

Cowdenbeath Community Council – Minutes for 20th October 2016

1. **PRESENT**

Community Council Members - A Haddow, C Gourlay, A Stott, T Crawford, C Kirk, A Munro, A Lockhart, J Allan, A Dziennik, I Cuthbertson, D McLean, E Kirk (TWELVE COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)

Co-opted Members

Elected Members

Police

Members of the public

- A Dunlop (Civic Week), W Aitchieson (CLOCK)

- G Guichan

- PCs C McDougall & F Menzies

- I Burt, L Rae, J Smith

2. **APOLOGIES**

Community Councillors -

Co-opted members -

Elected Councillors – P Lockhart

Police –

3. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES** -

Proposed : T Crawford

Seconded: D McLean

4. **MATTERS ARISING** - None

5. **POLICE UPDATE.**

- Not been too bad during school holidays. Few incidents at Leisure Centre but those responsible have been caught. Drugs (around £2K) recovered in the Town.
- Speaking to primary schools to try and build on existing relationships
- **21 – 28th November** is National Road Safety week. Hosting assemblies at the schools. Talking about road safety pledges/promises. Competition as part of assembly to design Road Safety Banner. Winning entries will be hung outside the school.
- **Shutter Art project** – doing well. A further 2 shops (Cancer Research & Lorna Clark) have had their shutters done. Approaching shops on Broad St as well to see if they want shutters done.
- **Preparing for dark nights** - Halloween/Crazy Clown fad will bring its challenges.
- **CCTV** – reiteration that the cctv in Union St was install for victim reassurance.

After the success of the artwork on the Stenhouse St underpass, it was asked if there was a chance that the underpass at Bridge St could be tackled next. Also could a 'spring clean' be organised for that area. This is something that will be considered.

Armistice Day is on 13th November – AH asked if a representative from the Police will be there to lay wreath. Also will someone be there to 'close' the road. Will check with Inspector
Santa comes to Town on 3rd Dec – again there will be need for police presence. AH has completed approp forms.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Theatre Group in Cowdenbeath – at last months meeting D McArthur updated us with details of his proposal to start a Theatre Group in Cowdenbeath....and Donald is looking for support and funding. Community Council discussed matter and agreed that we would be prepared to fund the venture to the tune of £200 as long as the groups constitution was in order and that the group was an amateur group.

Young Citizen of the Year – The voting process was undertaken during the 10th – 17th October. Eleven community councillors voted and it was advised at the meeting that Calum Paterson was the Young Citizen of the Year 2016 with a majority vote. Reception will be on Thursday, 3rd Nov at 19.00 (Folks will start arriving at 18.30) in Town House. CG to check with Fife Council that we can actually use Town House.

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

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** (continued)

Mossmorran Community WindFarm Ltd Fund

C Gourlay, D McLean and I Burt are representatives for Cowdenbeath on the Mossmorran Community Fund Advisory Panel. This year the fund was open during Jun – Aug for local groups within the Crossgates & Mossgreen, Cowdenbeath and Hill of Beath Community Council areas. There were a number of groups from Cowdenbeath who were successful with their applications – Cowdenbeath Community Council (we received £300 to help us with the Beath Bulletin), Cowdenbeath Civic Week, Cowdenbeath Horticultural Society, 46th Fife Scout Group, Lumphinnans Utd, Clock Street Pastors, Homestart Lochgelly (specifically for residents of Cowdenbeath). Well done to all the groups. As part of this years fund, Micro Grants will now be available – in summary, constituted (who have not received any monies from the main fund) and non constituted groups/residents could apply to the community council for smaller grants (up to maximum £250). Once this money is available the community councils will publicise. It was agreed at the meeting that IB would be invited to participate in decisions made on applications for micro grants for Cowdenbeath.

OOR BIT – Participatory Budgeting

At the last few Community Council meetings, I've been giving updates on the Participatory Budgeting Initiative. In short, there is £250,000 available across 9 communities and Fife Council is asking residents in those communities what they would like to spend the money on.

The initiative has been promoted in the local media (Fife Times, The Courier), on our Facebook Page, on our website (and on other Community Councils websites/pages), through word of mouth and various posters/postcards distributed through folks doors.

The start of the publicity was on the day of Cowdenbeath Gala and we have been asking for ideas from folks since then. The date for ideas to be suggested has closed and just over 165 ideas were generated .

As you can appreciate, over 165 is a lot of ideas so a group of local folks (across the communities) got together and came up with a list of 32 projects to be put to a public vote.

And why am I telling you all this - Well the public vote will happen sometime in November and I'm hoping that each of you will consider having a look at the ideas which have been shortlisted and cast a vote. AND tell your friends, neighbours, family about it and encourage them to vote.

You can either vote online (WWW.OORBIT.d21.me) or you can pop along to the event (currently being organised) to manually cast your vote. More details on the manually event will be advised when I get the details.....but since each of you guys have email accounts, I'm kind of hoping that you would vote online.

