

Blackness Area Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 17 January 2018 - Blackness Boat Club

Attendees					
Council members: Helen Brown (HB), Sharman Faulds (SF), Dorothy Garrow (DG), Dave Lawson (DL), Nick Paul (NP) (Chair), Helena Paul (HP) (Minutes), Martin Watt (MW) Members of the public: 2 Community Police: PC Greg Cruickshanks and PC Graeme McDougall					
Apologies					
Merv Archibald, Anne Jamieson					
NP opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed everyone to the first BACC meeting of 2018.					
1.	Approval of Previous Minutes - Wednesday 20 December 2017				Action
	Proposed	SF	Seconded	DG	
2.	Community Police Report				
	<p>PC Greg Cruickshank's and PC Graeme McDougall reported no crimes, and one telephone report received this month. Reported that the new gate preventing vehicle access to the castle out with castle opening hours has had a noticeable effect on reducing the numbers of parked cars in the evenings. It may also be that the numbers of cars travelling through the area at night to get to the castle has reduced as well.</p> <p>Noted that an unforeseen consequence of the gate is that the road along to the castle is no longer being gritted as gritting usually takes place at night. A notice was intended to be placed on the end of the sea wall to warn approaching motorists of the gate. Follow up with Historic Environment Scotland (HES).</p>				NW
3.	Actions and matters arising from Previous Minutes				
	<p>A play park charity box was put in the shop and another is to be put into Mannerstons. £14 cash collected so far.</p> <p>Website domain being discontinued. Request made to ensure a copy of the most recent website information is held on disk or similar.</p> <p>Future communications would be managed via e-mail blacknessc@googlemail.com and the community Facebook page 'Blackness Community'.</p> <p>HB is admin on the Facebook page and is monitoring emails being received in the e-mail account. All BACC communications will be managed via the e-mail account, HB has done some maintenance on the existing circulation list of e-mail addresses.</p>				<p>SF/HB</p> <p>MW</p> <p>Note</p>

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4.	Future Events/Fundraising	Action
4.1	Carol Service	
	Thanks also to Mrs and Mrs Lawson for their kind hospitality after the Carol Service. Agreed that the proceeds from the collection of £47.43 would be split equally between the Community Council and the Parents' Council. Agreed that the BACC share would be donated to the Play Park Fund.	DL
4.2	Coalfields Regeneration Trust funding event	
	Details of a Community consultation event for a revised Community Action Plan for Bo'ness and Blackness. This is an update to the previous plan which ran until 2018 funded by the Coalfields Regeneration Trust. Former Councillor Adrian Mahoney has been circulating details of two events: Saturdays 3 rd February and 3 rd March in Bo'ness Town Hall from 0930 – 1300. Free lunch and entry to a prize draw for all attendees. HK and NW will attend on 3 rd February.	HK/NW
4.3	Your Place, Your Views	
	Falkirk Council initiative to seek views on what residents wish to see in their area. Event on 31 st January in Grangemouth Town Hall.	Note
4.4	Community Council Capacity	
	It was noted that the current BACC has limited capacity, and attendance at events and involvement in projects needs to be carefully targeted.	Note/All
5.	Community Projects	
5.1	Community Bus	
	Residents should be encouraged to use the Community bus wherever possible. The bus can also be hired for one off events for around £30.	Note
5.2	Playpark Extension	
	HB is in process of applying to Falkirk Environment Trust for £30k to fund the proposed playpark improvements to include purchase and installation of a slide, cableway (flying fox) and trampoline.	HB
	MW offered to create a "masterplan" drawing of the whole site showing the proposal.	MW
	DL would contact Martyn Day MP who had previously made encouraging noises about funding sources.	DL
	It was noted that this information should be published to the wider community, via a newsletter and notices in the noticeboards.MW later agreed that a draft newsletter would be circulated to include various items as well as the playpark proposals.	HB
	Noted that the football posts have reached the end of their useful life, and that the pitch would benefit from a regrading to level the surface. Suggested that this might be able to be done alongside the playpark improvements.	HB

