



## Minutes of Meeting Held on Wednesday 26 April 2023 at 19:00hrs at CR Smith.

v1.02

### Sederunt: ( Present / Apologies / Unknown ):

#### Community Councillors & Councillors:

C.Cllr Wilma Allday (Honorary President)	P	C.Cllr Gordon Harvey (Chairman)	P
C.Cllr Ian MacFarlane (Vice-Chairman)	P	C.Cllr Graeme Whyte (Secretary)	P
C.Cllr Ross Cassidy (Treasurer)	A	C.Cllr William Muir	A
C.Cllr Keith Omond	P	C.Cllr Ruth Watson	P
Cllr Auxi Barrera	P	Cllr Gavin Ellis	P
Cllr Gordon Pryde	P		

#### Others:

Norma Farquharson	A	Zoë Mays	P
Alex Allan	P	Derek Armitage	P
Alan Whyte	A	Mary Whyte	A
PC Stewart Paton	U	PC Paul Scougall	U
Ann Bain	A	Dr Abdul Hayee	P
Usman Saeed	P		

*Actions are recorded in a separate Tasks List available on our website.*

1. **Welcome, apologies & conflicts of interest:** C.Cllr Gordon Harvey welcomed everyone to the meeting and conveyed condolences from the Community Council to the Secretary upon the death of his father. Apologies for absence were recorded. Members were asked to declare any potential conflicts of interest either now or at the appropriate point in the meeting.
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**
  - a. **Approval:** The Minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed (v1.02). They were proposed by C.Cllr Keith Omond and seconded by C.Cllr Wilma Allday.
  - b. **Matters arising, not on the agenda:** The Chairman covered the following points:
    - i. **Council Site Visit.** Cllr Gordon Pryde had arranged a site visit on 9 May 2023 for the Community Council to discuss any issues to do with parks, lanes, hedges etc.
    - ii. **B912 Potholes.** Cllr Auxi Barrera reported that she was continuing to press for the potholes to be repaired around the Lassodie area. Cllr Gavin Ellis had previously reported on the drainage work provisionally planned at Lassodie for May 2023.
3. **Police Report:**
  - a. It was agreed that in the absence of the Police Officers and in view of the busy agenda, that the items (Top Three Priorities, Needle Exchange, Car Theft) would be carried forward to the next meeting for discussion.
  - b. Members of the public were reminded to report non-urgent Police matters to their local community police officers by email – [police@bellyeomancc.org.uk](mailto:police@bellyeomancc.org.uk).
4. **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community – James Allan Centre.**

The Chairman welcomed Dr Abdul Hayee and Usman Saeed to the meeting and invited them to give their presentation which covered the background of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community (AMC) in Edinburgh & Fife, the charitable and community works that they do, and why they wish to use the James Allan Centre as a Mosque and Community Centre. The AMC wish to buy or rent the James Allan Centre from Fife Council under the 'Community Asset Transfer Scheme'. The AMC have no Mosque in Edinburgh or Fife at present. Some discussion ensued and questions were asked about equality for women and other protected characteristic groups. Other questions which remained unanswered at this point included what value the Council would be placing on this asset, and what obligations or limitations could be made upon the use of the hall, or indeed the land it sits on in the future. Cllr



Gordon Pryde agreed to look into these questions and report back to the next meeting. The Community Council would be unable to reach a view without first considering these questions and answers, and then seeking views.

## 5. Officers' Reports:

- a. **Correspondence.** The Secretary reported that miscellaneous correspondence had been circulated to members. This included an email from Cllr Barrera asking about waste bin provision across our area, and asking for feedback on where it could be improved. Cllr Barrera noted that the south playpark at Queen Margaret Fauld could do with a bin.
- b. **Community Council Elections – Thursday 28 September 2023.** The Chairman asked the membership to encourage others to join them as Community Councillors.
- c. **Bank Balance.** There had been no transactions and so the balance stood at £9,965.61.
- d. **Planning Applications – Council Restrictions.** The Chairman asked for Planning Officers to commit the Community Council as a Statutory Consultee. It was agreed that this should happen automatically. However, sometimes decisions are taken by Planning before the time to request to become a Statutory Consultee has elapsed, and other times we have been treated as a Statutory Consultee when we hadn't asked to be. It is all very inconsistent and such behaviour stands in the way of transparency in the planning process.

