

# Cowdenbeath Community Council – Minutes for 16th March 2017

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## 1. **PRESENT**

### Community Council Members

- A Haddow, C Gourlay, A Stott, A Dziennik, I Cuthbertson, L Rae  
A Munro, J Allan, I Burt, D McLean (TEN COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)

### Co-opted Members

- A Dunlop (Civic Week)

### Elected Members

- n/available

### Police

- n/available

### Members of the public

- A Whyte, Mr&Mrs J Robertson, A Gibson, A McGillivray

## 2. **APOLOGIES**

### Community Councillors

- A Lockhart, T Crawford

### Co-opted members

- W Aitchison (Street Pastors)

### Elected Councillors

- P Lockhart, G Guichan

### Police

- PC's McDougall & Menzies

*Before the meeting began, Chairman (A Haddow) called for a minutes silence for 2 former community councillors who had sadly passed away ..... John McGee and Janet Martin*

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

## 4. **MATTERS ARISING –**

- **Trees at Selkirk Avenue** Concern expressed at last months meeting about the extreme cutting back of trees within the Town. Selkirk Avenue in particular was mentioned. However, a few of the residents in the area have been approached and they are happy with the trees being cut back. They can now 'see' more. The trees haven't been cut back for a number of years which is why it seems drastic. Fife Parks and Open spaces have confirmed that the trees will grow back. It was mentioned again that the trees at back of houses in Rowan Terrace appear to be getting out of hand. CG had mentioned to SDuffy for Parks and Open Spaces. Will mention again.

## 5. **POLICE UPDATE** – no update available

## 6 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- **Special Guest at our April meeting:** Lee Walls from Brag. New to post as social enterprise adviser. Remit is to support groups/ individuals who are starting a social enterprise or who are looking to grow an existing enterprise. Lee will be coming along to our April meeting.
- **CoY 2017 campaign** - agreement from community councillors to begin this years campaign to find CoY. Will run to 30<sup>th</sup> April.
- **Fife Environment Trust** – Letters received from A Ewing and R Mullins congratulating the community council on applying for the funding from FET for a heritage garden at Brunton Sq. Photos shown at this meeting of some of the mining memorabilia (chairs/railings) which we are hoping to get as well as 'plinths' and a mosaic on the wall reflecting stories of Cowdenbeaths' heritage. Also congratulations on the members of the Community Council for the hard work and contribution to the local community
- **Brewin Dolphin Ochill Sportive Cycle Event – Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June.** From 0800. Approx 500 participants. Route will be Lochore Meadows, Ballingry, Auchterderran & Cardenden then into Perth & Kinross area then back into Fife via Kelty finish at Lochore Meadows.
- **Lochore Visitor Centre.** At the Cowdenbeath Area committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016, motion was passed for the naming of the new visitor centre at Lochore Meadows to be name after Willie Clarke in recognition of his contribution to the local area. Cowdenbeath Community Council has been asked to consult with residents and feedback on the proposal by 15<sup>th</sup> March. Community Councillors spoke with approx 80-100 people. Most of them agreed with the proposal (or were not that fussed). Only one person didn't think it was appropriate. This information has been passed back to Fife Council.

## 6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- **Lochore Meadows Triathlon Event – Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> June.** From 0830. Approx 500 participants Route will be Lochore Meadows Park, park access road joining the B920 at a mini roundabout. Turn left and continue out on the B920 through Crosshill and Lochore. Follow the road on through Balingry to the junction with the B9097 and turn left. After 5.5 kilometres turn left on to the Main Road (B996). Continue south on this road until approaching the built up area of Cowdenbeath. Turn sharp left at the roundabout. Follow the road through the built up areas of Lumphinans and Lochgelly. The road has a ninety degree turn left turn in Lochgelly. On leaving Lochgelly continue straight on. After the railway bridge continue to the next mini roundabout and turn left into Lochore Meadows. (Fife part of the route only)
- **Scottish Community Councils Hour on Twitter** (7<sup>th</sup> March), focusing on the topic of Engaging the Wider Community. We will tweet from our account, [www.twitter.com/scottishccs](http://www.twitter.com/scottishccs), several questions from 8pm until 9pm, which we hope will start conversations with, and between, community councillors. This is our second Community Councils Hour, information about the first can be found here - <http://www.communitycouncils.scot/the-story-of-the-first-scottishccs-twitter-hour.html>
- **Development Plan Update emailed to community councillors. Hard copy available from CG**  
As part of the Fife Development Plan, Fife Council is preparing to consult on four of its Supplementary Guidance. Supplementary Guidance are documents which provide further detail to the policies already included in FIFEplan. They do not introduce any new policies but elaborate on those which are already in FIFEplan and have recently been considered through the FIFEplan Examination. The Supplementary Guidance's which will be consulted on are:

Planning Obligations – includes the methodologies and rationale for seeking contributions from developers for impacts on infrastructure.

Making Fife's Places – provides detail on the Councils expectations on urban design, built heritage, transportation, and archaeology.

Affordable Housing – sets out the levels of affordable housing required from provide housing development, the types of affordable housing to be prioritised and methodologies through which it will be sought.

Minerals – provides detail on how minerals applications and existing sites will be assessed, managed and monitored.

The consultation will start on the 17<sup>th</sup> March and run for 7 weeks, closing at 5pm on the 21<sup>st</sup> April. The consultation will be mainly online and we will provide links to where these documents can be accessed at the start of the consultation process.

Should you want to make comments on any aspect of these documents then please do so online through the links that will be provided.

- **Scottish Planning System.** Reminder of the consultation underway about the future of the Scottish Planning System. The consultation paper "Places, people and planning" sets out 20 proposals for change which aim to strengthen the planning system. The consultation can be found at: <https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/planning-architecture/a-consultation-on-the-future-of-planning/>. We are keen to hear all stakeholders' views, therefore we would be grateful if you could help to raise awareness of the consultation and to encourage Community Councils to respond. The consultation is open until 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

A short guide for Community Councils can be found on: <http://www.communitycouncils.scot/> and <https://beta.gov.scot/policies/planning-architecture/reforming-planning-system/>.

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**Chairperson** – A Haddow, 16 Arthur Place, Cowdenbeath. (Email address:cowdenbeath.comm.council@googlemail.com)  
**Secretary** – C Gourlay, 1 Elgin Road, Cowdenbeath (Email address: cowdenbeathcc@gmail.com)  
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## 6 CORRESPONDENCE

- **How information literacy contributes to a community councillors work:** A Project underway to understand whether and how information literacy contributes to community councillors' work. Being conducted by Dr Bruce Ryan at Napier University. The main tool is an online survey: <https://survey.napier.ac.uk/n/LILDEM.aspx>. It would be good to get as many responses as possible, so the project can get a true picture of what's happening across Scotland. The survey should take about 15 minutes. Participants' anonymity is guaranteed. The project expects to report on the findings towards the end of April. Any questions, please contact [b.ryan@napier.ac.uk](mailto:b.ryan@napier.ac.uk).
- **Fife Centre for Equalities – eBulletin**
- **Fife Voluntary Action Update**
- **Spring Cultural Consortium Newsletter**

All the above distributed online to community councillors. Hard copies available from CG on request

## 7. COUNCILLORS REPORT - no update available. G Guichan on holiday

## 8. OTHER REPORTS

**Treasurers Report** - Balance in CC's account as at 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017 is **£49,176.67\***

C/Fwd from Feb 2017 meeting	<b>£49,351.67</b>		
		EXPENDITURE 17/02/2017 – 16/03/2017	INCOME 17/02/2017 – 16/03/2017
Newsletter		£ 175.00 <sup>(1)</sup>	£
		£	£
		£	£
		£	£
Totals		<b>£ 175.00</b>	<b>£</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Payment for printing for 1000 Bulletin Updates and Graphic Designer

\*Amount of £45,000.00 **ringfenced** for FET – Heritage Garden at Brunton Square

£ 393.09 **ringfenced** for community newsletter – Beath Bulletin

£ 200.00 **ringfenced** till 31/10/2017 for Community Theatre Event

£ 1591.00 **ringfenced** til 31/07/2017 for MicroGrant Scheme

➤ Balance of £ 1992.58 available to the Community Council .

