

Kinghorn Community Council.

Minutes of the meeting Thursday 19th March 2009 at Kinghorn Community Centre

1. **Present:** - Community Councillors John McLeod (Chair), Rena Wallace, Fraser Ballantyne, Alex Cook, Collett Salvona, Neil Chalmers Alex Gibb, Sadie Wilson, Martin Melvin, Cllr Susan Leslie,

Members of the Public – 10 people present.

2. **Apologies** Marilyn Edwards, John Lancaster, Cllr Ron Edwards, Cllr George Kay, Sgt Edith Potter,
3. **Police Update**
Sgt Potter was not available to give a police update.

4. **Guest Speaker – Keith Jackson, Parks & Events Officer**

Keith addressed the meeting on the subject of the Beautiful Fife Campaign 2009. As Chair of Scotland in Bloom he outlined the changes in the new assessment scheme to the Best Kept Village/Town competition which was now discontinued. The most significant change was that the council wanted towns and villages to apply to be assessed. The overall assessment is not just floral and decorative appearance, judgments are made on a number of areas. This can be general appearance, cleanliness and visible street furniture, special projects for the improvement of the whole community and how the community works together. One visit is made in July to assess the award and experienced judges adhere to national campaign guidelines.

On the question of funding Keith indicated that communities should try to be self supporting, applying for funds or sponsorship from business and or local community planning funds. The chairman indicated that he was aware that some groups, The Harbour Residents and Environmental Group and Kinghorn in Bloom had already managed to acquire community funding and were already working towards the task in hand. The Community Council supported them in this and in the past has donated to the decoration and upkeep of the station by the lady attendant and also the Children's Gala Committee. The chairman thanked Keith for coming to the meeting to outline the new assessment procedures.

5. **Minutes from the previous meeting.**

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Collett Salvona and seconded by Alex Cook

6. **Matters Arising**

- a) Progress on work with cemetery steps and other enhancement projects in Kinghorn – The maintenance work on the cemetery steps was complete and the chairman had met with Ron Peat from Community Services to discuss the enhancement stage. He showed the meeting a visual diagram for the proposal of the viewpoint and a verbal description. The major part would be a viewing plinth similar to the one in Burntisland. The surrounding sloped and grassed area to be treated with ground cover low maintenance planting, path renewed, fencing replaced as well as hand rails installed. The second item outlined was improvements to the war memorial. The chairman outlined the possible installation of a stonework surround with the words "We shall Remember" inscribed or inserted into the stone. The war memorial itself would not be touched only the garden area and this was where Kinghorn in Bloom might help. Also a possible new road layout for Pettycur Road was mentioned with the road in front of the church hall closed to traffic and Pettycur Road becoming a two way road. Architectural Services have been asked to look at possible drawings of the proposals.
- b) Conservation Area Interpretation Boards – A letter had been received from Diane Barbary, Development Services to say that the Interpretation Boards would not be going ahead because there was no funding for them. It was hoped that funding would be found to replace the information board in North Overgate.
- c) Traffic concerns at Station Brae – The Community Council had been asked to look at several problems around this area including inappropriate parking around the Post Office and blocking vehicles coming from Station Brae and at the business units. Sgt Potter was looking at these problems also

Transportation Services had been contacted to put in new signage and markings. They would see if new action could be taken to solve the problems.

- d) New lampposts in the High Street – concerns had been expressed about the spacing of the new lampposts, the reply was that the new lighting complied with British Standards and lights were positioned to gain best spacing between junctions, doorways, windows etc. Lights at the pedestrian crossing will not be removed.
- e) Harbour toilet proposals – Plans were now passed and it was hoped work would begin mid April. The Community Council would be included in the consultation process for interested parties to develop the top floor level. Some concern was expressed about the positioning of the temporary toilets while the work was in progress. People felt they would be best placed at the rear of the Sailing Club or at the harbour end of the beach and not at the children's play area as first proposed.

f) Planning Issues

- Planning Application lodged for 1 – 3 High Street had been refused on the grounds of access at the rear of the building and garden space surrounding. However the applicant still has right of appeal.
- The chairman gave feedback regarding the situation of design of the house, proposed to be built adjacent to the old golf clubhouse.

7. Correspondence

A list of correspondence was circulated.

- Community Council Support Working Group – the chairman had received notification that he had been elected to represent the central area on this group.
- Item 4 A letter had been received from Environmental Services saying that they were presently looking at options for recycling and waste collections and no decisions had been made as yet.
- Item 6 The Community Council had asked for a copy of the KCLA consultation document compiled by the Dualchas Group. This had not been forthcoming, but an email indicated that the report could be found on the KCLA website. It was felt that in the protocols of consultation that the Community Council should have received a paper copy for consideration before publishing it.
- Item 7 Fit'n Fun in Fife made available for anyone interested at the meeting.

8. New Business

- a) A member of the public asked about the planning status of the work being done at Beach House, 17 St James Place Kinghorn. PVC windows had been installed instead of wooden ones and the house was in a conservation area. It was understood that there was no decision on the planning application as yet but owners had put the accommodation up for rent. The Community Council would notify Development Services of this apparent infringement.
- b) Cala Homes were holding a master plan consultation concerning the possible development of Kirkcaldy South west in the old Happit Shop in the Mercat Shopping Centre, Kirkcaldy 1st – 4th April. The chairman outlined how important it was for people to take part in the public consultations and meetings to consider the plan to erect 1000 houses plus community facilities like school, shops and post office. Also to be considered was what implications such a development would have on Kinghorn.

8 Public Question Time

A number of points were made

- A member of the public remarked that the bushes at the bottom of Quarrel Braes had been completely cut back.
- A request was made for the seats to be returned at the harbor beach and those at the grass area near the Carousel which is being tidied up at present. The secretary would write to Community Services about this.
- Plans were circulated of the play park renovation adjacent to the cemetery area. Comment from the meeting was positive.
- A comment was made regarding the condition of some of the grave stones in the cemetery and a question asked if anything could be done about it.

- An observation was made concerning the paths being in a poor conditions with weed growth in them. Cllr Leslie said that the wet weather had been a major problem last year and grounds maintenance was looking at new chemicals.
- The issue of dog litter was again raised and a further request for the dog warden to come.
- The problem of speeding cars near St Leonards Court as well as cars going the wrong way up the one way system to access the main road at South Overgate and cars parking too close to the corner all was highlighted. It was agreed to contact Sgt Potter about these problems.
- The core path link between Kinghorn and Auchtertool was complete. It was agreed to write to Alison Irvine, Access Officer to thank her for this excellent addition to the core paths.

Date of Next Meeting – 7.30pm on Thursday 16th April 2009