

Waterside Community Council.

Minutes of Meeting Held On Tuesday 18th July 2017.

Present: B.Lapping (Chairman), J.Herriot (Treasurer), J.Whyte. (Secretary),

C.Lilly (Web Coordin.), E.Carlin (Int.Tenant),

Cllrs. S.Murray, S.MacDonald,

Events Committee:

L.Campbell, E.Wilson, E.Whiteford,

Also In Attendance:

C.Willson, T.Willson, M.Zimmerman,

J.Carmichael.

Appologies: D.Carmichael, G.Chesney, K.Chesney-Bathie.

1. Meeting commenced at 7.35pm. Chairman welcomed those present and extended a warm welcome to Cllr. S. Murray (Lib. Dem.) on her first attendance as Councillor.
2. Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved, items from these minutes are as follows.
3. A meeting with Coalfields Regeneration Trust has still to take place on Thursday. J.C. gave a very informative insight to the situation. M.P. Stuart McDonald met with the Group and is willing to write to the appropriate people and will do a draft letter in the interim period for approval before forwarding this. If this is unsuccessful maybe we should move on elsewhere if all else fails. David Wright is meeting the Subcommittee to discuss the situation on Thurs 20th July. It was suggested that a meeting with other Hall users to discuss a common strategy would be beneficial.
4. Railings along Bankhead Road and Feature are to be done by Community Justice soon.
5. Weedkiller asked for at Feature. Cllr. MacDonald has agreed to arrange this.
6. Bankhead Road overgrown shrubbery causing difficulty for drivers is due to be done in the next few weeks. A side arm flail will be used so as to cause as little inconvenience to traffic as possible. Japanese Knotweed is a huge problem in this area.
7. Two new benches are on order, one to be situated at disused Garage on Bankhead Road and the other one at the wall at the feature.
8. Picnic Table and bench from St. Agatha's has been agreed to be moved by the Council and the agreed site is at the Playpark.
9. It was pointed out that all ideas for Village improvements should be agreed by everyone before decisions are made.
10. We believe the re-instated Stepping stones was done by a gentleman with the Village interests in mind. It is a wonderful improvement and much appreciated by all. A huge thank you, well done.
11. Path at Moss Road roundabout in need of being weeded and new gravel added. The metal sheets left by the Gas people have been removed but there are still concrete blocks left. The Council grass cutters are finding it very difficult to do the work because of the obstruction. Cllr. MacDonald made aware of the situation.

12. It was announced that Lisa Giffen has resigned from the Events Committee owing to work commitments. However, a warm welcome was extended to Emma Whiteford who will now be on the team.
13. It was agreed that all correspondence sent by the Community Council should be read at the monthly meetings so as to inform everyone present what is happening as regards the Community Council's intentions.
14. Cllr. Murray passed her comments referring to Coalfields Regeneration.
15. The Polling Station from now on will be at Oxbang Primary School. The Council have no say in the matter. It is making it very difficult for the people of Waterside to cast their votes surely there should be ways of transporting the less able to have their say in these important matters.
16. A few members of the Community Council have been attending the Quiz nights at the Miners Welfare.
17. The Events Committee informed us of their proposals for the upcoming events. A Community Gathering-Barbecue day is on 26th.August at the site of the bonfire. Many attractions included. A roll up 5 aside football pitch suggested by Cllr. MacDonald. A Halloween Party, Bonfire Night, Nativity Play including carol singing and many more activities.
18. Christmas Tree on roundabout at Taig Road/Moss Road was discussed at length. It has been suggested that Woodland Trust could be approached about having a permanent tree put in other than having to replace a tree every year. As lighting is still a problem it was suggested by Cllr. Murray that decorations could be put on which would reflect the street lights could be an option as there would probably be insufficient sunlight at that time of year for solar lights.
19. A sample photograph of the proposed new Waterside Village Road sign was shown to everyone present and the decision was made. Scott Wilson is making this for us for which we extend our thanks. It was also suggested that Arts Council funding could be a possibility for placing a planter under the sign, as well as for any theatrical events over Christmas.
20. The Bankhead Road incident is now on the final stages after eighteen months, information still to come as how to deal with the speed of traffic which is still an ongoing problem.
21. Sandra Sutton, who visited the June meeting, proposed many things one of them a Youth Group could be set in place. Lynne is involved in this and is endeavouring to establish a group. Training will be given to her to enable her with this project.
22. Overgrown hedges etc. from the Burnside path and down the pavement to Bridgend was reported to Cllr. MacDonald. This has been a problem for some considerable time resulting in people having to walk on the grass, which is very often muddy and slippery making it very difficult, and also people with prams would find it a task. Cllr. MacDonald assured us this would be attended to soon.
23. The old building once used as a Stables for Gartshore Estate Horses is in a dangerous condition; children are playing in it and there is thought to be rats and foxes residing in it. Cllr. MacDonald suggested this would be looked at and took note we have not had an Estates Walkabout since 2015. Hopefully this can be arranged soon.
24. It was reported rubbish is being burnt at a residence in Cairnview, an 18ft. pit has been dug to accommodate this. Whilst the fire is raging at the back children are playing in the area, the people responsible for the fires are drinking and partying at the front of the property, this will have to stop. Cllr. MacDonald is dealing with the matter.

25. The Village Events Committee has been officially welcomed as a WCC Subcommittee and it was agreed that they are doing very good job.
26. Bill Lapping no longer has computer access to emails, so communication with him currently needs to be by telephone.