

Fort Seafield and Wallacetown Community Council meeting
Wednesday 13th October 2021
Venue: Ayr Town Hall

In Attendance: Norman McLean, Forbes Watson, Olena Stewart, Alan Roseweir, Eric Armstrong, Sandy Crawford, David Petrie

1. Apologies from Michael Hitchon, Phil Martin, Katherine McNab, Denise Somerville, Alison Logan, Gordon Kelly, Ian Henderson, Trina McNicol, Libby Morrison, Chris Campbell, Siobhian Brown, Martin Dowey, Lee Lyons, Derek McCabe, Jason Peter, Also not present, Dympna Gardiner

2&3. Michael Hitchon emailed

Request for " . . . a charitable donation to FSWCA . . . ": FSWCC is a not grant awarding body - our local authority funding is for administration. The LA would expect a group seeking a grant to apply direct and not indirectly. Brakes sent £250 for FSWCA and what is subscription rate?

A :FSWCA are setting up a Bank account and their subscription rate is zero

" . . . three senior planners have been dismissed . . . " I am not sure this is accurate.

A: It was agreed as accurate

" . . . full archaeological assessment to take place . . . " Has the archaeology gone to levels lower than the 18th century paving of the King's Arms Hotel?

A: A condition that should be fulfilled

Was the Campervan site report published by the end of September?

A: Coming up now as briefing

Alan Roseweir said that the campervan signs behind the harbour wall had all been removed by persons unknown and SAC are not replacing them. The signage was Motor Caravan not Motor Home

4.No police report- No police presence, no attendance on Zoom. Norman McLean will write to them

5.FSWCA – Eric stated that it has been 5 months since forming, progress constant, charitable status has been gained, ER progress and funding applications made – 3 rejections. Forbes Watson is setting up a bank account. Good working relationship with SAC.

Footbridge repaired and canopy entrance to South Harbour.

SAC have put in soil and planted grasses in 21 beds – FSWCA have applied to occupy 1 bed for community- right of occupation to plant up flower bed FSWCA require to pay £200 in legal fees for public liability of £5m. Can FSWCA come under FSWCC for public liability insurance? Meeting for lighting public footpath is with SAC

The developers of flats paid Common Good Fund £5.5m SAC have done no maintenance work so far.

Gordon Kelly resigned from group – new member required.

A discussion took place about the Watchful and unsolicited access by Sheelagh Laing

Alan Roseweir introduced Energy Working Group – Renewables and had emailed the Update summary progression report Wallacetown fuel poverty energy plan CARES Association funds communities. Links to workshops

<https://www.youtube.com/c/LocalenergyscotlandOrg1/videos>

University of Strathclyde engagement – ten projects presented – ours is one being supported. Debate support that will be given. SAC signed up to net zero 75% by 2030 carbon zero by 2045. SAC have shared energy costs for building in Ayr West. Data for Council and Social Housing. First stage is Feasibility Study for Wallacetown. Roddy Yarr of Strathclyde is sharing data and draft application to help us by mid October. By end 2021 to get the feasibility study. Need formal endorsement (agree next month when CC quorum) SAC have fully endorsed to work for Community needs.

Wallacetown, Norman McLean “owners Housing Estate insulation” SAC can compulsory purchase. Norman has been working with Energy Agency Board – tenants feedback good, have done exercises in Wallacetown. Alan Roseweir has asked for a meeting with Ian Cochrane SAC. Shared ownership- community bank with money saved- money into Wallacetown Community.

Trina McNicol emailed a Report on the Seafront. Lack of information available on R&R Development’s Esplanade ‘care home’. Build appears complete but neither Care Commission nor Care Inspectorate have been contacted, no signage, unconfirmed client group.

In South Harbour, pedestrian bridge and lighting remain in extremely poor state

6.Report on Wallacetown progress emailed by Trina McNicol - two visits in two days gave an overview of two areas – Wallacetown , experiencing issues connected with multiple deprivation and Ferguslie Park in Paisley, similarly placed until a number of years ago when the community pulled together to lead the regeneration of the area. The Community Development team invited

Trina to attend an explanatory meeting of their roles and range of activities, involvement with housing issues, employability and training. Trina, Jason Peter and Jamie Tate have been invited to attend a Community Awards Event at the Tannahill Centre on the

evening of 20th October, perhaps Phil Martin would also like to attend as he has emailed to say he is considering a second project?

Jason Peter emailed a detailed presentation - a copy of the 'Wallacetown Update' document that is being distributed throughout the local area and also the following information

Recruitment now complete for the Wallacetown Coordinator Post - staff member hopefully in place soon. Additional Neighbourhood Services staff will also hopefully be in place in early November.

Extensive work underway to repair damaged walls in public areas and repair boarded windows, common close lighting etc

A number of actions have been agreed following a problem solving exercise to look at incidents of fly-tipping.

Work is ongoing to work with a local organisation to recruit 2 members of staff for advocacy type support in the area. This will follow the successful 'Navigator' approach and be a franchise type model of the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit's 'You Decide Team' providing support across all age groups.

Fun Day event being coordinated - this was the second fun day that we had to postpone due to weather warnings in August. This will take place on Saturday 16th October from 12 to 3pm at Newton Primary School. All welcome.

3 community noticeboards will be installed in Wallacetown to promote activities and community engagement activity.

7. NIL

8. Phil Martin emailed a report - Planning Application submitted re Millar Road, the old Elm's Court site – in two parts, one to demolish current building and two , to build 14 flats. Phil raised the question about Holmston House and it is thought builders have been in for 1 ½ years. Norman McLean drew our attention to an excellent letter in the Ayrshire Post about old Ayr Grammar building and museum idea . SAC applying for City Status but we have no museum (no CAB Office and no Tourist Visitor Centre) SAC have a Consultation on the Hourston's Swimming Pool proposal 21/10 at 4-7pm online , you have to ask your planning questions before attending the meeting <https://beta.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/article/35539/New-Ayr-leisure-centre-Pre-application-consultation>

A discussion took place on the Citadel pipes maintenance and drainage system

9 &10.Olena Stewart forwards reports or correspondence by email as she receives it.

11. Michael Hitchon emailed his report that £495 in account for administration

12. Carla McEwan CEO of Ayrshire Hospice will attend FSWCC December meeting to outline plans to extend.

Norman McLean will write to SAC CEO to invite to a meeting in relation to working relationship with SAC and FSWCC

Forbes Watson highlighted the Ayrshire Post's article on Police crackdown on speeding and careless driving in Ayr including Doonfoot Road that we have been complaining about for months.

13. Date of next meeting Wednesday 10th November 2021 @ 7pm