

Cowdenbeath Community Council – Minutes for 15th March 2018

1. PRESENT

Community Council Members

A Haddow, C Gourlay, A Stott, K Turner, I Burt, I Cuthbertson, L Rae, A Gibson
D McLean, A McGillivray (TEN COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)

Co-opted Members

W Aitchison (Street Pastors), A Dunlop (Civic Week)

Elected Members

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

Police

n/a

Members of the public

n/a

2. APOLOGIES

Community Councillors

A Lockhart, T Lockhart and A Dziennik

Elected Members

Police

PCs F Menzies & C McDougall

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Proposed : A Stott Seconded: L Rae

4. MATTERS ARISING ...

back of Boots/McColls.

Typo in point 7. Parks and Open spaces are 'aware' of the problem at the

5. POLICE UPDATE – Apologies given but report produced and issued.

- 47 Crime Reports Created. 30 Detected, 17 Remain under investigation
- Offences of note: x10 Assaults; x7 Theft by Shoplifting; x4 Vandalisms; x6 Road Traffic matters; x 1 Culpable & reckless conduct.
- About 8pm of Monday, 26th February, 3 male youths were observed by a passing dog walker to be setting flames to aerosol canisters to discharge as 'flamethrowers' at Beath High School building air vents with utter disregard for the consequences
- CCTV from the school does not capture identifiable images of the males responsible. Still being investigated

Community Engagement

- Inputs delivered at Foulford Primary to P6 regarding discrimination focusing on Hate Crime. Positive & well thought out discussion from the class
- Community Speed Watch open day; x6 application forms have been returned. We would still encourage anyone interested to complete the forms & return to Cowdenbeath Police Station.

6. CORRESPONDENCE - (Local Matters)

- **Recent bad weather – feedback from residents of Cowdenbeath/SnowHeroesAward.** General consensus was the community engagement across communities in Fife was tremendous. In Cowdenbeath, residents came out to help with clearance of schools, care homes, neighbours paths and even whole streets as well as helping with getting folks from A to B in 4x4s, doing the shopping...etc. It was good to see lots of folks down the High Street actually having the time to be able to talk to one another as well as shop. Credit to all those folks who braved the elements to get to their work and help others (eg nurses, carers, fife council gritters....etc).
- Mention was made of the good residents of the street in Lochgelly where they cleared the street to allow a hearse to attend one of the homes. Also mentioned was the social media site of BERT in Benarty. Concept of utilising social media for getting people to help appeared to work well.
- Discussion then went on re the replenishment of the grit bins. Usually if a grit bin is empty, residents of the areas can complete form on line to request the grit bin to be replenished. In light of the amount of work done in areas, the general thought is that Fife Council will organise to replenish grits bins rather than wait to be 'asked'. It was advised that the removal of grit bins are being revisited. The bins are being taken away from A roads
- After the discussion, it was agreed that because there were so many people who were heroes during the bad weather spell, it did not feel right that Cowdenbeath Community Council could nominate any 'one' person. If others wish to do so that is up to them. In fact, the comment was made that having the 'Snow Heroes Award' was a bit over the top.
- **Application for new premises license.** LIDL Store, North End Park, Cowdenbeath are the subject of an application for a new premises license in terms of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. There are no objections to, or representations about the application.
- **Cross party meeting on Mossmorran** being held at Lesley Laird's offices on Friday 20th April. T Lockhart has agreed to attend on behalf of Cowdenbeath Community Council.

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)

Facebook Page – Cowdenbeath Community Council

Website – www.cowdenbeathcc.org.uk

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6. **CORRESPONDENCE - (Local Matters)**

- **Proposal of Application Notice (PAN)** has been submitted for a proposed development at Thistle Industrial Estate. Proposal is to demolition, retention and refurbishment, and erections of buildings for mixed use residential and employment – generating uses including access, roads and landscaping. No objections to or representations about the application from community council. Other key stakeholders are being contacted by proposers.
- **Citizen of the Year awards** (both adult and young) It was unanimously agreed that we stop campaigning for Citizens of the Year and replace it with awards which cover a wider range of people who volunteer their time and efforts to help within our Town. The proposal is that we ask Cowdenbeath Civic Week Committee to be involved in the organisation and any decisions on these awards. The proposal was also to recognise Barbara and Jackie for all their effort over the years.
AD and AH to take proposal to Civic Week Committee
- **Scottish Water** has advised that some works will be carried out in Sinclair Drive, Cowdenbeath lasting for about 2 weeks. It was supposed to start on 6th March but only if weather allowed. In order to carry out the works, they will be closing Sinclair Drive between the junctions of Mossbank and Hillcrest. These works are required to carry out essential maintenance to the local sewer system. It should not impact on local water and wastewater services. Residents affected by the closure will be advised by letter.
- **Fife Sailability** is run by volunteers to give the opportunity for adults and children with any type of disability to take part in sailing. They are RYA recognised training centre for disabled sailing and carry out Disabled Awareness Training. Their current project is to purchase a Wheelyboat to provide the opportunity to be active and take to the water in a safe and controlled environment. The club meets for sailing at Lochore Meadows every other Saturday from April to October. Fife Sailability are looking to buy a specialised craft and are seeking funding from various sources (including Awards for All) and they require involvement by the community in the development and delivery of the project. Sounds like a good project but need to know more.
- **Recent Bank Closures** – Scottish Parliament's Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee are looking for comments from as many people as possible on the impact of bank closures within the community. Closing date for comments is 13th April. Here's the link <http://parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/107960.aspx>
- **Fife Soup** – Being held in Benarty. Opportunity for networking and collaboration amongst local groups. It's a £5 charge for entry/soup...etc. Local groups can 'pitch' for claiming the entry fees. Opportunity to hear about what groups are in local communities and potentially raise some funds for your group. Tickets need to be booked