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	<p>HB to investigate with Falkirk Council</p> <p>Noted that the wild orchids at the Back Shore have failed to appear again. This is entirely due to the meadow area not being cut and cleared at the correct time of year. It is again too late for this year, as the work needed to be done between October and December. Suggested that this could be a job for a work party in the Autumn to arrange to cut the area and clear the cuttings off. Agreed to revisit this in September.</p> <p>Damage to grass surface at Back Shore and gate by inappropriate vehicles driving over during recent filming around the Castle by Loudon Productions. HB has already drawn the matter to the attention of HES, however no action to remediate and/or compensate the Community has been done. HB to contact HES again.</p>	<p>Action ALL</p> <p>HB</p>
6.	Budget	
	David Lawson tabled the current budget figures and reported that the current balance is £8,550.11 - See attached summary.	Note
7.	Councillors' Update	
	No report or representation. HP to send details of our three local Councillors to HB to ensure they are all on our circulation list. Agreed it would be helpful if the Councillors could attend meetings from time to time.	HP
8.	Planning Update	
	No Planning Applications this month. Some discussion on how we would manage review and responses to planning applications as and when required. Agreed that as the BACC is a Statutory Consultee then we do have to ensure that we can find the time and capacity to manage this. While most planning matters are minor and do not require comment, there may arise substantial matters of interest to the Community that would require a wider consultation process. It was noted that it would be helpful for more residents to become involved in the work of the BACC.	Note/All
9.	Flight Path and related matters	
	9.1 Meeting at Holyrood	
	<p>On 30 November 2017 Helena Paul, Dorothy Garrow and others met with Alison Harris MSP. A follow up letter has been sent detailing the main issues for the Community - i.e. the changes made to the airspace over Blackness, the poor quality of the airport's recent consultation, and that the airport's application to the CAA for new flight paths differs "substantially" from the proposals contained in the consultation.</p> <p>Among the key asks was for a new consultation on the actual proposals, and a noise monitor for the area.</p> <p>It was noted that while the CAA has currently halted their review of the</p>	Note

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	<p>airport's application, this is temporary, and the review will resume at some point.</p> <p>Noted that some residents had received a letter from Fiona Hyslop MSP advising that the airport's application had been stopped by the CAA - this is not fully correct.</p> <p>Further noted that the airport's application for Route E which travels westwards along the Forth and will affect Blackness is now for 111 planes per day by 2024 and not the 41 that they proposed in the consultation.</p> <p>There had been two debates in Westminster this week on the subject of aircraft noise at Luton and at Gatwick. Christine Graham MP had spoken in the Gatwick debate.</p> <p>Glasgow airport has commenced their consultation into flight path changes this week.</p> <p>Agreed that the issue needs to receive wider publicity again as people (not unreasonably) believe the matter has gone away. Increased noise in the area was noted during the recent days of easterly winds when Runway 06 over Cramond was used for departures.</p>	Note
	<p>9.2 Edinburgh Airport Noise Advisory Board</p>	
	<p>This Board is currently meeting monthly. HP and MA attended the meeting in January. Progress is rather slow at the moment, although agreement has been reached on Terms of Reference, Code of Conduct and Name of the Board. The Board is now working on a programme of work to be funded by the airport, with the Board having full control over budget and any sub-contractors.</p>	Note
	<p>9.3 Community Councils Group Meeting</p>	
	<p>A meeting will be held on 24 January 2018 at 6pm for Community Councillors at Holyrood. This is a follow up to a meeting held during the consultation last May and will be chaired by Mark Ruskell MSP. HP, MA, DG and MW to attend. MA has offered to car share.</p>	HP/MA DG/MW
	<p>10. Any other Business</p>	
	<p>10.1 Allocation of Tasks</p>	
	<p>Agreed that the serious current BACC resource issues require the CC to adopt a "slimline" approach to tackling projects and other work until more residents join the Community Council. Agreed that Chair and Minute Taker roles would rotate among members. Agenda can be reviewed with updates for some items being made, say quarterly, rather than monthly.</p> <p>HB would continue to monitor the Blackness Community Council e-mail account and would send out the invites to meetings with the agenda and minutes.</p> <p>DL would book the Boat Club for meetings until June and arrange payment of</p>	Note HB DL

