

Cowdenbeath Community Council – Minutes for 15th February 2018

1. PRESENT

Community Council Members

A Haddow, C Gourlay, A Stott, A Lockhart, L Rae, I Burt,
I Cuthbertson, A Dziennik T Crawford,
(EIGHT COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)

Co-opted Members

W Aitchison (Street Pastors),

Elected Members

Cllrs A Campbell, D Watt, A Bain and G Guichan

Police

PC C McDougall

Members of the public

Capt & Mrs Robertson, P Millmore

2. APOLOGIES

Community Councillors

A McGillivray, A Gibson, D McLean, J Allan, A Munro, T Lockhart

Police

PC F Menzies

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Proposed : I Burt Seconded: L Rae

4. MATTERS ARISING ...

months meeting

Apologies to P Millmore. His name was missed of the attendance at last

5. POLICE UPDATE – Apologies for non attendance at the last few meetings ... this was due to holidays, work commitments outside Cowdenbeath etc

- Highest profile crime was the armed robbery at North End Petrol Station. Community Intelligence was key to charges being made.
- There was assault near to Dog Grooming shop in the High Street – Police are looking for more information.
- Theft at shop in the High Street. Message being sent is for incidents to be reported and let Police deal with
- Concern expressed about off road bikes at BHS
- Youth disorder in Cowdenbeath not as bad as other areas.
- Community Woodland - Real craze for wilful fire raising. Trying to keep on top of it by education at schools and sending out strong messages.
- Community Speedwatch – due to start in April. Looking for volunteers. Get in touch with Calum/Fiona and they will organise for appropriate training.
- Motorcycles at Leuchatsbeath – culprits caught because residents phoned in and reported.
- Issues at Car Park at Central Park – matter was reported to 101. All details given. No further incidents since then.

Message being sent is: It may be frustrating phoning all the time there is an incident.....but Community Intelligence is very important when detecting crimes. Keep reporting incidents.

6. CORRESPONDENCE - (Local Matters)

Drop In Centre – IB gave update. Going well. The elderly people being transported to Drop In Café are enjoying it. Difficulty is with the transport. Organising/paying for taxis to transport is costly. IB looking at alternative ways that folks can be transported (eg ring a ride, mini busses) Wanted community councillors support to continue exploring options to ensure services for older people in the town are developed. It will tie in with the isolation/loneliness consultation currently going through parliament. Trying to ensure communities are more 'connected'.

Community Councillors gave backing to this "campaign" and will help in anyway they can

Remembrance Day – Update on proposal to commemorate 100year of WW1. Initial suggestion was to place a 'memorial seat'. However, it has been suggested we also explore the opportunity of creating a wee garden at the town house that could have a memorial stone/plaque but also be used for future remembrance day services. In principle this proposal was accepted by the majority of community councillors but it needs to be checked out with Fife Council first to gain confirmation from them that it is acceptable to use the Town House.

Commemorative Concert – AH gave update on proposed concert. Negotiations still in their infancy. Trying to get venue. Carnegie Hall has been discussed. Opportunity for some funds to come to CC.

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6. **CORRESPONDENCE (Local Matters)**

Microgrants - Promotion of scheme has been underway for a fortnight. Only one application to date. More publicity will be put on Social Media and request made to community councillors to encourage groups they know about to apply.

CoY – CoY campaign usually runs during April. Proposal is that this year we recognise and thank two stalwarts from Cowdenbeath (Jackie and Barbara) rather than run campaign. Both of them have been key players in Civic Week Committee and Community Council for the last 40 years. Need to check with Jackie and Barbara that they would be willing to accept the accolade. Community Councillors agreed that we wait to see Jackie and Barbara's response.

Beath High School – CC gave BHS pupils £50 towards a 'pop up shop' for few local events. It has been confirmed that their entrepreneurial skills worked and their milkshake bar made £100 over 3 events. And their profits were donated to the schools Malawi project. Well done to them all.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE -**

Loch Leven Walkathon – Sunday 25th March 2018 Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland have an event coming up that they think the local community may like to hear about ...so spread the word. Over the past 7 years, the event has raised a fantastic £76,500. If you want to join in, then check out www.chas.org.uk

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Back in October 2017 the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service launched the Community Asset Register(CAR).