You can actually check out the ideas by visiting www.oorbit.org if you want but I can tell you that the 4 ideas shortlisted for Cowdenbeath were :

1. Improvements to Public Park –signage and displays
2. Gateways – install things to remind people of mining heritage
3. The Line – clear up
4. Improve area at Train Station

Once the online/manual voting is OPENED, folks will be asked to choose which of these ideas they would like to see money spent on. There is no guarantee that all the ideas will get money spent on them but there is a hope that we will get at least one of them. All depends on cost and obviously whether folks vote.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** (continued)

Removal of Public Telephones – Plans being made to remove public payphones. Cut off date for comments was 14/10. Community Councillors should check out the details and reply direct if they have any issues

SES Plan, The Strategic Development Planning Authority for the Edinburgh and South East Scotland Region has published at Proposed Strategic Development Plan. This is a key step in replacing the current Strategic Development Plan of 2013 and is the final opportunity for comments to be made. The proposed plan deals with a range of strategic planning issues including housing, transport and green infrastructure for a 20year period beginning 2018. Comments (known as representations) can be made between 13th October and 24th November 2016. If you wish to know more and make representation, please check out sesplan-consult.objective.co.uk

Fife Plan – Development update available from CG. Passed to those community councillors on email

7. **COUNCILLORS REPORT - G Guichan**

Skatepark - new skatepark at Benarty opened.. Skatepark for Cowdenbeath termed as 'destination skatepark'. Still to go to planning. Skatepark was designed by youngsters.

Play parks – Officers have been asked to identify play park strategy. What are the priorities.

Recycling shop – at last meeting an idea was suggested that perhaps some of the recycling material at the recycling centre be 'sold'. This idea was passed on to the folks who run the recycling centre.

Boundary Changes – under proposals recently published, Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath would be no more. Cowdenbeath would be 'in with' Perth and Kinrosshire and Cowdenbeath. This will eventually be discussed by local councillors but community councillors need to find out what people think

Roads/pavements/lampposts – Sinclair Drive currently being resurfaced. Question asked if pavements were going to get done and would other streets be included. There is a 'plan' for this work and GG will check it out.

Clearing of drains – question asked how often the drains are cleared. GG to check it out.

Trees at Rowan Terrace – causing problems. Same thing last year. Fife Council came out last year but more needs to be done. What's the progress

Trees/Hedgerows at Rose Street – someone has cut back the trees/hedgerows and it doesn't look good. GG will check it out.

8. OTHER REPORTS

- **Treasurers Report** - Balance in CC's account as at 15th September is **£85,612.55***

C/Fwd from June meeting	£85,312.55	
	EXPENDITURE 16/09 – 20/10/2016	INCOME 16/09 – 20/10/2016
Town Centre Funding from Scottish Government	£	£
Newsletter	£	£ 300.00
Fife Council	£	£
Admin..	£	£
Totals	£	£ 300.00

- Total of £82,109.09 ringfenced
IE (£79,554.00 for TCCCF to pay for Wifi ,Winter Lighting & Marquees)
(2000.00 to pay for outdoor cinema)
(555.09 in respect of the Beath Bulletin.)
- Balance of £3503.46 remaining - next events to be organised by Community Council will be Young Citizen of the Year reception in November (estimate agreed £250.00) and Remembrance Day Parade on 13th November (estimate agreed £1200)

- **Civic Week Report** - Update on the activities which are being scheduled for Christmas. Lots going on. Civic Week Committee are working hard to get the events organised.

- ⇒ 29th October – Halloween Party at Trinity. Have organised for Tricky Dicky (Magician) to be there
- ⇒ 19th November – Scottish Night.
- ⇒ 3rd December – Santa comes to Town/Christmas Lights Switch On. (Christmas Party in Leisure Centre)
Childrens party will be ALL TICKET. Hoping to have torchlight procession from Leisure Centre to Green Sq at about 4pm. Some of the local cafes may be open till 6pm that night. Band playing in green sq.
- ⇒ 4th December – Craft Fair/Santas Grotto (Leisure Centre). Lots of stalls will be there.
- ⇒ 15th December – Christmas Choir Event in Beath and Cowdenbeath North Church. Will be tickets and tea/coffee...cake will be included in the price.

Volunteers always required to help out with these events. See Alan/Alex if you can help in any way, shape or form.

- **Environmental Group**

- Have applied for the annual floral grant - £400/£450
- Pond restoration at Community Woodland should take place in next few weeks.
- Suggestion made that the information boards at Woodend are update to reflect the fact that there are deer in the woods. And that means the possibility of Lime Disease. **Action:** GG to check out who is responsible for updating (with Parks and Open Spaces)
- What about the stream at the back of Iceland – who is responsible for clearing this up.
Action: GG to speak to S Duffy at Parks and Open Spaces.

- **Four winds trust** - Next meeting is in November
- **Mossmorran** - Panto tickets should be made available soon.
- **CACA** - Start back in a week or two. Meeting being held with Community Worker to go over programme.
- **Broad St Centre** - Next year the new community centre will be up and running. Any thoughts on what we could do to recognise the impact Broad Street Centre has had on the residents of the town.
- **Foodbank** Well used.

- **Street Pastors** Rail pastors started – going well. Event of Saturday 22nd October to celebrate 2nd Birthday party being organised for the Street Pastors – 22nd October.
- **TCCCF** Winter Lighting at Hall Street/Stenhouse Street has been switched on and it looks really good. There are 11 streets which have lights on them.
Public access WiFi currently being ‘tested’. If you notice it on your Ipad/phone – you wont be able to access just now.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **Shutter Art** – proposal made we pay for meal deals for artist/pupils when doing shutter art. Agreement that a budget of £100 will be made available.
- **Flats at old BoS on High Street** – concern expressed that the buckets outside the flats are overfilled and unsightly. Can anything be done. GG raised the matter with Fife Housing last time and they were to keep an eye on it. GG will raise with them again.
- **Houses/Flats in Westburn Ave** – what’s going on. Lots of activity by fife council.
- **New community councillor** – welcome back to Eileen Kirk who has decided to rejoin the community council

11. NEXT MEETING WILL BE – Thursday 17th November @ 18.30