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	<p>same.</p> <p>All members to consider whether there are any BACC obligations not being managed.</p>	All
10.2	Fulfilment of Falkirk Council terms/Code of Conduct/office bearers etc.	
	<p>Brian Pirie at Falkirk Council would be advised that the office bearer roles are as follows: Chair MW, Vice Chair NP, Secretary HB, Treasurer DL.</p> <p>Noted that HB is also the secretary of the Parent Council until the summer and would prefer to undertake the role of “secretary lite” until then. Advise Brian Pirie at FC of the new roles</p> <p>Print and circulate for signature a copy of the FC Code of Conduct for Community councillors per Brian Pirie’s email of 22nd December. HP to print and circulate, HB to send to Brian.</p>	HB
10.3	Preparation and distribution of a Newsletter	
	<p>Agreed that a newsletter is required. Items: New Community Councillors, dates of CC meetings and venue, ask for email addresses to add to our circulation list, play park update, flight paths update. HP to circulate a draft for others to add to, distribution to be managed as a team effort by TD, DG, DL, HB</p>	Note/All
11.	Date of next meeting	
	Wednesday 21 February 2018 at 7.00pm - Blackness Boat Club.	All

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Budget: - For Meeting Wednesday 17 January 2018

Balance from December meeting	£8,550.11
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	BACC	Play Park
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BACC Monies Raised (For information purposes)	Amount
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 23 March 2013	£378.00
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 22 March 2014	£432.00
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 28 March 2015	£377.55
Raised at Ceilidh Saturday 18 March 2017 (sundry expenses/hall hire deducte	£201.49
Total	£1,389.04

BACC Monies In	Amount
Carol Service Monies	£95.40
Total	£95.40

BACC Monies Out	Amount
Catering for carol service	£35.97
Total	£35.97

BACC Monies Pending	Amount
Hire of Hall for Carol Service	£12.00
Total	£12.00

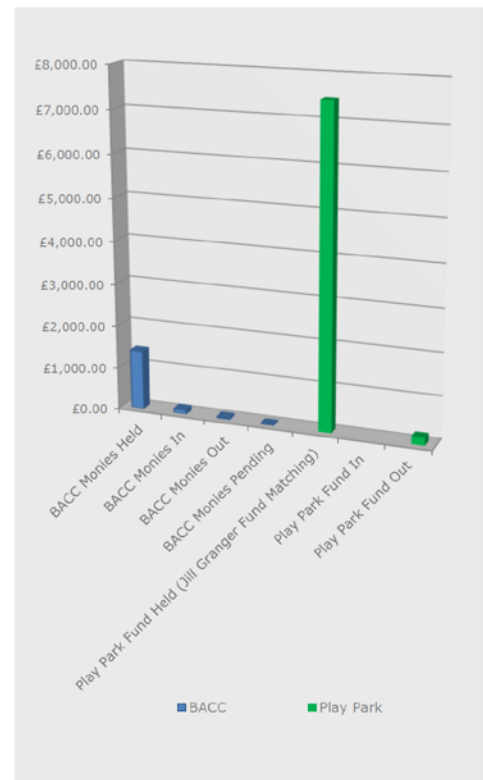
Play Park Fund Held (Jill Granger Fund Matching)	Amount
Raised at Christmas Fair 2011	£645.38
Raised at Christmas Fair 2012	£672.36
Raised at Christmas Fair 23 Nov 2013	£780.05
Raised at Christmas Fair 22 Nov 2014	£766.48
Raised at Christmas Fair 21 Nov 2015 (Hall rental to deduct = £774.03 - 28.55	£745.48
Raised from New Year Party 2015	£140.00
Raised at Christmas Fair Nov 2016 (first amount banked)	£78.00
Raised at Christmas Fair Nov 2016 (second/last amount banked)	£489.37
04 July 2017 - Donation from Bo'ness Bridge Club	£150.00
22 Aug 2017 - Falkirk Council Funding Award	£3,000.00
Total	£7,467.12

Play Park Fund In	Amount
None	
Total	

Play Park Fund Out	Amount
Jill Granger has agreed that cost of planters can come off monies held as this was deemed a good local cause (deducted January 2013)	£183.66
Total	£183.66

Total Balances (Split)	BACC	Play Park
	£1,326.08	£7,283.46

Account Balance as Tuesday 16 January 2018 £8,609.54



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