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

- **Recycling Centre** - With effect from 2nd April, Cowdenbeath Recycling Centre will be closing Mondays & Thursdays.
- **Maxwell Centre** - Doors open. Encourage residents to use the facility..
- **High Street Works** – Car Park at entrance to Morrisons will be used for lorries/trucks when work begins on the High Street. Recycling units currently there will be relocated. Work will be underway during April to November.
- **WW1 Memorial** – Cllr Watt had been up at the memorial and found that there had been 'graffiti' on the memorial. Extremely disappointing. Will contact the various people to get it cleaned up. General discussion ensued about 'cutting the trees back' to make the view of the memorial more open, get lighting back up there. This is on our 'wish list' to tidy up the War Memorial.

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

Treasurers Report - Balance in CC's account as at **15th March 2018 is £45,056.13**

Amount of	£38,352.00	ringfenced for FET – Heritage Garden at Brunton Square
	£ 2,000.00	ringfenced for microgrants
	£ 768.54	ringfenced for training/purchase of publishing tool re Beath Bulletin (£749.95) and production (£18.59)
SUB TOT	£41,120.54	
Balance	£ 3,935.59	available to the Community Council.
TOTAL	£45,056.13	

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8. OTHER REPORTS

• **Civic Week..**

Little Fix concert on 11th March was a great success. Royal Party selected. Well done to everyone involved. Very good feedback from those in attendance.

- 20 Volunteers needed to cover the 'road closures' on the day of the gala (16/6). If you know of anyone who is available, point them in the direction of Civic Week Committee. Training will be given.
- Tea Dance will be on Saturday, 9th June. Again anyone willing to help, contact Civic Week Committee.
- Cheque for £350 handed to Community Council – share of proceeds for organisation of Tombola at Christmas and Sale of Raffle Tickets

- **Street Pastors** – Hoping to rent the old 'coral betting shop' to maintain their presence on the High Street. There was concern expressed by Street Pastors when funfair recently visited. Number of glass throwing incidents reported. Will be in attendance at BHS tomorrow (Friday 16th March)
- **Foodbank** - busy over christmas and new year. Always available to take donations.
- **Town Centre** - no update other than in councillors report.
- **4 winds trust** – 5 applications from Cowdenbeath Groups discussed at March meeting. Two were unsuccessful but the other three had their applications approved (Environment Group, 46th Scouts, Golf Club). In total approx £22k was distributed to 16/17 local groups. Next meeting is May
- **CACA** – Ongoing dispute with Fife Council re volunteers. AGM held and constitution updated to allow CACA to potentially employ someone to help in the club if they have staff shortages. New committee has been formed.
- **Environmental Group** – no update
- **Broad St Centre** – Broad Street Centre has closed and groups have relocated to Maxwell Centre. Mike Payne will try to come along to CC meetings and update us on activities at the Maxwell Centre.
- **Mossmorran** – see below

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Remembrance Day concert will be on 4th November

Drop In Centre – IB/LR looking into license for driving a mini bus to take elderly folks to drop in centre. This will be much cheaper option than taxi. Also looking at organisation of volunteer drivers. Who can co-ordinate?

10. NEXT MEETING Thursday 19th April 2018 @ 18.30.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS RE MOSSMORRAN

Q1. 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?

• **Shell UK response** The life-span of the Shell FNLG plant is determined by various factors including our investment in maintaining the safety and integrity of the plant, and commercial arrangements that supply hydrocarbons to the plant and demand the products it processes. We aim to keep the plant evergreen, and the current outlook for the plant is beyond 2025.

