

Cowdenbeath Community Council – Inaugural Meeting

Minutes for 18th October 2018

As this was the inaugural meeting of the ‘newly elected’ Cowdenbeath Community Council, the formalities of electing new office bearers ...etc..was first on Agenda.

1. **PRESENT** : Community Councillors introduced – A Haddow, A Stott, D McLean, I Burt, I Cuthbertson, A McGillivray, S McGillivray, C Gourlay, A Lockart, W Aitchison (NINE COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)

Co-opted Members	n/a
Elected Members	Cllrs A Campbell, A Bain
Police	n/a
Members of the public	L Rae, A Anderson, M Payne (Maxwell Centre)
Guests	n/a

2. **APOLOGIES**

Community Councillors	A Dziennik
Elected Members	Cllrs G Guichan and D Watt
Co-opted Members	
Police	PC F Menzies & C McDougall

At this point Cllr A Campbell took over the helm for the appointment of Office Bearers for Cowdenbeath CC

3. **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE BEARERS**

Chair:	A Haddow	Proposed C Gourlay, Seconded I Burt
Vice Chair:	I Burt	Proposed C Gourlay, Seconded A Stott
Treasurer	A Stott	Proposed D McLean, Seconded I Burt
Secretary	C Gourlay	Proposed A Stott, Seconded D McLean

No other nominations were received and all those nominated were prepared to accept the posts.

4. **SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN FIFE**

It was unanimously agreed that Cowdenbeath Community Council would adopt the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Fife as their constitution

5. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Several CCs are involved with other groups within the Town but none that were relating to matters being considered at this meeting

6. **ANY OTHER COMPETENT MATTERS ...**

Feedback on Community Council Election Process. General discussion on the community council election process. Majority felt there was no real issues with the current process. However there was a suggestion that there be no need for 2 people to nominate a community councillors. This information will be fed back to Democratic Services.

Campaign to recruit more community councillors. Unanimously agreed that we would organise to recruit more CC's. We currently have 12 and we can have a maximum of 19. Suggestion made that we invite potential candidates to attend our November meeting or hand in a nomination form/letter expressing their intention to join Community Council. AMcG will put together wording for 'advert'

Proposal to sponsor best decorated local shop/business at Christmas Switch on. Cowdenbeath Civic Week Committee will be asking local shops/businesses to dress their windows/shop frontages in advance of the Christmas Lights Switch On on 30th Nov. The Community Council has been asked to sponsor an award to be given to the winner as well as a cash prize. The proposal is a shield for the winner and a £50 cash prize. This would be a way to 'promote' the Community Council and what we do. **Vote:** The majority of community councillors agreed to the proposal. CG will speak to Civic Week Committee and organise to purchase shield

Proposal to buy some lighting and ask shops to put in their windows. CC are looking at different ways to encourage local businesses to 'brighten up' the High Street. There is a possibility going forward that we may not be able to afford the Christmas Lights on the lampposts. A proposal was made to 'pilot' the purchase of some fairy lighting (approx £200) and approach several shops and ask them to run during Christmas period. The CC would then ask for the return of the lights and store them till next year. The lights would be pat tested before being issued.. **Vote:** The majority of community councillors agreed to the proposal. CG will organise with Hazel from Civic Week Committee to purchase the lights.

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6. **ANY OTHER COMPETENT MATTERS ...** (continued)

K Wilson & A Walker came along to discuss the proposals for the Awards for All funding of £7500. Proposal is a mix of some shutter art and mini murals. KW/AW have identified some shutters which could get done and some areas where 'mini murals' could go. General discussion held on the proposals. Unanimously agreed to proposal made by KW. She has design proposals and will contact the appropriate owners to agree start dates. Invoices for payment will be sent to the CC.

As AW is involved with High Street Development, discussion ensued about Taxi Rank and work at the green square. General feedback from the canvassing by CCs was that the temporary taxi rank seems to work...The expectation is the bus stop will be returned to outside McColls. Busses will stop at the bus stop/pick up customers. Taxis will use the bus bay as their rank. The subject of parking on the High Street is an emotive topic as is the taxi rank. However the feeling is that the majority of people are satisfied that the taxi rank could be in bus bay, 2 disabled bays/ordinary parking bays and loading bay could remain outside Poundstretchers. There will also be disabled bays and restricted parking at Brunton Square area (between Police and Post Office).

AH asked if green square would be ready for Switch On on 30th November. General discussion about stage location for Little Fix coming to Town. AH/AW will discuss 1-1 after our meeting.

7. **POLICE UPDATE –** PC Calum McDougall/PC F Menzies.

