

Old Aberdeen Community Council Minutes

7.30 pm on Tuesday 19th December 2017
in Old Aberdeen Townhouse

1. Present and apologies
 - Present: Gordon Mutch (chair), Trevor Stack (minutes), Isobel Aitken, Dewi Morgan, Lekky Shepherd, Ian Leask, Ronald Leith (OAHS), Kathleen Innes, David Innes, Kate Hughes, Helen Hughes, Alan Wight (UoA), Cllr. Michael Hutchison
 - Apologies: Teresa Harwood, Lewis Macleod (AUSA), Cllrs. Dell Henrickson, Ryan Houghton, Alex McLellan and Sandra Macdonald
2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
 - Approved and seconded, with minor amendments
3. First Bus update (if available, including no. 20 bus)
 - Noted that no. 20 service is now running better.
4. UoA update
 - Planning application for new Science Centre to go in on 8th January
5. Proposed pub at 15 High Street
 - Clarified that only way to approach University Court is via University Secretary
6. Seaton Park update
 - Holding open meeting in January
7. Great Aberdeen Run - have lessons been learned?
 - Residents express concern that little has been said by Council about lessons learned, despite issues raised by residents, including felling of trees, location of generator and nature of parking restrictions. Cllr. Hutchison will ask Council officers what lessons have been learned.
8. Revised 'Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils', which will be out for consultation until February
 - DM draws attention to section 3, which indicates that Community Councils should have in place mechanisms for public participation, including performing consultations prior to lodging representations on planning applications, and insists that CCs should "reflect broad spectrum of opinion of community". Noted that electronic voting methods will be used, though postal ballots can be requested. Co-opted members now to become full members

after 12 months. In the case of falling below quorum, only vacant positions will be advertised to be filled. Formal complaints procedure has been included.

9. Residents' concerns regarding state of the pavements

- Accepted that Council has to prioritize certain routes, but residents surprised at fact that so many pavements in Old Aberdeen were left un-gritted. Cllr. Hutchison explains that, for example, Council has been trying to refill grit bins emptied by residents, and that weather conditions were unusual. Resident complained that reported to the police that Jute Street carpark had been left un-gritted, and they had reported to the Council, but days later still not gritted. Agreed that need for Council to clarify what lessons have been learned.

10. Planning issues

- 57-91 High Street: bank being converted to HMO – agreed to object a) appears only 1 small kitchen when 6 bedrooms and law stipulates that should be more than 1 cooker etc. if more than 5 persons, and that b) consideration needs to be given in application to possible noise level from 6 people living in building
- 39-41 University Road – proposed expansion of HMO from 11 to 15 residents: to object that proposed kitchen entirely inadequate for proposed number of residents (7) and living room also inadequate
- 66 Tillydrone Ave – unusual twin door replaced by boring plywood door: agreed not to object though felt there should be a financial penalty for retrospective planning applications
 - Resident observes that though a condition of planning was attending to hedges and not parking in front and back garden, appears that still not complying – Cllr. Hutchison to look into when expected to comply

11. City Councillors' updates

- Cllr. Hutchison reports that review pending of crossing on Hutcheon Street.

12. Treasurer's report

- Spent £219 on newsletter leaving £452.

13. Reports of other meetings attended & forthcoming meetings

- DM attended Community Council Forum, where discussed Grampian Regional Equality Council

14. Date and venue for next meeting

- Tuesday 16th January at 7.30 in Old Aberdeen Townhouse

15. AOCB

- None