

Old Aberdeen Community Council

Tuesday 20th February 2018 rev.2

Minutes

1. *Present*

- Gordon Mutch, Isobel Aitken, Teresa Harwood, R. Harwood, Dewi Morgan, George Wood, Alan Wight, Alex McLellan, Michael Hutchison, a resident.

Apologies

- Lewis McLeod, Cllr. Dell Henrickson, Alexandra Shepherd.

2. *Minutes of previous meeting*

- Accepted and approved. DM proposed, GM seconded.

3. *Police Update*

- No report

4. *First Bus*

- No report. GM will send e-mail requesting update from First Bus.

5. *AUSA*

- No report and no representative present.

6. *UoA Update*

- There seems to have been little activity at the site of the former public toilet at the top of High Street. Some concern that the present state of the site could be considered a safety risk.
- Ongoing maintenance work close by on the Market Lane properties and the Town House.
- Discussion took place on disabled access 'east to west' across the University Campus and on to High Street. Consensus was that if done sensitively then we would support this University Initiative.
- A resident raised a question about ownership of the unadopted lane immediately to the rear of the properties on the west side of the High Street, where the University is imposing parking controls. Mention was also made of fines being collected by the University. Alan Wight will investigate ownership.
- Lighting issues are ongoing. AW aware of this.

7. *Friends of Seaton Park*

- Hoping for further Green Flag Award this year.
- Bark laying in Walled Gardens.

- Pruning session on fruit trees planted last year – all but one going well.
- Concern re. proliferation of memorial trees in the Park. Council are addressing this.
- Plastic floats tied off to a weight at the bottom have appeared in the River Don – these were likely placed by the Kayak users. They are unsightly and certainly unwelcome.

8. *Planning*

- 49 University Road: replacement of UPVC front door to wood being proposed. OACC have no objection.
- 91 High Street: proposed former bank into HMO. OACC objected to inadequate proposals for sound attenuation. Awaiting decision.
- 39/41 University Road: requesting increase from eleven to fifteen beds. The patently inadequate and potentially hazardous kitchen provision for the 7 beds on the ground floor is (apparently) a licensing and not a planning issue. Is it possible to overlap planning and licensing issues? Discussion took place on the desirability of CCs being informed of HMO licensing applications.
- 66 Tillydrone Avenue: still awaiting decision.
- Mosque (Spital): retrospective change of use from Class 9 (Houses) to Class 10 (Non-residential institutions) to be reviewed in 3 months to check on compliance with stated planning conditions.
- Seaton Park: application to re-profile the river bank pending decision.
- 15 High Street: still pending. Archaeological standing building survey would be required prior to any changes if planning application was approved.

9. *City Councillors Update*

- MH reported no movement this year on removal of gate in Kings Crescent.
- Pedestrian crossing at Sunnybank Road still pending.
- Cllr A.McL reported on meeting with Eric Kilty on 23rd January re the Great Aberdeen Run and the planted area at the Don St / Cheyne Rd junction. GM attended this meeting. The lack of community involvement at the planning stage of this run was a serious flaw. It turned an event which should have had a positive effects on communities into one with many negatives.
- Discussion took place of communal bins in Don Street. Problems with parking spaces vs. communal bins space still a 'work in progress'.
- AW to investigate if car park area in Don Street could be re-instated.
- Street lights are not being replaced in timely manner, even when reported. Councillors advised that this was because the limited resources available were prioritising the replacement of lamps to low energy consumption LED lamps over maintenance.
- College Bounds (bus entrance): a survey is being conducted.

- MH to advise on streets not being cleaned.

10. Treasurers Report.

- No movement this month. Accounts will be presented at AGM.

11. Meetings Attended and Forthcoming Meetings

- IA attended Community Council Forum in Town House.
- DM attended Local Government and Communities Committee Event on Planning (Scot) Bill in Stonehaven. Brief discussion on Rights of Appeal. 2nd reading of the Planning Bill in late summer.
- Next CCF meeting is 5th March in the Town House.
- Licensing Policy Workshop 'Have your Say' on 8th March in the Town House.
- Aberdeen Local Development Plan review dates: 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st March, 2018. These meetings will be held in Committee Room 2 in the Town House.
- FOSP Cakefest on 24th March, 10 a.m.-12 noon in Dunbar Hall.

12. Date of next meeting

- AGM at 7p.m. on 20th March 2018 with monthly meeting to follow at 7.30p.m. in Old Town House, Old Aberdeen.

Meeting closed at 9.23p.m.