

Minutes of Meeting of Elie and Royal Burgh of Earlsferry Community Council held on 6th January at Earlsferry Town Hall

Present: Angela Anderson, Carol Birrell, Grizelda Cowan, Kirsty Barclay, Cath McIntosh, Christian Aitken, Richard Smith and Cllr Alycia Hayes.

Apologies: Alison Christian

New declarations of interest: None.

December Minutes: Proposed by Kirsty and seconded by Cath.

Councillors' Updates:

Cllr Alycia Hayes

Some Fife businesses have expressed concern about the unprecedented rise in new business rates, some of which have doubled.

There is to be a on meeting Thursday 8th at which Fife Council will make a decision on whether there **will be any Short term Let Control Areas (STLCA)** in parts of Fife. Alycia is to advocate that this should be decided street by street or at least area by area rather than apply rules to the whole of Fife.

It was noted with disappointment that, once again, there has been no communication from either of the other two local FC Councillors – Fiona Corps or Sean Dillon.

Questions for the Public

Concern has been expressed over the state of the stonework at the Lady's Tower. Cllr Alycia Hayes agreed to raise this with the relevant department at FC.

New Website for E&ECC

Grizelda updated the meeting on plans for a new website which is being created in conjunction with Digital Fife. This is to be a free service and will be managed by the CC. it is hoped that it will 'go live' within the next couple of weeks.

Update re Elmwood College

An evidence-based inquiry is being undertaken by the education committee on Wednesday 14th January because of concerns over SRUC finances, Elmwood and reducing Further Education in favour of Higher Education. The Save Elmwood Group has provided written evidence and asked to appear as a witness. A new website for the Save Elmwood Group is being created and soon all information on its progress will be available on line. Meanwhile, Facebook users can find updates here - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1099160721507723>

Toll Green

We are still waiting for a decision from the medical charity who owns the Green before we can move forward with plans for the flagpole.

NnG Windfarm Funding

Carol, Grizelda and Alison are working on plans for advertising the opportunity to apply for funding for local projects. They expect the cash to be in the CC account by the end of the month, after which an application form will be made public - watch this space.

Domestic Rubbish in short term lets

Angela has written to the STL department of FC asking that all STL property owners be reminded of their obligation to ensure that they have in place a system for disposing of their tenants' domestic waste. Sadly, the STL department has refused to communicate this to the property owners. FC has also refused a request to provide a large bin for this purpose, so the problem continues without any solution being reached. It is appreciated that, although most short term let owners and their agents do comply with the regulations, there are still a few who do not. In an attempt to put an end to overflowing bins and the resulting rats Cath has agreed to put signs on street bins requesting 'No

domestic rubbish' but it is understood that this will not fully address the problem – which the Council accepts in their own words: '*Unfortunately, issues with the disposal of domestic waste is a Fife wide issue and not solely contained to Elie and Earlsferry.*' The meeting feels that this is the very reason it should be addressed with some urgency before the holiday periods are upon us.

Planning Matters

Laburnum Bank Links Place Elie Ref. 25/02681/FULL

Erection of boundary gates and formation of new vehicular access and hardstanding - application has been refused.

Infrastructure Repairs

Cath is to forward the results from the petition requesting action on several urgently needed repairs, to Fife Council Communities Manager. We await their response with optimism.

There is a general feeling among many local community councils that FC just does not listen to our requests and to that end we agreed to sign a nationwide petition to be sent to the Scottish Government requesting more powers should be given to Scottish community councils. We await that response with less optimism.

Elie Kirk Update

For update on all activities please see:

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Elie-Kirk-Community-Enterprise-61570226601836/>

Contact: eliekirkCE@outlook.com

Seabox Society

It was confirmed that Graham Johnston should join Cllr Alycia Hayes as the second trustee

Next meeting Tuesday 3rd February 7.30, Earlsferry Town Hall.