

Old Aberdeen Community Council

Tuesday 14th December 2015 at 7.30 pm

Old Aberdeen Townhouse

Minutes

1. Present: Gordon Mutch (chair), Trevor Stack (minutes), Dewi Morgan, Christine Burgess, Lorraine Grant, Michael Hutchison (ACC), Ramsay Milne (ACC), William Thom (Police Scotland), Alan Wight (UoA), Adam Guest (P&J), Teresa Harwood, Richard Harwood
Apologies: Isobel Aitken, Lekky Shepherd, Paul Foy, Jacinta Birchley, Ross Grant (ACC)
2. Minutes of previous meeting: Changes requested and made, then approved and seconded.
Matters arising: None
3. Police update (if able to attend)
 - Minor crimes except robbery with knife in Seaton Park, which not yet detected.
4. Old Aberdeen Conservation Area Character Appraisal
 - CA now approved by Council committee. OACC will check final version for errors.
5. Closure of Bank of Scotland branch
 - OACC to object to Bank of Scotland, and call on UoA and AUSA to do the same.
6. Elections process for community councils
 - Concerns were raised by Community Council Forum about recent elections being exclusively computer-based, and will review in the coming months.
7. Seaton Park update
 - Funding now secured for improvements in park to treat flooding.
8. Planning issues
 - St Peters/Kings Crescent student accommodation: RM has reported around 3000 student beds have been approved in past 2 years, and several others are pending. However, Planning has explained that the total number of student beds in city would not in itself constitute grounds for objection, but objection could be made on grounds that it would have an undesirable effect on neighbourhood, such as noise or parking or because overbearing (especially since overlooks Conservation Area) or invading privacy of others. 7 January is closing date for objections. Resident points out that fine view from King's Crescent would also be obstructed by building.
 - Comments or objections already made to other proposed developments, including 27 St Machar Drive, Froghall Terrace BT Depot, 17 and 39 University Road, and new Hillhead block.
9. UoA update
 - AW reports that no significant progress with any projects since funding is not yet committed.

10. City Councillors' update
 - RM reports that ACC is reviewing proposed harbour development, as well as AECC.
11. Treasurer's report
 - Finances are healthy.
12. Reports of other meetings
 - DM attended Community Council Forum. Froghall/Sunnybank raised objections about number of student developments in their area.
13. Forthcoming meetings
 - None.
14. Correspondence
 - Kirsty Blackman MP advises of new office hours.
15. Date and venue for next meeting
 - Tuesday 19 January 7.30 pm in Old Aberdeen
16. AOCB
 - Resident reports what appears to be inappropriate shop sign and gate (blocking parking on what may be Council-owned road) outside Granite Fight Factory on King's Crescent.
 - GM has received invitation to Royal Garden Party on 5 July.
 - Agreed not to change Community Council Constitution, and to sign off on it.