Essentially this is a register of volunteers who have a particular asset or skill which they feel could be used to support emergency services and responders at an incident.

An example could be someone with a 4X4 may be used in times of severe snow to transport vulnerable people to a community hall. Further information about the CAR can be found on the link below:

[http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-\(1\).aspx](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-(1).aspx)

Unfortunately, it is impossible to gauge how often a volunteer will be requested.

Mobilisations can be determined by severe weather, a specific type of asset/skill required for the incident, the emergency services availability and resources in the area and the location of the volunteer. It must be stressed that even when someone has registered, they are under no obligation to mobilise when they are called by the Operations Control centre.

For anyone to register an interest and request a form they would be required to email:

SFRS.CommunityAssetRegister@firescotland.gov.uk and a registration form will be sent to be completed along with guidelines on how to complete the registration process.

Fife Health and Social Care Partnership and Macmillan Cancer Support recently announced a £1.1m initiative to develop a new service for people affected by cancer. Media release was issued last week attached.

As part of the work to engage with people affected by cancer, Macmillan and Fife Health and Social Care Partnership really want to hear their views and experiences. This will help to shape and influence the new service.

Engagement events are being held across Fife and there is one in Cowdenbeath Leisure Centre on Tuesday, 6th March between 10.00 – 12.00. If you would like to know more about this initiative please contact Lisa on

Improving.CancerJourney@fife.gov.uk

New Waste Strategy. Workshop on 15/2 in Carnegie Conference Centre 7-9pm.

As you may be aware Fife is writing a new waste strategy. It will be known as the Resources Strategy to reflect that not all waste is valueless and much that goes in to the landfill bin can be reused, repaired and recycled. The strategy is in draft form and will go to Committee for approval in March. We would welcome input and ideas from members of the community in the West of Fife so the strategy can be appropriate as possible to meet the waste challenges we will face over the next 10 years.

Some of these challenges include the following;

- How we dispose of waste post the 2021 landfill ban?
- Our current recycling rate is 55% and we divert a further 4% through energy recovery. However 41% of waste still goes to landfill. We only have a few years to change that. How are we going to achieve these targets and what happens if we don't? –
- How best we can create a circular economy strategy for Fife.

To book your place at the workshops please contact Carolyn Bell on email carolynm.bell@refsol.co.uk or 03451 555 555 x 440240

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6. CORRESPONDENCE -

Fife Screen and Tayside looking for location for a commercial for a well known IT brand.

The commercial mentioned is looking for a remote house or cottage with sheep adjacent or that could be brought very close by. They would be looking to shoot both interiors and exteriors and would also be looking to film with a drone. If you have or know of a property that might be interested in hosting production please let me know.

The Fife Council Screen Offices services are completely free including to location owners and productions and are not on any form of commission basis. In addition to keeping location information offline, locations (and other services) can also join the FifeScreen+TayScreen Network and list in our online database if of interest.

Fife Centre for Equalities – updates distributed to community councillors. Hard copy available from CG

Fife Environment Trust newsletter for Feb 2018 distributed to community councillors. Hard copy available

Adult Support & Protection The latest Adult Support & Protection newsletter emailed to Community Councillors. Hard copy available

7. COUNCILLORS REPORT - Cllrs Bain, Campbell, Guichan and Watt

Recycling Centre - Closing Mondays and Wednesdays

Town House – Feasibility study has been requested for useage of the Town House

Space at the back of Boots Shop – Parks and Open Spaces are award and will be attending to. Owner has been tracked down

Speeding on Gray Park/Lochgelly road – Danger in the area. Parked cars are being damaged. Councillors are aware and taking the matter up.

Cowdenbeath Leisure Centre – Creche facilities not financially viable. Being reviewed.

