

FSW Community Council meeting via Zoom 11th May 2021 @ 7pm

In Attendance: Norman McLean, Forbes Watson, Michael Hitchon, Olena Stewart, Ian Henderson, Katherine McNab, Eric Armstrong, Alan Roseweir, Denise Somerville, Alison Logan, Gordon Kelly, Trina McNicol

Link Officer: Chris Campbell

Councillors: Derek McCabe

Public: Chic Brodie, Jason Peter

1)Apologies: Phil Martin, David Petrie, Martin Dowey, Siobhian Brown, Lee Lyons

Not heard from Libby Morrison, Sandy Crawford, Police representatives. No computer access
Dympna Gardiner

2)3) Amendments to April minutes: Ian Henderson pointed out that minutes didn't accurately reflect Derek McCabe's remarks on 'boy' racer problem ie girls eating McDonald's showing off to the boys. Secondly Chris Campbell wanted it noted that his point regarding the need to remain non-political in verbal and written comment was aimed at community council members.

4) Wallacetoun. Forbes congratulated Norman on his Wallacetoun report describing it as a 'wonderful act of penmanship' It is suggested that an application is submitted to SAC to access funds for Wallacetoun UK Community Renewal Fund. Katherine pointed out ratio of spend being 90% revenue 10% capital. Norman suggests property buy back by council from private landlords and untapped grant money from Revenue Fund for housing (new build and refurb) in priority area utilised. Alan highlighted that Renewal Fund didn't exclude purchase of buildings. Chris said that as UK Renewal Fund min project value was £500k, partnership bids are essential and as money has to be spent by March 2022, time's tight. South Ayrshire Community Renewal Fund is being managed by Colin Love and Roddy McCaskill.

5) Norman introduced Jason Peter from Scottish Violence Reduction Unit. Working alongside Karen McCluskie and John Callaghan based in Newton PS and working with range of agencies – including fire service - to address Wallacetoun's issues. Lots of work has gone on in the past however problems increase and Jason believes a 'boots on the ground' approach is the way to success. Drug activity main reason for deterioration although Jason pointed out that for the most part, selling of drugs and petty crime is to pay for personal use. Other ongoing issues include littering, fly-tipping, dog fouling etc. Jason invited Denise to take part in a multi agency workshop on 13th May 2021. Trina suggested using UK Renewal funds to set up a hub within Wallacetoun outwith the school. Also revenue funding could finance a community/agency co-ordinator post.

Chic commented that galvanising Wallacetoun's young people was the way forward.

6) Derek McCabe said his intention wasn't to trivialise the 'boy' racer problem and says he understands the need to address it with better policing. Motorhome Park at Blackburn car park has already had issues with collection of £5 overnight fee, with two conflicting sets of instructions of how to pay. Number of spaces has been reduced to 15. Derek was unaware what arrangements had been made for disposal of toilet waste.

7) Trina reported that meetings with Colin Love (and Tom Burns) regarding South harbour regeneration were producing results. Proposals had been broadly accepted and a phased approach agreed.

Forbes reported that Community Association application was still being discussed. Best approach still to be agreed although consensus that Association takes the form of a SCIO regulated by OSCR.

Alan reported on energy plan meetings with Colin Love and Tom Burns. Working closely with CARES (Liz Marquiss, Auchencruive) No funding status necessary to apply however intention is to apply through new FSWCommunity Association. Feasibility funding would provide evidence of most effective proposals including renewable technologies, solar panels, hydro dam on River Ayr in front of college, district heat pumps etc

Chic said he'd had talks a while ago re harnessing energy from River Ayr. Savings would have been in the region of £3m but proposal was rejected by SAC.

8) Phil not present to report on planning control issues

9)11) Olena circulates information and forwards correspondence on an ongoing basis.

12) Michael has applied for CC annual grant. Accounts in place to end March 2021.

14) Date of next meeting Wednesday 9th June 7pm via Zoom with the September meeting hoped to take place in Ayr Town Hall.