**Ferryhill and Ruthrieston Community Council**

**Minutes of meeting of Wednesday 14th February 2023**

**Present:** Community Council members Michael Winn (chair), Catherine Campbell, William Rae, Ishbel Shand, Gregor McAbery.

Karen Finch, CCLO

Cllr Christian Allard, Cllr Iain Yuill, Cllr Simon Watson

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed attendees to the first meeting of 2024.
3. Apologies were received from Kevin McIvor and Leanne Ferries.
4. **Councillors’ reports**

Cllr Simon Watson

* Casework – streetlights, noise etc.
* Attended Fairer Aberdeen Fund event – ACVO could be a useful resource for forming links with other organisations. Noted also they have a rep for community asset transfers.
* Budget upcoming – important to lobby for what is important to individual areas. Individuals to get in touch with councillors and let them know what is important.

Cllr Iain Yuill

* Ruthrieston – potholes and road issues. Trees have fallen in poor weather.
* Substantial individual housing issues.

Councillor Christian Allard

* Community Land Scotland 29th February event. Relating to community ownership.
* Budget upcoming – blueprint is before officers from the communication process.
* Compliants about anti-social behaviour in cars, particularly at ASDA. Racing up and down the road and circuits at very high speed. Police operations ongoing.
* Relating to Harlaw Academy Inspection in 2020 and return inspection in 2023 to Parents are happy with improved standards, but the school is struggling to evidence change
* Spectra very well attended. Great to see the city full of people. Members highlighted the multi-agency working with Weetoo, SugarBeet, other agencies and businesses.

Cllr Michael Kusznir

* Also highlighted anti-social driving around ASDA
* Follow ups with empty homes in Ferryhill. Engagement with owners, but very difficult to meet the
* Short term lettings. Council determine based on each application whether planning permission is needed.
* Budget – residents encouraged to update councils about issues that are important to them.

**Action**

1. Catherine post on facebook encouraging members of the public to get in touch.
2. Karen ensure community council gets a copy of the budget.
3. **Police Report**

* No police present, report was previously circulated.
* Councillors have not received the police report.
* Noted that the Winter Gardens was broken into. Can the council look at improving the security there? Can parks look at this for addition to the CCTV system.
* Whinhill Police Station has closed, or is closing. Building is rated as excellent, with £16K per year to run. Removing police from community means that there is no presence in the community, and allows people to drop in and report without the perception of being seen (unlike at Marischal College). Can police station meeting spaces be shared with other agencies?

**Action**

1. Kevin to forward on police reports to councillors in future.
2. Mike to send this month’s police report.
3. Gregor to draft a letter regarding the closure for approval of community council.
4. **Approval of minutes from previous meeting**

No minutes were available from the previous meeting 11th October. Minutes to be circulated ahead of March meeting.

1. **Ferryhill School Road Safety Concerns**

* Speed survey
* Community Walkabout – Parent Council to be told and parents to be told.
* Sponsor a banner to park safely. Kids design. Good photoshoot for local media etc.
* Campaign at Airyhall with police and kids watching speeds.

**Action**

1. Karen to check community walkabout.
2. Gregor & Cllr Allard to ask police to check recent speed surveys / whether a speed survey can be done.
3. **AGM Dates (William)**

* Needs to be a separate meeting. Can be on the same day.
* March 13th  7.15 – 7.30 at Ruthrieston Community Centre.

**Action**

1. Michael to write a chairman’s report and circulate in advance.
2. Kevin to confirm if Prema wishes to continue.
3. Catherine to have accounts independently verified prior to AGM.
4. Kevin to notify with agenda 7 days before the meeting.
5. Karen to check absentee members.
6. **Planning, licensing and public transport update (William)**

No updates for planning

Local licensing forum AGM is 27th February. William represents local community councils.

1. **Financial Report** 
   * Transactions in November and December for the Community Christmas Party held at Inn at the Park. Total cost was £336.00 we have received funds from the community festive fund on 9th February, of £206.50 in relation to this spend.
   * Balance was reported as £1172.00
   * Ruthrieston Community Centre have confirmed they will not charge for room hire.
   * Draft annual accounts to 31st December 2023 were circulated for review.

**Action**

All members to consider possible events.

1. **AOCB**

* Issues with anti-social behaviour and drugs in Ruthrieston are ongoing. Tiny amount of people having a disproportionate impact. Can the council remove people from social housing.
* Change to community council insurances, these are to be paid by individual CCs, however all other details remain the same.
* Social media to showcase what has been done. Possible newsletter.
* Ferryhill School Parent Council back up and running – 20 members appointed at meeting 25th January 2024. Next meeting planned for March 2024
* Aberdeen Libraries Trust has noted interest in the community asset portal for Ferryhill Library building.
* Possible cuts in budget to secondary school meals provision, children to be given vouchers instead. Danger to children of going out to buy lunch, and health impacts. Also cuts to cleaning school buildings is problematic.

**Action**

1. Catherine advertise meetings as events on Facebook.
2. Kevin – check insurances. Renewal date is 1st April.

Next meeting 13th March 2024, 7:15pm at Ruthrieston Community Centre.

* **Michael Winn, Chair**