

NORTH QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING

**Held at North Queensferry Community Centre
On 7.30pm Thursday 13th February 2025**

In attendance: Iain Mitchell (Chair), Jim George (Vice-Chair), Barbara McKechnie, Peter Selbie, Robert Baker, Cllr Brown, Cllr Barratt, Cllr Dempsey, Gary Bald (via Teams), Cll Neal, Roddy McDowal

Apologies: None

Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were accepted as accurate and approved

Matters Arising: JG received response to question of secretary position, as RB has taken this we no longer require.

Forth Bridge:

(a) Meeting with ORR* (R. Blyth of Fife Coast & Countryside Trust in attendance for this item)

Minutes of meeting shared with Community Council (available on nqcc.co.uk).

Community Council must ensure that any fallen objects are reported by resident via formal Network Rail (NR) complaints portal, this allows log of complaints to be used by ORR if they wish to pursue inaction.

David Neill (DN) offered to create a flyer advising to contact DN or GB if an item is found and to not move so we can ensure logging happens. RB to speak to DN & GB to store items in a spreadsheet, should include key items (location, date, W3W location if possible)

(b) “Dirty water” compensation

ORR do not find this to be a statutory nuisance so no action seems forthcoming. Small payments for future cleaning agreed, claims for past compensation no further forward. IM contacted NR regarding misunderstanding of law regarding nuisance and how this could provide a way for residents to receive compensation for old claims with no receipts e.g. window cleaning.

(c) Response to Dunfermline Press

IM suggests a response with factual information regarding issues and slow progress. Can also include steps to take if items are found as per above. IM to draft a response. RB to pass on email for Dunfermline Press reporter.

Rights of Way: RM confident Charles Black Lane has been a right of way for a significant amount of time. Recalls sign stating right of way did used to exist as do others. Suggests as a compromise people should use this if they wish however recommends no signs go up. IM clarifies that right of way does go directly through garden but attitude of property owners is key as sign was originally removed as a compromise with previous owners. RM has offered to speak to property owners.

Pinch point Ferryhill Road: PB suggests signage/pinch issues at this area be dealt with together, discussion ongoing, asking for road to be measured.

Defibrillators: Question on who is responsible for these. RB/BM to attempt to identify re: replacements pads & batteries.

Station (BM), Deep Sea World, Battery Road Car Park, Community Complex, Marina (RB)

Battery Road car park: Work completed today. Signage is red and seems that drivers do not always spot it.

Police Report: No report received for January 2025. IM had written and provided meeting dates. Note that patrol cars do seem to be more frequent recently.

Edinburgh Airport: NQCC did not respond to consultation as per recommendation from Bruce Finlayson. Airspace consultation delayed until late 2025

Fife councillor's reports:

David Barratt: Albert shipping container, DB has already queried if allowable with his contact. Albert delay in buy-out was discussed in Parliament. Brock Street parking still with planners. PB raised a sign is required to point to public toilet to stop instances of people relieving themselves against local properties. PB requested update on crossing at bottom of road bridge steps and asked if funding be sought from the same entities as the Forth Bridges Trail was due to it being part of the trail.

Patrick Browne: Report to area committee re tourism and will forward on. Signage, finance committee confirmed how this was funded. Budget meeting shortly, motions published 12th Feb show expected 8.2% council tax increase. 2.8% for social care, 1.5% for roads, 3.9% inflation related & support for capital borrowing. £13m for potential swimming pool, also looking for partners to fund. No final decision made on location.

Dave Dempsey: Battery Road bin replaced with seagull proof version. Stagecoach have been emailed re buses but no response, DD will chase. Consultation in spring re: buses.

Sarah Neal: Area committee naming of new high school in 2nd phase, links on facebook and on nqcc.co.uk

Treasurer's report: BM distributed accounts, no payments. Screenshot of balance sent. BM to create job profile.

Planning Applications: Application to fell dangerous trees. Enlargement of windows @ Battery Road. No comments.

Correspondence: Community Benefit opportunity passed to groups within the village. Feedback on Forth Trail signage passed to Karen Stewart.

Position of Community Council treasurer: JG to explore if assistance with position can be filled, potential for some small amount to be paid for travel expenses for any volunteer. IM clarified this should be a NQ resident if they are to take the position otherwise will perhaps just be able to assist.

AoB: RB will provide spare key to noticeboard by shop to David Shields. Setts replacement sign from last year still at bus stop, DD will request removal.

Next meeting: Thursday 13th March 2025 - 7.30pm @ NQ Community Centre or virtually via MS Teams link available on our website nqcc.co.uk

Previous minutes, police reports & more is available on nqcc.co.uk