• **Exxon Mobil Response** Through securing additional business streams, we foresee a long-term future for the plant, including the creation of new employment opportunities. FEP was the first plant specifically designed to use natural gas liquids from the North Sea as feedstock. Initially the plant took its feedstock from the Shell/Esso Brent Field in the North Sea. Feedstock sources for the plant have now diversified to include additional fields in the North Sea in both the UK and Norwegian Sectors. FEP now also has the ability to take imported gas for processing at the site.

FEP has seen continuous ongoing investment in the equipment onsite over its life to date and in the last 5 years alone, some £50million has been invested in the site. This ongoing investment ensures the plant remains a key asset in the UK chemical industry. This positive outlook also ensures the future of the approx. 180 permanent employees and 50 core contractors who work at the plant. The majority of the workforce lives locally, with 11% of employees living within three miles of the plant and 65% within seven miles. Former apprentices account for around one-third of the workforce and we currently employ around 15 apprentices on-site.

Q2. Is there another review of the plants expectancy due in the future?

• **Shell UK Response** No specific review is planned. Please see the answer above

• **Exxon Mobil Response** All aspects of feed supply and operations of the Fife Ethylene Plant are constantly reviewed by the company and the regulators for the site. FEP is regulated by local and national authorities including HSE, SEPA and Fife Council. More information about regulation is available from our Fife Ethylene Plant Community Affairs department, on 01383 737 000.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS RE MOSSMORRAN

Q3. 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.

- **Shell UK Response** This is for Fife Council
- **Exxon Mobil Response** The Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay Community Safety Committee (The Liaison Committee) was established by Fife Council. The Committee provides a forum to enable local community representatives to engage with the operators at Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay, to be briefed on any environmental impacts or safety issues associated with the facilities and to allow the views of local communities to be properly expressed.

Its membership, as per its constitution and terms of reference, comprises three representatives from Fife Council and one representative from each of the following: ExxonMobil Chemical, Shell UK, Aberdour Community Council, Auchtertool Community Council, Burntisland Community Council, Cardenden and Kinglassie Community Council, Cowdenbeath Community Council, Crossgates and Mossgreen Community Council, Lochgelly Community Council, Dalgety Bay and Hillend Community Council, Lumphinnans Community Council. The minutes of the local community liaison committee are published on Fife Council's website and we are working with the other members of the committee to seek ways to improve communications with the community.

Q4. 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)?

- **Shell UK Response** This is for Fife Council
- **Exxon Mobil Response** Please see our previous response

Q5. Should the attendee list be reviewed?

- **Shell UK Response** This is for Fife Council
- **Exxon Mobil Response** This is a matter for the Fife Council - Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay Community Safety Committee to determine. ExxonMobil Chemical Limited continues to engage with all communities surrounding our facilities at Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay, and is looking at ways to build on this.

Q6. Are there any plans to do real time monitoring at the site?

- **Shell UK Response** We use real-time monitoring of the flare using CCTV camera and on-line temperature sensors. We use an array of operational monitoring data, which provides real-time updates and alerts regarding most aspects of the plant. This monitoring includes flow meters and chemical analysers that allow emissions from the plant to be calculated.

We undertake periodic monitoring of our stack emissions to verify the data. Our monitoring systems are compliant with environmental monitoring commitments required for our Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) Permit, and our emissions are consistently below limits set for the plant. A local independent Air Quality Monitoring Review Group advises Fife Council regarding the monitoring of air emissions arising from the operations at the Mossmorran plants and the Braefoot Bay terminal facilities. The 2016 Annual Report of the Review Group says: "The outcomes of air quality monitoring to date in the vicinity of the Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay facilities indicate that automatic continuous monitoring of pollutants in surrounding local community areas is not required. In conclusion, the work undertaken by the Review Group in 2016 demonstrates that emissions from the Shell and ExxonMobil Plants at Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay continue to pose no significant risk to the health of members of the local community." We continue to participate in the Review Group and discussions on monitoring, and we are willing to engage with the authorities when future requirements are being considered.

- **Exxon Mobil Response** Air Quality around the plant is monitored and reviewed by the Fife Council Independent Air Quality Monitoring Review Committee, Chaired by Professor Sibbett of St. Andrews University. Many years of rigorous testing by independent consultants on behalf of Fife Council Mossmorran & Braefoot Bay Independent Air Quality Monitoring Review Group show no significant impact on air quality in the local communities. The 2016 Annual Report from this group is available on the Fife Council Website

Q7. 6 complaints were received from residents of Cowdenbeath/Lochgelly and Auchtertool as a result of flaring in Oct 2017. What was the nature of the complaints and how were they handled?

- **Shell UK Response** NA
- **Exxon Mobil Response** Calls received re flaring in October 2017 were:

5 related to noise and one related to light from the flare.

Callers who contact the site, have their calls logged, and where they provide contact information, are called back the same day or the next day, depending on the time of day the call is received.