Our community police officers were unavailable but sent the undernoted report (issued post meeting)
There have been a couple of high profile incidents in other areas of Fife which have required the community teams assistance so police presence in Cowdenbeath has been slightly reduced.

REPORT

- > We have a named suspect for the incident at the Sinclair Drive, Park where petrol has been poured onto the play equipment most notably the slide. Hopefully we will have the youth responsible charged in the coming days and release a media statement.)
- > Meeting held with the Community Safety Team with regard to a partnership approach to the on-going issues at the community Woodland. AD of Env Group is aware regarding this approach.
- > As part of Acquisitive Crime week we deployed with the Fife Crime Prevention panel at Morrison's to discuss Home security and spent a day with the Stagecoach Inspectors patrolling the no.19 service raising the profile on travel safety.
- > A youth has been charged in connection with a hate crime incident at the Yummy Yummy Chinese take-away at Dalbeath Crescent. A further youth is still to be seen.
- > Aware of concerns regarding the condition/tidiness of the Skate Park. Continue to monitor the area during patrol.
- > Male reported to the PF in relation to a Culpable & Reckless Fire raising at Rae Street which occurred on Friday night.

8. **COUNCILLORS REPORT** - Cllrs Campbell and Bain

- **Proposal of Application Notice** – Thistle Industrial Estate. Demolition of existing buildings and erection of residential, and associated, development including access, road and open space.
- **Taxi Rank** – The councillors have taken note of the previous discussion on the subject of the taxi rank. They will take details forward to their meeting with Transportation in November.
- **Coalfields Regeneration Trust** – The CRT are looking to form a steering committee with local residents. A meeting will be held on 24th October to discuss how to move forward
- **Maxwell Centre** – official opening is tomorrow (19th)
- **Mossmorran** – report due out from SEPA. Still to be read. Indication is that Exxon Mobil are poor. Need to pull their socks up. Other report still to be produced.

- **Questions/Concerns** – Issues at Copeland Crescent/Cullaloe View. Has been problems for years. Has been happening 2/3 times a week. Youths burning bins/making general disturbance. What can be done? A Campbell will pick up on behalf of A Anderson. Will contact the Police and Safer Communities Team..

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9. TREASURERS REPORT

Report distributed by treasurer before meeting

Treasurers Report - Balance in CC's account as at **18th October 2018** is **£51,185.98**

Amount of	£40,352.00	ringfenced for FET – Heritage Garden at Brunton Square
	£ 5,000.10	ringfenced for Shutter Art project
	£ 1,650.00	ringfenced for WW1 memorial items at Town House
	£ 576.29	ringfenced for Beath Bulletin
SUB TOT	£ 47,578.39	
Balance	£ 3,607.59	available to the Community Council.
TOTAL	£51,185.98	

CIVIC WEEK

Key Dates

24th Nov Scottish Night. Broad St Bowling Club. Tickets £5.00

30th Nov Christmas Lights Switch on 5-7pm (Santa will be here). Have organised for Little Fix to switch on lights. Should be busy night. Road Closure being organised

1st Dec Childrens Christmas Party (2-4pm) and Christmas Fair (1-4pm) at Beath High School

7th Dec Local business owner – Hazel from Precious Events & Lucie Sue gifts/coffee shop – is organising a Christmas party at HoB Club. Profits will go to Civic Week Committees 2019 programme of events.

16th Dec Community concert featuring the community choir at Cowdenbeath and North Church. May also be another concert organise for the local homes.

Looking for Tombola and Raffle prizes for these events. If anyone has any, or knows of anyone who would be prepared to donate – let Civic Week Committee know.

WW1 MEMORIAL CONCERT

- AH is organising the concert on behalf of CC. Has organised for 4th November at 7pm in Carnegie Hall. Tickets are £10.00. Provost, MP, MSP plus locally elected councillors will be there. Kingdom Brass Band will be performing alongside Lochgelly High School Pipe Band as well as local singers. During discussion AH confirmed that correct and appropriate insurance has been organised on behalf of CC. Proposal made that any monies raised from the concert be ringfenced and used by CC for future Remembrance Day activities within Cowdenbeath (eg future services). All community councillors agreed the proposal

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES

- This years Remembrance Day Services will take place on 11th November at 1.30pm at WW1 and 2.30pm at WW2. The parade will be at the Library at 2.25pm. Wee Jimmies has been booked but it will only be those in the Parade who will be able to attend. AH has advised that he will not be organising next years Parade. We need his contact details for participants so the information can be passed on. There is the possibility that there may not be future Remembrance Day Parades if we cannot find someone local to organise this event.

10. NEXT MEETING Thursday 15th November @ 18.30 in the Maxwell Centre.