## 6. Planning:

- a. **Whitefields, 22/01557/EIA.** The Chairman reported that an application for an advertising hoarding and flags at the corner of Whitefield Road and Kingseat Road has been passed. The Grouting work may be delayed.
- b. **Northern Link Road.** Concerns were raised about ownership of the water-ski access road after reports that Fife Council stopped repairing blocked drains after they think they discovered they do not own the road. Cllrs were asked to clarify who owns these roads, as there was potential for impact on any final proposed route for the Northern Link Road. Cllr Pryde stated that a condition of the Kent Street housing development was for the builders to carry out a survey of a drainage pipe feeding into this area.
- c. **Lauriston Nursery – Temporary Accommodation (22/04166/FULL).** Following the last meeting and in consultation with all Community Councillors, the Community Council had withdrawn any objections to the proposal and that the Council had since passed the plans.
- d. **Queen Margaret Hospital Taxi Rank (TRO).** The Community Council had no objections to the proposals for a taxi rank.

## 7. Public Services:

- a. **Bellyeoman Community Woodland.** Partial quotations had been received for works. The Secretary asked about a scope of work, timescales, costs, and insurance. GAW/IM agreed to prepare a draft scope of work.
- b. **Speed limits and crossing points on Whitefield Road at Hospital (currently 40mph).** The Councillors are awaiting written confirmation of the Council's response.
- c. **Core Path Steps (Bellyeoman – Townhill).** Cllr Gavin Ellis agreed to take on this task from Cllr Auxil Barrera, as he had started it prior to paternity leave. The hope is that the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust may be in a position to do this work. The Secretary also reported that the Council had made a great job of reinstating the pavement along the Kingseat Road from the Core Path to the Townhill Viewpoint. The Secretary had been asked to follow-up with the Council on the enhancement of the footpath alongside Kingseat Road, between the Townhill Core Path and Waxwing Motors. The Council had responded and have agreed to look at options that would be included in the next phase of works, which could be late 2023 or early 2024.

# Bellyeoman Community Council

Email: [info@bellyeomancc.org.uk](mailto:info@bellyeomancc.org.uk)

Website: [www.bellyeomancc.org.uk](http://www.bellyeomancc.org.uk)

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- d. **Unkempt 'Factored' Areas (ongoing since September 2002).** It was agreed that the Community Council need to regroup and decide a lobbying strategy with the Scottish Government.
- e. **Alderston Playpark fence and gate.** A member of the public had written to the Secretary asking if the Community Council knew when the gates would be replaced at the play area, to help keep children in and safe, and also to prevent dogs wandering in and inadvertently fouling the play area. This matter was passed to Cllr Gordon Pryde who kindly agreed to chase this up.

## 8. Environment:

- a. **Lochhead Dump – smell.** The Chairman updated the meeting on his conversations with SEP about the dump. It was hoped that the situation would improve once and for all.
- b. **Flooding.** Cllr Auxi Barrera had had very useful communications on this matter with a Fife Council officer. The Chairman and Cllr Barrera were following up certain points with the officer. Cllr Gavin Ellis reported that he had been working with the Council on flooding issues at the bottom of Whitefield Road at its junction with Halbeath Road.
- c. **Bin Emptying Strategy.** The Secretary had been asked to raise this issue with Councillors. The Councillors were unaware of a proposed white paper which might dramatically reduce the frequency and efficiency of bin emptying across our area. The Councillors agreed to follow this up and to find out more information.

## 9. AOCB

- a. **Council Inter-Departmental Communication.** Cllr Auxi Barrera had written to the Chief Executive about improved inter-departmental communication within Fife Council. This included grass cutting requirements on housing land, and pothole repairs in parks land by transportation. These were just two examples. Cllr Barrera asked for any specific examples to be passed to her or via the Community Council so that she could follow them up.

- 10. **Date and Time of Next Meeting:** C.Cllr Gordon Harvey thanked everyone for their attendance and intimated that the next meeting of the Community Council was scheduled for **Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 19:00hrs in the CR Smith Boardroom.**

It was also noted that there had been no potential conflicts of interest intimated and with there being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:00hrs.