



## Minutes of Meeting Held on Wednesday 25 October 2023 at 19:00hrs at CR Smith.

v1.01

### 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)	A	C.Cllr Graeme Whyte (Secretary)	P
C.Cllr Ross Cassidy (Treasurer)	A	C.Cllr Keith Omond	P
C.Cllr Ruth Watson	P		
Cllr Auxi Barrera	P	Cllr Gavin Ellis	A
Cllr Gordon Pryde	P		

#### Others:

Norma Farquharson	A	Alex Allan	A
Derek Armitage	P	Zoé Mayes	A
PC Stewart Paton	U	PC Kirstie Colquhoun	U

*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. 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. **Inaugural Meeting Business:** Cllr Auxi Barrera kindly took the 'chair' for this item of business.
  - a. **Confirmation of the Adoption of the CC Scheme (Constitution).** The C.Cllrs unanimously continued to adopt the CC Scheme as the Constitution for Bellyeoman Community Council.
  - b. **Confirmation of Office Bearers, ahead of the November AGM.** The existing office bearers were confirmed en bloc. It was noted that the Bellyeoman Community Council AGM would be held in November 2023 in any event when all office bearers would be elected for the forthcoming year.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** C.Cllr Gordon Harvey resumed his position as Chairman of the meeting.
  - a. **Approval.** The Minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed (v1.01). They were proposed by C.Cllr Keith Omond and seconded by C.Cllr Ruth Watson.
  - b. **Matters arising, not on the agenda.** The Chairman covered the following points:
    - i. **Items for Cllr Ellis.** In the understandable absence of Cllr Ellis due to a family bereavement, all items for Cllr Ellis would be deferred.
    - ii. **Scottish Government Democracy Matters Consultation.** The Chairman informed the meeting of a Scottish Government survey on 'Democracy Matters'. Its intention seems to be to see whether Community Councils wish to see any changes to their level of involvement and responsibility. The Chairman agreed to circulate a short paper by email to members to determine if we wished to respond, and if so, what our thoughts might be.
4. **Police Report:**
  - a. **Monthly report.** There was no report.
  - 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).



## 5. Officers' Reports:

- a. **Correspondence.** The Secretary reported that miscellaneous correspondence had been circulated to members.
- b. **Bank Balance.** The balance was £9,847.53. [*Confirmed post-meeting by the Treasurer*]

## 6. Planning:

- a. **Whitefields Development.** There had been no new applications for the site. The Chairman had written to Taylor Wimpey seeking information on a number of actions which formed part of the planning approval conditions. These related to the sealing of pipes, a wheel washing facility and the installation of acoustic barriers. Taylor Wimpey had replied with the required information in all respects except for the acoustic barriers and the Chairman issued a further letter seeking more detail. In response Taylor Wimpey had offered a meeting with its Land Director to discuss further and this had been arranged for 1 November 2023 with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary due to attend.
- b. **Northern Link Road (NLR).** The meeting was advised by Cllr Pryde that he had received an email reply from Kevin Treadwell of Fife Council to the Community Council's request for a meeting to receive the detail on the final route, environmental impact assessment, and construction timescale for the Northern Link Road. Cllr Pryde advised that Mr Treadwell had indicated that a meeting was unnecessary. Cllr Pryde agreed to forward the email from Mr Treadwell to the Secretary for the Community Council to consider whether further action was required. Although the detail of the email had yet to be seen, the meeting found the view of the officials' unsatisfactory and the Chairman advised that if this was confirmed once the full content of the email had been seen, then he would draft a complaint to be sent to the Council's Chief Executive directly.

## 7. Public Services:

- a. **Green Area Issues.** If no action on paths is possible with FC, the CC would follow up potential Woodland and path works with Ronnie Collins. The Chairman and Secretary agreed to move this item forward in advance of the next meeting.
- b. **Speed limits & Crossing points on Whitefield Road at Hospital.** Cllr Pryde has organised a meeting with Lesley Laird of FC to discuss the issues.
- c. **Core Path (Bellyeoman – Townhill).** The Secretary had contacted Stephen Duffy on this matter and copied email to Cllr Ellis, as agreed. Mr Duffy had promised to come back to the C.C. with a 'yes' or 'no' on this matter in time for this meeting. [*A response was emailed late afternoon but had not been received by the Secretary in time for the meeting, due to specific circumstances. The Chairman and Secretary would update members on relevant points.*]
- d. **Unkempt 'Factored' Areas (ongoing since September 2002).** The Chairman advised that a letter had been received from the Scottish Government Minister for Victims and Community Safety (via the offices of Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP) in response to the Community Council's concerns about the lack of any meaningful mechanism to have unkempt factored areas maintained. Regrettably the reply simply described the current legislative arrangements and failed to take account of the fact that those arrangements were clearly not working. The Minister's letter also appeared to advocate neighbours taking legal action against each other. The Community Council found this completely inappropriate advice and the meeting expressed frustration at the clear lack of any forward movement by the Scottish Government, or the local MSP. The Chairman agreed to draft a



letter directly to the First Minister expressing our need for some real progress to be delivered. Cllr Pryde advised that he had not received any further reply from the Council Audit team regarding the particular circumstances of the Queensgate development, and would renew his request for information on progress.

- e. **Alderston Playpark fence and gate.** C.Cllr Whyte had been told by Fife Council's Stephen Duffy that funding was being sought to complete the replacement of the fence. Cllr Pryde confirmed that the funding had been secured and that the work is scheduled to start next month.
- f. **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community - James Allan Centre.** A consultation event on resources around the Community Centre had to be rescheduled due to Storm Babet cancelling the event on Friday 20 October. A new date is yet to be set. It was understood that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community may have lost interest in their use of the Centre.
- g. **B912: Whitefield Road to Kingseat, flooding & bushes; Potholes at Lassodie.** The Secretary was happy to report that the potholes had been patched. Cllr Barrera was asked to continue to ask that the bushes in question be trimmed as soon as possible. Much discussion ensued on developing flood problems, and Cllr Barrera expressed her frustration that some of the flooding issues had not been addressed when the road was closed for resurfacing, however she promised to keep pressing for action.

## 8. Environment:

- a. **Rats.** The problem seems to have been located and been dealt with by pest specialist. This would appear to confirm that the problem was localised and not spreading from further afield.

## 9. AOCB

- a. **Footpath Steps to Lauriston.** Madam President reported loose steps at the southern end of the lower CoOp path at Lauriston. Cllr Barrera offered to follow this up with the Council.

- 10. **Date and Time of Next Meeting:** The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and intimated that the next meeting of the Community Council would be the Annual General Meeting of the new Community Council and was scheduled for **Wednesday 22 November 2023 at 19:00hrs in the CR Smith Boardroom.**

It was noted that there had been no potential conflicts of interest intimated, and with there being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:10hrs.