

Old Aberdeen Community Council

7.30 pm on Tuesday 19th May via Zoom

Minutes (final)

1. Present and apologies
 - Present: Dewi Morgan (chair), Trevor Stack (minutes), Gordon Mutch, David Craik, Isobel Aitken, Eric Kiltie, Lekky Shepherd, Alan Wight (UoA), Louise Henrard (AUSA), Ben Hendry (P&J), Karen Finch (ACC)
 - Apologies: Teresa Harwood, Daniel Warren
2. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
 - Bulletins issued in place of March and April meetings were approved without change.
3. Police update
 - Circulated via email
4. UoA update (Alan Wight)
 - Science Teaching Hub: work suspended on 25 March, but expected to start again in June. Contractor will need extra space for workers – propose to use south end of Zoology car park
 - Johnston redevelopment: planning permission process ongoing – bat survey may be required
 - Will update at June meeting on King’s Quarter development
 - Other projects suspended pending budget update
 - EK reports that trees were cut down around King’s College in March – AW will report back next month
5. AUSA reps update
 - Shared Planet Society has started delivery service for those in need: residents and students can request volunteers to deliver food for them, using form that was circulated to OACC by email
 - Some students remain resident in Hillhead though many have decided to go home
 - Many student tenants who have left private student accommodation have been unable to end their rental contracts. Efforts are being made nationally to limit student obligations to 28 days notice – as per normal rental accommodation.
 - Thanks were given to Louise Henrard for her input during the year – a new sabbatical team has been elected.
6. Seaton Park update
 - Friends’ activities are on hold because of social distancing
 - It appears ACC gardeners are on leave
 - LH mentions that students may join Friends for litter-picking in park, since students have been doing this themselves

7. Planning issues (DM)
 - Update circulated in advance of meeting
 - EK notes that OACC could have objected to planning application for 30 King's Crescent that was resubmitted by applicant without addressing all the objections raised to the original application, though DM responds that there was not a quorum of community councillors in support of the objection.
 - DM clarified that in the circulated planning update, the 'neutral' response to the 10 Chanonry application was not from the OAHS as stated, but was the OACC response (a typo error). Apologies to the OAHS who submitted a formal objection.

8. 'Community Vision for Old Aberdeen' (DM)
 - Tourism: DM has made progress with developing the Wayfinder map (being redrawn by University Media Services) and DM has drafted a 'Visit Old Aberdeen' website – presently under review with other parties.
 - Dog mess: DC has had little time to take forward, and he will work with map that DM had drafted to create a submission for Roads Dept approval, prior to marking warnings on pavement
 - Cycle routes and cycling on pavements: DM has been in touch with cycling groups and ACC about cycle path design, including that across Diamond Bridge

9. City Councillors' update
 - Update on missing College Bounds bus gate camera (AMcL): no update received
 - Repair of Town House clock (mis-striking and light out) (AMcL): no update received
 - Update on status of ACC strategy for streets, including those laid with granite setts – report due in March (RG): no update received

There were no Councillors present and no update had been received.
KF advised that Councillors have been banned from accessing Zoom using Council laptops and phones, but Webex, Skype, Teams are acceptable.

11. Treasurer's report
 - No recent update from ER

12. Date for next meeting: Tuesday 16th June at 7.30 pm via Webex to ensure Councillors may attend

13. Any representations from members of the public and AOB
 - In response to question by LH, DM clarifies that AGM due in March was cancelled but business conducted via email. Karen Finch confirms this is acceptable.
 - DM observed that if students would like to participate in meetings, they would be very welcome, and potentially become community councillors after attending some meetings, assuming they are on the electoral register and live within Old Aberdeen, but they are still welcome to take part informally if not on register.