2017 Awards, supported by the Scottish Government, are a national celebration of good local design and conservation projects and of people who make a significant contribution to the civic movement.

Nominations, which close on 31 January 2017, can be made by community groups including, civic societies and other local groups affiliated to the Scottish Civic Trust, community councils, development trusts, and other community-based voluntary groups or heritage societies.

For more information, including how to nominate a person or project, and to see previous years' winners, please visit www.myplaceawards.org.uk.

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6. CORRESPONDENCE

Common Weal South Lanarkshire are formally asking Fife Council to investigate, review and support an investment policy which is transparent, ethically and morally sound and opposes any direct or indirect investments in the arms industry. Common Weal South Lanarkshire believe such a policy would attract the overwhelming support of the people and encourage a wider movement which seeks to invest in our future, instead of perpetuating conflict using public funds.

FIFEplan The Examination Report for FifePlan has been published by the Scottish Governments Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA). The detail of the 1,150 page report is now being considered. A report outlining the modifications arising from the reporters' recommendations will be reported to Fife Council Executive Committee meeting on 28th Feb 2017 where the local development plan will be presented to the committee for adoption. The examination report can be found on the DPEA website

Edinburgh Airport As part of Edinburgh Airport's commitment to engaging with local communities surrounding the Airport, they are contacting local community council areas affected by our current operations; to consult on their proposal to introduce a Noise Management Board. The Committee would be fully independent of the Airport. This board would seek to develop improvements to noise and track keeping performance, setting and monitoring noise targets, among other community based noise issues and concerns.

A draft document which details proposals is available (emailed to cc members on 09/01/2017 and hard copy available for others) Any suggestions you may have regarding the Governance, management and proposed members to the board. should be sent to proposers by the end of January at which point it is their intention is to visit with, and discuss their proposals with community councils and any other proposed board members early in the New Year. If you have any comments and suggestions on the proposals or questions please let CG know and a collective response will be sent on behalf of Community Council

Edinburgh Airport Initial Consultation Findings Report emailed to those community councillors who have email. Hard copies available from CG if required

7. COUNCILLORS REPORT - G Guichan

- Speed bumps will be placed in Leuchatsbeath
- Piece of ground at Dalbeath has been returned. Looking for stones to put on ground

8. OTHER REPORTS

Treasurers Report - Balance in CC's account as at 19th January 2017 is **£84,293.17***

C/Fwd from Nov meeting	£83,946.67	
	EXPENDITURE 19/11/2016 – 19/01/2017	INCOME 19/11/2016 – 19/01/2017
Shutter Art	£100.00 ⁽¹⁾	£
Remembrance Day	£ 24.00	£ 265.00 ⁽²⁾
Community Newsletter	£	£ 205.50 ⁽³⁾
Admin..	£	£
Totals	£ 124.00	£ 470.50

(1) As per Oct 2016 minutes, community councillors agreed to donate £100 to artist/pupils to help with lunches when they are out painting shutters

(2) Net amount of £241.00 paid into account. (Wreath payments minus payment for Hugh Black)

(3) Payment received for advert (£40) plus £165.50 raised at Tombola held over 3&4 December

- Amount of £81,554.00 ringfenced for TCCCF – WiFi, Winter Lighting, Marquees (£79,554) & Outdoor Cinema (£2000)
£ 393.09 ringfenced for community newsletter – Beath Bulletin
£ 200.00 ringfenced till 31/10/2017 for Community Theatre Event for D McArthur
- Balance of £ 2146.08 available to the Community Council. Agreed at this meeting that £200 will be ringfenced for a mini version of the newsletter to be issued during Feb/Mar. This newsletter would contain information on matters issues affecting cowdenbeath (no adverts).

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8. OTHER REPORTS – (continued)

Civic Week Report - Congratulations to all involved with the 'winter' events. All went well and received good reviews. First time Craft event was done and it was a good success. Community Choir event on 17/12 went really well and the choir were 'commissioned' to sing at Morrisons at Christmas. They raised money for Marie Curie. Special Thanks were given to Kingdom Brass Band for their participation on 17/12.

- Have already had one event for 2017. The Loony Dook. And it raised approx £2300. Many Thanks to all involved in this event.
- 2017 programme of events has been compiled. Next one is a Family disco on 11th February in the Cross Guns followed by the disco to select the Royal Party/Ambassador at end of February in Broad St Community Centre
- An easter disco has also been planned
- Confirmation that this years Gala Parade will be on Saturday, 17th June 2017
- Fife Motor Cycle is in the process of being set up by the Curly Star Foundation to be run out of Central Park. Pledge has been made that half the entrance fees from each event will be given to Civic Week Committee for the programme of events.
- Current amount in the bank is £18395.22. A few cheques still to be cashed.

Environmental Group

- Have donated bird boxes to the Schools
- Planters in the High Street keep getting moved. Don't know by whom

Four winds trust

- Next meeting is AGM on 20th Feb 2017

Mossmorran

- Over 100 senior citizens from Cowdenbeath attended the annual Panto in Dec. Some were 'newbies'.
- Thanks go to ExxonMobil for the tickets and transportation.
- Next meeting is next month

CACA

- Starts back soon

Broad St Centre

- Centre will close this year. Legacy Group formed to work on how to remember the Centre. What's going to happen with the building?

Foodbank

- no update

Street Pastors

- Grant received from Mossmorran Windfarm Ltd Community Fund which was a great help.
- 2 patrols are on the street and 4 patrols on the train. All going well

TCCCF

- Public Access WiFi switched on 3/4th December. Would be good to hear any feedback from users.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **High Street** – Flats on the High Street (opposite Dunf BS). Could something be done to tidy up the front of these flats. We're spending time/effort painting shutters but the front of the flats is an eyesore. Action: GGuichan
- New 'Community Hub' shop being opened in the high street. Aim is to use as a base where people can visit and find out about the Town Centre development as well as other things. Any thoughts on what else it could be used for?

10. NEXT MEETING WILL BE – Thursday 16th February 2017 @ 18.30

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