Maxwell Centre - Possibility of a crossing in Stenhouse Street at the Centre. Category 2 project. Not sure though when it will be done. Concern expressed re the sound in the hall. 'Not fit for purpose'.. Needs to be investigate. As does the Learning Kitchen. Indication is that the Centre will open around 26th February. Concern has been expressed within the community that because of the delays that people have been paid wages but not being able to work because of the delays. Concern has been noted.

Signage at Leuchatsbeath – D Watts to speak to P Millmore about this issue.

8. OTHER REPORTS...Spreadsheet issued to all CC's prior to the meeting

Treasurers Report - Balance in CC's account as at 15th Feb 2018 is £45,172.76

Amount of £38,352.00 **ringfenced** for FET – Heritage Garden at Brunton Square

£ 2,000.00 **ringfenced** for microgrants

£ 768.54 ringfenced for training on Beath Bulletin (£749.95) and production (£18.59)

TOTAL £ 41,120.54

Balance of **£ 4,052.22** available to the Community Council.

• **Civic Week**.. **Little Fix** concert on 11th March. Royal Party will be selected at this event..

➤ **Gala Day Parade** this year is on Saturday 16th June. Theme will be 1978. Suggestion was the CC put a float in.

Discussions underway with the police to close of some roads for a short period of time to let parade pass. Call for approx 20 volunteers to be stewards a key openings. Training will be supplied.

➤ Intention is to hold a **tea dance** for our senior citizens this year on the Saturday before (ie 9th). Currently being organised

• **Street Pastors** – With the Hub closing, the pastors are still looking for a 'safe' place on the High Street.

➤ Through their time on the streets, the Pastors are noticing that there's a lot of glass being broken in the streets.

➤ Beath High School – Big concern about bullying at BHS and the fact that kids just run across the roads. Lunchtime is manic.

• **Foodbank** - no update available.

• **Town Centre** - no update available

• **4 winds trust** – Next meeting is 1st March. Encourage and promote groups to apply.

• **CACA** – having problems with staffing levels. Now down to 3. AH is having a meeting with Mike&Ross from CLD. There were over 120 folks at BHS last Friday. CACA needs more staff. They have 2 adult volunteers and 6 teenage volunteers. Its very difficult at times...under obligation not to turn kids away but when there's not enough staff!!!.

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8. OTHER REPORTS...continued

- **Mossmorran**– Next meeting is scheduled for March. Having gone through the last 2 years minutes for Mossmorran, they don't appear to reflect the questions asked on behalf of Cowdenbeath Community Council. Having said that questions raised don't necessarily appear to be attributed to any community councils. Request made that the following questions be asked on behalf of Cowdenbeath Community Council
- **Q.** The plant was originally meant to have a life span of 25years but in the last few years, its life has been extended. Do we know for how long?
Q. Is there another review of the plants expectancy due in the future?
It was mentioned that neither Benarty or Kelty or Hill of Beath are represented at the meeting. Minutes state that when this meeting was set up, it was agreed with local community councils who should be attendees. There has also been indication that it is community councils within a certain radius that can attend. Also that tests were carried out to see which communities would be affected. The appropriate CCs were then invited to join the Committee.
Q. Can we obtain clarity on how it was agreed which communities would be included in meetings. Is it decision of community councils or radius to the plant. Or a result of tests)?
Q. Should the attendee list be reviewed?
Q. Are there any plans to do real time monitoring at the site?
Q. 6 complaints were received from residents of Cowdenbeath/Lochgelly and Auchtertool as a result of flaring in Oct 2017. What were the nature of the complaints and how were they handled?

It was confirmed at this meeting that although invite had been made to chairman to attend annual burns supper – the offer was declined.

Post CC meeting note. The MossMorran Braefoot Bay meeting schedule for March was cancelled due to the bad weather. New date to be rearranged and these questions will be asked then. If anyone has any other questions from residents, then raise them at CC meetings.

- **Environmental Group** – no update
- **Broad St Centre** – no update.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Community Council Elections. Reminder that this year (in October/November), there will be community council elections. Current community councillors will stand down and need to fill in appropriate forms for reelection

10. NEXT MEETING Thursday 15th March 2018 @ 18.30.