



FORT, SEAFIELD & WALLACETOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 12 February 2019 in Royal Burgh Suite 3, Ayr Town Buildings at 7.00pm.

Present Sandy Crawford (SC), Dympna Gardiner (DG), Michael Hitchon (MH) Treasurer, Elizabeth Martin (EM), Phil Martin (PM), Norman McLean (NM) Chair, Eileen Munro (EM), David Petrie (DP), Angi Pinkerton (AP), Olena Stewart (OS) Secretary, Forbes Watson (FW) Vice Chair.

In Attendance Cllr Siobhian Brown (SB), Chris Campbell (CC) Link Officer, PC Geraldine Cannell (PCGC), PC Jamie Cree (PCJC), Cllr Martin Dowey (MD), Cllr Lee Lyons (LL).

Public Eileen Alexander, Charles Douglas, Dennis McLellan, Andrew Russell.

1 Apologies Cllr Derek McCabe (DM), Judith Paterson (JP), Robert Singer (RS), Denise Somerville (DS), Frank Ward (FW).

Welcome The Chairman welcomed the steering group campaigning for a CAB in Ayr.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting Minutes of 9 January 2019 proposed by FW, seconded by PM after incorporating amendments that closing date for community council applications is 21 February and not 24 February. Also that Lianne Hackett left the meeting early.

3 Police Business Crime in Ayr West January 2019 and January 2018 Offences Data:

Crime Type	Jan 2019	Jan 2018
Housebreaking	7	6
Theft MV	3	6
Drugs Offences	8	10
Assaults	13	19
Breach of the Peace	13	5
Drunk/Disqualified Driving	2	0

Housebreakings increased by 1 compared with the previous year. Car crime decreased during the period. Residents are reminded to be highly vigilant regarding home security and leaving items visible in their cars and ensuring central locking systems are engaged correctly. Anyone seen acting suspiciously should be reported to the Police immediately. Drink driving detection increased due to officers continuing to carry out high visibility patrols for road traffic crimes.

Frank Braddick now leads the Community Policing Team in our area.

Ward Priorities

- 1.** Violent Crime and Antisocial Behaviour
- 2.** Road Safety
- 3.** Drug Dealing and Drug Misuse
- 4.** Housebreaking and Dishonesty

In an emergency, dial 999.

For non-urgent crime, dial 101.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ayrshirepolice

Email: AyrWestCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

A man with a white van and an overseas accent had been noted in the Seafield area offering to undertake odd jobs such as cleaning gutters.

4 Matters Arising

Community Council Elections Community Council elections take place every three years. Nomination Forms are now available and need to be filled in and lodged by 5.00pm on Thursday 21 February. The new Community Council to take effect from 1 April.

High Rise Flats Michael Alexander is the SAC Officer delegated to oversee the project. NM and DP await an invitation to attend the High Rise Flats Working Group involving tenants and SAC representatives regarding the future of the three iconic buildings. The three options are as follows:

1. Decant tenants one block at a time to allow renovation.
2. Demolition and move tenants elsewhere.
3. Demolition and build on site.

One-to-one discussions were taking place with tenants.

5 Steering Group Four members of the steering group advocating a CAB for Ayr each introduced themselves and explained why each could have benefitted from such an independent source of advice if one had been available. The CAB/CAS network is in touch nationwide to keep abreast of the latest information. It is efficient, offers best value and maintains standards whilst it also improves and develops. It offers free, independent advice and is holistic. A high percentage of volunteers together with professionals are involved and thus the system is cost effective. It supports people attending a tribunal hearing. South Ayrshire residents needing advice are disadvantaged. SAC would save on costs if it closed some centres that duplicate advice services.

Community Councillors spoke of good experiences from CABs because they offered non-judgemental independent advice. One community councillor had been humiliated by the experience of an officer at County Buildings tearing up the form taken in to apply for a care package. There were communication problems between departments located in SAC's different venues.

SB considered that SAC offered comprehensive advice.

MD had approached SAC's CEO calling for a review of advice services but it had not been allowed. There was hope that sense would prevail and that a fresh approach might result in a fresh look at advice services, particularly in view of cost effectiveness of independent advice services.

Community councillors agreed that there is a need for a CAB in Ayr. The steering group had met with various groups but Cllr Douglas Campbell had refused to meet the steering group. One member of the steering group wanted housing advice from outside SAC, and could not find housing advice in SAC accounts. FW was saddened that Ayrshire has no CAB.

6 Ayr Town Centre / Belleisle / Councillors' Business

Ayr Station Hotel Nothing to report.

Belleisle House Hotel Nothing to report.

Archaeology Tom Rees, archaeologist, to talk on Thursday 13 February, 7.30pm, Ayr Town Hall.

Riverside litter pick each month.

South Harbour Residents Association to meet with SB.

Stagecoach buses to link with Citadel? A community councillor called for accurate information at bus stops.

Ayr Town Steering Group led by Robert Robertson. Counters are located at three sites and footfall has increased.

AirBNB in Ayr means that bed nights could well be up. No plans to introduce a tourist tax.

Sand eroded from the beach is to be returned.

Hourston's Nothing to report.

In response to questions:

Former Clydesdale Bank building is due to open in May.

Former Darlington Church may have an occupier.

The red sandstone buildings at Kyle Street did not sell at auction.

The big consultation was reported in the Ayr Advertiser, but SAC analysis is awaited.

Arran Mall location for swimming pool was questioned.

7 Planning Control Nothing to report.

8 Reports Belleisle Conservatory Ltd has Craftermornings on Wednesdays when crafters are invited to bring their projects along, 1.00 – 3.00pm.

9 Public Business Dealt with at 5.

10 Correspondence The Community Council Elections letter noted earlier.

11 Financial Report £225 available for administration.

12 AOCB

Members were encouraged to attend the next Decision Day for Ayr South and Coylton Locality Planning Group on Saturday 16 February in Kyle Academy, 10:00 to 12 noon when 22 voluntary groups were pitching for up to £1,000, total on the day £15,000.

Town Hall Organ Concerts

28 Monday lunchtime organ concerts have been arranged for 2019 so far, 7 spots to be filled.

Town Hall Orchestral Concerts

There are professional concerts on Friday 1 March with the Orchestra of Scottish Opera and on Friday 22 March with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, 7.30pm. The treasurer from Ayr Arts Guild explained that the dates for the 33rd Series have been agreed and he was hoping that SAC would continue to invest in their annual Ayr Concert Series bringing International conductors and soloists to Ayr with Scottish orchestras. At £12,500 for six concerts it represents good value as two concerts are broadcast nationwide.

12 Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 13 March 2019 in Royal Burgh Suite 3, Ayr Town Buildings, 7.00pm.

PS A black cashmere Elgin scarf was missed following the December meeting. Did you inadvertently lift it?