

Old Aberdeen Community Council

Tuesday 16th February 2016 at 7.30 pm

Old Aberdeen Townhouse

Minutes

1. Present and apologies

Present: Isobel Aitken (chair), Trevor Stack (minutes), Dewi Morgan, Christine Burgess, Jacinta Birchley, George Wood, Cllr. Jim Noble, Cllr. Ross Grant, Genna Clarke (AUSA), Alan Wight (UoA), PC Jon Clayfield (Police Scotland), Lorraine Grant, Richard Harwood, Teresa Harwood, Ann Reiter, Naomi Reiter

Apologies: Paul Foy, Lekky Shepherd, Gordon Mutch, Cllr. Milne, Cllr. Hutchison, Holly Bruce (AUSA)

2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

- Minutes approved
- No matters arising

3. Police update (if able to attend)

- 20 incidents to report since January.
- Number of shed break-ins reported. Shed owners can ask for Crime Reduction team to advise.

4. Penalty notice figures (GW)

GW notes that City Warden reports on parking and litter fines indicates that a) hardly any litter fines are being issued, and b) parking fines are distributed very unequally, with over half on Orchard Street. Agreed to invite City Wardens to next meeting to explain pattern of fines issued.

5. Seaton Park update

- CB thanks Cllr. Jean Morrison for speaking on radio in favour of Seaton Park, including Friends of Seaton Park. She also thanks Old Aberdeen mosque for helping with clean-up.
- CB reports that contracts have now been awarded for work in park, and work is starting tomorrow. Drainage, path and wetlands projects are to be started before end of financial year (March).
- Next Friends of Seaton Park meeting at Dunbar Hall at 7.30 on 23 February.

6. Planning issues

- King's Crescent student accommodation: plan has been revised to remove one floor. Doubts were expressed about timing of 'improvement' and how it influenced the Planning committee's decision, as well as other issues about planning process. Cllr. Noble explains that OACC should make representations to councillors on Planning committee or to local councillor, if they feel that council officers are giving inadequate

information or advice to committee, or committee is not reflecting critically on council officers' reports.

- 17 University Road: Planning officers have accepted as 'improved' concept – therefore not requiring resubmission – a revision to the original concept in response to OACC objections, but the 'improvement' is actually a very different concept, and therefore should require resubmission. Cllrs. Noble and Grant agreed to raise the decision with the case officer in question.
- OACC agrees to thank Cllrs. Ramsay and Hutchison for speaking in favour of local residents in the latest Planning committee meeting.

7. UoA update

- AW reports that proposals for Science building and Students Association building have been put on hold. Entrance to the University is being modified, which will also require some changes to the junction on King Street.

8. AUSA reps update

- GC reports changes in AUSA management structure.
- Have held litter picks.
- Torch Parade has been put on hold by Council due to winter maintenance issues, but Cllrs. Noble and Grant will raise with Roads officers.
- HB is organising Fair Trade activities and will invite OACC to Fair Trade breakfast.

9. City Councillors' update

- Cllr. Grant reports that still investigating un/adopted status of roads discussed at last meeting. Bird repellent gel being trialled in Tillydrone. Is coordinating efforts to tackle fly-tipping in area. Safety issues aired at last meeting regarding crossing roads at Tillydrone roundabout, have led to improvements.
- Cllr. Noble reports that ACC budget will soon be confirmed, allowing parties to propose expenditure and officers to make firm plans. Foresees nothing but cuts year on year, henceforth.

10. Treasurer's report

- GM reports no movement on account, which is being audited.

12. Reports of other meetings

- DM reports on Community Council Forum: will be slight amendment to Constitution.

13. Forthcoming meetings

- Planning Democracy meeting on 17th March. Time and place to be confirmed.

14. Correspondence

- None

15. Date and venue for next meeting

- Tuesday 15th March at 7.30 pm in Old Aberdeen Townhouse.

16. AOCB

- Resident reports ongoing issues with lane by King's Crescent, where gate was installed without planning permission, former shop being used as martial arts training facility, and parking spaces have been lost. DW reports that Cllr. Hutchison has ascertained that lane belongs to ACC, and gate will be removed. Other issues will be conveyed to Cllr. Hutchison.