

Froghall, Powis & Sunnybank Community Council (FPSCC)
FINAL Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday, 7th February 2024

Present: Community Councillors Albert Craig (AC), Linda Presslie (LP), Ann Pirie (AP), Alex Mess (AM) and Stephen Clarke (SC)
PC Jamie Young, City Wardens Jamie Mackie and Stuart Hardy
ACC Councillor Kairin van Sweeden
Karen Finch, ACC
Rachel Smith, Associate Member
Fiona Lindsey, Powis & Bedford Community and Powis Community Centre

Apologies: John Singer (JS), Daniel Warren (DW), ACC Councillors Sandra Macdonald, Del Henrickson and Desmond Bouse

1. **Welcome** – AC opened the meeting. There were no conflicts of interest declared.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting 6th December 2023**– No amendments. AC proposed the minutes and AP seconded them.
Draft Notes of meeting 1st November 2023 - To be agreed at March meeting. **Action – Carry forward to next meeting (March 2024) to be proposed and seconded.**
3. **Matters arising** – AC has not yet carried out his action regarding the Secretary's account. He will carry out the action and will oversee the forwarding of the emails within the Secretary's account as he has updated RS that she will no longer be doing this.
As per AC's action from the December meeting, he has still received no contact from FB. A vote took place and it was voted that FB is no longer an Associate Member.
Advertising material - £300 ring-fenced. **Action – Carry forward to discuss at March meeting.**
Planning Matters – Leaded pipes – LP said 40 years ago all over Scotland the lead pipes from houses to streets were replaced by plastic pipes. It may be the lead pipes in the houses that need to be removed, especially for short-term rents. There was a debate in Scottish Government about it.
4. **Police Report**– The Police Report was circulated prior to the meeting. Ongoing options for the police hubs to be formed. AC asked if there was a way to identify the areas where the police incidents are occurring, ie compared to other areas. A Police Sergeant is due to leave and they are currently unsure of who the replacement will be. AC has the contact email address for anyone who wishes to contact the police.
LP raised the major problems that are a regular occurrence at St Machar Academy with some pupils bullying other pupils and teaching staff, via face-to-face as well as cyber bullying online as well as physically assaulting them. On several occasions the SBO is not present in the school and the school staff often do not know until they go looking for her when they need urgent police assistance. PC Young advised that there are a shortage of police vehicles to take the SBO's from the Northfield Police Station (where they are based) to St Machar and Northfield Academies. He also advised that when the police station are short staffed that they have to remain at the police station. They are aware of the increasing incidents occurring in the schools and they do try and assist when they can but staff shortages do not help and neither does unsupportive parents if they have to escort the bullies home to their parents. AM suggested that an Action Group be formed of combined parties to work together and try and solve these problems. **Action – Councillor van Sweeden to arrange a meeting with the Head Teacher of St Machar Academy and the police to find out how best to move forward regarding the enforcing a ban of mobile phones in school and**

establishing how to help the school and police deal with the bullying and violence that is escalating within the school. It would also mean enforcing a change in the legislation within Education Department and Scottish Government to give Scottish teaching staff and SBO's more support and more power when dealing with unruly children. MSP's look into changing legislations; they could also be invited to attend the meeting.

5. **City Wardens Report** – Regularly dealing with Bedford Road dog fouling, dangerous parking of cars on the yellow zig zag lines outside Sunnybank School, abandoned vehicles being lifted, cars parking on pavements. The car at the bottom of Erskine Street is not an abandoned vehicle as the owner has re-taxed it. Abandoned cars get a 7 day notice. AM stated that the Highway Code advises for cars not to be parked across a driveway. The police say that it is not a problem if the driveway is clear and the City Wardens won't deal with it if there are no other restrictions on the road (ie yellow lines etc). Legislation does not allow for homeowners to use their driveways because of cars blocking their driveways. **Action – Councillor Kevin Stewart MSP would be the person to contact regarding the legislation and that if legislations are required to be changed we need to gather as much back-up information as possible to help fight our case.**

The City Wardens have not yet heard from Sunnybank School about helping them with a project on stopping parents parking on the yellow zig zag lines. **Action – The Minute Taker to send a reminder email to the Sunnybank School office.**

6. **Councillors Update** – Full Council meeting took place today. Work is beginning on the Aberdeen Market site now. The Aberdeen Union Street Masterplan was approved previously. The Polling Stations are changing after the next elections. Returning back to Powis Community Centre from St Peters Nursery. Consultation emailed to Community Councils today.

RS mentioned the schools ranking results which were released in yesterday's P&J and that the primary schools in the St Machar Academy catchment area were seemingly ranking tied-bottom – Kittybrewster, Sunnybank and Woodside Primaries. LP requested information analysis on a breakdown of ethnicity, language barriers, cultural differences, migrants and poverty within these catchment areas which would affect rating scores, compared to schools in other areas of the City. **Action – Councillor van Sweeden will ask Education Department to forward on this information to FPSCC . This information will need to be forwarded on to every FPSCC Community Councillor by AC.**

AC mentioned again that the Bedford Road Bridge traffic lights area is continually flooded when there is heavy rainfall, and regardless of when it is heavy rain, there should not be a flooded puddle like there is. Soakaways do not allow the rainwater to go into the drains for at least 2 days. AC also mentioned that there was a lack of white and yellow paint markings on all of the roads. **Action – AC to forward on photographs to KvS and KF and they will forward on to appropriate contact person in the Roads Department with a request that the road needs new drainage.**

Action – AC to continue forwarding on the photographs and his queries about this matter to the 4 ward Councillors.

7. **Secretary's Report**– No report was given by AC who is currently undertaking the Secretary role with regard to looking after the email forwarding.
8. **Treasurer's Report**- AP circulated the Accounts for Year End December 2023. **AGM is to get a Chairs Report and the Accounts can be presented at the AGM and then approved.**
9. **Planning Matters** – Nothing for this area that we have to deal with. KF circulated information on short term lets. **Action – LP will print them off for AM.**

No further information on the future of Froghall Cottages being earmarked for accommodation for Vulnerable Children. AM mentioned that the old BT site at Froghall would be ideal for a supermarket site as there are a lot of houses and flats in that area.

- 10. Community Council Forum Update** – They are trying to communicate with the public about joining their own Community Councils. Bob felt that a newsletter is a good way to get people's attention; maybe an online3 page similar to the Powis & Bedford page.
Four government areas Elections in October – By-elections on 21st February 2024. Looking for an Election Group to be put together. AM asked if a table could be used in the Bon Accord Centre to attract interest.
- 11. AOCB**–AC has booked on to attend a Communities Buy-out seminar at the end of February. Combo Oilfield in Shetland - Two former pupils of St Machar Academy were instrumental in the company they work for obtaining a contract to build a linking pipe from offshore to the mainland.
Insurance – The procedure has now changed for renewal of insurance. We will get a grant and then we get our own insurance via Zurich and it will be deductible from the grant. It should still be around £86 unless the policy is changed by ourselves. KF can still help with unofficial questions
- 12. Date of next Community Council meeting**–Wednesday,6th March 2024 at Froghall Community Centre. The AGM will be at 7pm for 15 minutes and then the monthly meeting will continue.