

Old Aberdeen Community Council

7.30 pm on Tuesday 16th January 2018
in Old Aberdeen Townhouse

Minutes

1. Present and apologies

- Present: Gordon Mutch (chair), Trevor Stack (minutes), Isobel Aitken, Dewi Morgan, George Wood, Lynne Taylor, Cllrs. Jim Noble, Alex McLellan, Michael Hutchison, Alan Wight (UoA), Lewis Macleod (AUSA)
- Apologies: Lekky Shepherd, Teresa Harwood, Cllrs. Dell Henrickson and Ryan Houghton, City Wardens

2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

- Minutes approved with minor amendments

3. UoA update

- Students have complained about low lighting around campus, including on Regent Walk, and UoA will be addressing this. DM advised to avoid unnecessarily bright lights.
- UoA also looking into access issues around campus, for example on pavements along High Walk where gaps open up between paving stones.

4. AUSA reps update (Lewis Macleod)

- Updates on forthcoming events including anti-sexual violence workshop and community garden event in Butchart Gardens.

5. Seaton Park update

- Next public meeting on Mon 22nd Jan at 7.30 in Dunbar Street Hall
- Cakefest on Sat 24th March in Dunbar Hall
- 6. Tree removal at the corner of Don Street and Cheyne Road
- Cllr. McLellan has moved motion to instruct Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure to carry out options appraisal in consultation with OACC with a view to future of site.

7. Aberdeen City Region Strategic Transport Appraisal

- OACC response to survey agreed on.

8. Revised 'Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils'

- Para 3: GM notes that hard to gauge public opinion, for example carrying out consultations, on such a limited budget.
- Para 13.2 (posting notices 7 days prior to meetings) and 15.3 (min. 3 bank signatories): not new requirement but OACC not in compliance

- Standing order for meetings seems unduly prescriptive
- Whole document is 76 pages long, which seems unrealistic
- AUSA proposes Feb or Nov dates for CC elections, to make it easier for students to run, though DM notes that they can also be co-opted and at end of term will become full members

9. Planning issues including proposed pub at 15 High Street

- Planning Democracy objected to fact that ACC refused to extend period for response to planning applications due to Christmas break
- Council refused motion to review report on Facilitating Mixed and Balanced Communities, arguing that would need to go into Local Development Plan – which will take several years, though Pre-Main Issues report will soon be discussed
- Planning Bill – comments invited by 2nd February
- OACC objection agreed to design of RBS branch conversion as well as 39-41 University Road, including miniscule kitchen size in both cases

10. City Councillors' updates

- Cllr. McLellan mentions High Street bus gate - DM asks whether Council-controlled bus gate similar to one on Bedford Road could be installed on High Street, since this seems effective and would allow to remove the traffic light, while paying for itself through fines
- Cllr. Noble reports that Council currently going through restructuring, which will involve moving staff moving around while others will take voluntary severance or early retirement – possibly as many as 2000 out of the existing 6000 staff
- Cllr. Hutchison reports that gate outside Fight Factory is still in place though supposed to be removed – will look into this
- Resident reports issue with bins on Don Street – advises communal bins as solution, since not enough room on street for individual house bins, though Cllr. MacLellan warns that Council will need to review whole of Don Street first, which might take some time

11. Treasurer's report

- No movements since December

12. Reports of other meetings attended & forthcoming meetings

- DM attended Planning Committee meeting today – already reported
- Community Council Forum on 5th February

13. Date and venue for next meeting

- Tues 20th February at 7.30 pm in Old Aberdeen Townhouse

14. AOCB

- Royal Garden Party: to invite Friends of Seaton Park who will nominate