**Civic Week Report** - 2017 programme of events has been compiled.

- 28<sup>th</sup> February in Broad St Community Centre - Royal Party/Ambassador selected.
- 15<sup>th</sup> April – Eastor Disco at Trinity Church
- 30<sup>th</sup> April – Charity Show at HoB Club. Tickets (£5.00). on sale soon at Hallmark, Beath Bargain Store, HoB Club. Also Rangers memorabilia tickets will be drawn at this event.
- 10 – 16<sup>th</sup> June – week long programme of events. Trying to get more folks to attend the Church Service
- 17<sup>th</sup> June – Gala Day Parade. Theme is Good v Evil

### Environmental Group

- Application made for £500 Floral Grant

### Four winds trust

- Next meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May. At February's meeting...Cowdenbeath Bowling Club was one of the successful applicants.

### Mossmorran

- P Lockhart has decided to step down from Mossmorran meetings.

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## 8. OTHER REPORTS – (continued)

### CACA

- D Stevenson stepping down as chairman of CACA. A Haddow taking over the role

### Broad St Centre

- No update available

### Foodbank

- Open on Tuesdays and Thursdays and busy.

### Street Pastors

- Concerned at the very large crowds of young people who visited the fair ground recently when it was in Central Park. Some of them were very vulnerable young people and were not enjoying their evening out, due to hostility from groups of young people from neighbouring towns, misuse of alcohol and use of drugs. Met up with the local youth workers who shared our concerns. We were able to interact with the young people and avert some anti-social behaviour, as well as giving support and advice to those who were vulnerable.

## Town Centre Development

- Once Japanese Knotweed at 'green site' removed, top soil will be put down and some wild flowers planted. Area at the back will be for development. Area at the front will be developed as per consultation once the full amount of funding has been secured.
- Heritage Garden at Brunton Square. Still waiting on confirmation re funding application. The mosaic will be made up of stories of Cowdenbeath. Community Councillors requested to start to ask residents what stories they remember from the past. Hopefully they can be captured on the mosaic.
- Reminder that the site where A Rowley had his office is being turned into a 'community hub' sometime in April. Plans of Town Centre Development will be display in the office

## 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **Natal Place parking.** Recent article in the press highlighting that 'No Waiting' restrictions were being recommended for Natal Place. Consultation had been conducted with the residents and the majority had vote in favour of a parking scheme. Proposal is a 2 hr limited waiting ruling being introduced with residents being allocated with permits which would make them exempt from the ruling plus No Waiting at any time restrictions around various junctions.  
This topic has been discussed at community council meetings in the past. The general consensus of opinion was that if the residents are happy with the proposals that is acceptable. However, there was concern expressed about how the matter would be policed in light of the fact parking attendants are very rarely seen in Cowdenbeath. Suggestion was made that perhaps the 'private car park' could be opened up to the public as it doesn't appear that it is utilised as much as it could be.
- **Stenhouse Street Underpass.** Since the fire in the underpass, it has not been repaired. Is there any idea when it will be done?
- **Selkirk Avenue Underpass.** Fife Council Staff have been tidying up the walkway between Morrisons and Selkirk Avenue. However the age old problem of water/mud lying when it's raining is still there. Can anything be done? It happened when Scottish Water conducted some work in the area...it was left in a terrible state. There was subsequent correspondence between community council, Scottish Water and Fife Council. No one would accept responsibility between the latter two. A Haddow is contacting Scottish Water next week about a separate issue, he will mention it to them.

## 10. NEXT MEETING WILL BE – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017 @ 18.30

**After the meeting (and the fire alarm), the community councillors only convened to discuss the Micro Grants Scheme.**

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