

NORTH QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

Held at North Queensferry Community Centre - 7.30pm Thursday 14th May 2026

In Attendance: Iain Michell IM (Chair), Jim George JG (Vice Chair), David Katic DK (Treasurer), Rob Baker RB (Secretary), Gary Bald GB, Peter Selbie PS, Cllr Dempsey DD, Cllr Brown PB, Cllr Barratt DB, David Boyce-Network Rail (DBNR), Eileen Donaldson

Apologies: Cllr Bruce Neal

Minutes of previous meeting: Accepted as accurate / approved

Matters Arising: N/A

Forth Bridge: IM met with ORR to discuss the upcoming report. DBNR has discussed with the project team and have also met with ORR, verbal feedback was given before the formal report. Takeaway is that mitigation for items has been put in place, there should now be minimum practical risk going forward. Regarding the noise it was not clear the ORR were including this in their report, feedback from the council was that the noise was excessive, ORR will be working with the council to take a view on this. Due to the noise work was halted after span 11 was completed, different methods of removing bitumen were tried and Network Rail will be assessing these for any future work. If the works need to continue but noise is excessive then daytime work was discussed, Transport Scotland seem against this idea and options would need to be discussed and agreed if this proceeds.

A management programme update provided by Network Rail will be posted to the NQCC website for information

JG asks if the weep holes have been identified for closure, DBNR states that once the new coating is applied to span 11, then it will be assessed over a couple of months, the review may include identifying these weep holes and perhaps using the vacuum system to clear the water build up as has been used previously. Costing for the remaining spans are beginning in case the works are the ultimate resolution to the dirty water issues. DK asks if some of the material removed could have affected vibrations on the bridge as he has noticed this recently, DBNR will ask engineers and respond with any comments. GB has found fragments of granite below some pillars, DBNR states that there are annual checks however he will pass this information on.

The falling flaming item was investigated and the report is now going through internal validation. When the report is completed NR will share this with the Community Council. Since the falling item there is enhanced mitigation and spotters.

Fencing at the picnic has not yet been completed, DBNR will chase this. JG suggests that the current weekly meetings are moved to fortnightly, IM and DBNR agree.

Battery Road Carpark: Balfour Beatty does not have the key to the noticeboard, DBNR will look to get this opened and lock replaced. The barrier to the carpark has collapsed and the motor was protruding from its enclosure, this was taped off by the contractors but has now been enclosed. PB spoke to the contractor and advised that people have been seen lifting the barrier which the contractor stated was not possible. A quotation is pending, PB has asked that any new solution addresses the issues.

Police Report: Report is available on the website.

Fife Councillors Reports:

Cllr David Dempsey

Picnic area under the bridge, maintenance talk is progressing with DBNR and DBNR is attempting to find an owner within NR. The issue with the footpath by the road bridge continues, DD will continue to push for this to be looked at. Questions of how children will get home from the new school if attending after school activities is being discussed. Brock Street parking talks continue, this should be discussed at the next area committee. There should soon be an invitation for a space on Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee (EACC) - DK to be nominated for this. DK mentions that Edinburgh Airport employees engaging with the noise board have had roles moved to Gatwick, the future of this board is unknown.

Cllr Patrick Browne

PB will try again to see if Fife Council can contribute to maintenance of the picnic area under the bridge. Issues with overnight usage at the park and ride continue, a report is pending however there appears to be a large number of cars parking overnight. Narrowing at Ferryhills Road work continues, a site visit will take place soon.

David Barratt

Cemetery gates are due to be painted. Beamer Lighthouse storage bill is due, DB has spoken to the Heritage Trust and has asked for an update.

Treasurer's Report: Report shared by DK in the format requested by fife Council. DK will contact ScotWays re standing order.

Planning Applications: No applications

Floral Enhancement: Bench area has seen some use, hedging for the edge of the wall is due to be delivered and planted out. Tubs are being updated and painted. Planters should be planted up in the next few weeks. Water continues to seep out of the ground and wall area, DB will contact Scottish Water as repairs have already been completed in this area.

Correspondence: Fife Council insurance is being renewed.

AOB: Coastal path signage is still causing visitors to walk to Battery Road or up the Brae. DD will look into this with the relevant parties. Road sweeping at bottom of the village does not appear to have been done, DD will chase. A smaller Festival Travel bus for the school pupils appears to now be in service and will hopefully continue and reduce issues around Battery Road although larger Stagecoach buses continue.

Next meeting: 11th June 2026 - 7.30pm @ NQ Community Centre or virtually via MS Teams link available on our website www.nqcc.co.uk - scan the QR code for a link.

