



FORT, SEAFIELD & WALLACETOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday 8th May 2024
At Grammar School, Fort Street, Ayr

Attendance:

CC members: Denise Sommerville (DS – Chair); Carol Fisher (CF – Secretary); Jim McKay (JM - VC); Michael Hitchon (MH – Treasurer); Kenny McLeod (KM) David Connelly (DC); Andy Seville (AS); Robert Singer (RS);

SAC Councillors: George Weir (GW)

SAC Link Officer: David Porte (DP)

SAC Senior Communities Officer Jodie McFarlane (JMcF)

Police: Not present

Minutes: Jim McKay

Public: No members of the public present

Apologies: Cllr Martin Dowe; Cllr Bob Shields Eric Armstrong (EA); Rachel Borland (RB); Alan Roseweir (AR); Forbes Watson (FW – Licensing)

1. Declarations of Interest

None.

2. Minutes of Meeting on 10th April 2024

True minute of meeting proposed by JM, seconded by DC

3. Matters Arising

Forbes Watson has updated Martin Dowey regarding the Common Good Fund and preparation was good to set up the meeting.

Craig Iles has been contacted 3 times with an invitation to attend the meeting with no response.

Repairs to wall at Racecourse View (surrounding wall of old racecourse) ongoing with various reports of good job/bad job (right materials/wrong materials).

Action: Meeting with Martin Dowey on Monday 13th May 2024.DS

4. **Public Business**

No members of public present, nothing to report.

5. **SAC Elected Members**

George Weir has had comments about parking proposals and the paper on this has been pulled by the cabinet for review; no elected members are happy with the proposals.

Traffic, road conditions, and speeding are also frequent complaints.

The individual ward-specific issues are ongoing but no final meeting as yet.

RS asked about shopfront improvements, as Newmarket Street traders are asking where money will be spent. Robert proposed events could be held at same time as the Air Show to showcase Ayr town centre.

Action: Bring up the above with Martin Dowey at meeting with DS

Reports

A) Police

- Police report received and all members got a copy.
- **Action:** To be taken to write to police to invite Kevin Lamont of Police Scotland to attend one of our meetings. **DS**
- David said he was still trying to facilitate a visit to the police control room to see first-hand their operations. **DP**

B) Treasurer

- Michael Hitchon submitted a report that the ZOHO IT Systems account has been paid £230.44 with £19.28 still in the bank whilst we await funding from SAC and hope to report better news next month.
- **Action:** Ask SAC about an increase in funding.

C) Planning

- Rachel Borland has submitted all planning applications this month. These were read out at the meeting and no members had any objections to raise.

D) Licensing

- Forbes Watson had reported previously that there were no licensing applications this month.
- Kenny MacLeod brought up a previous issue with licensing for Pavilion in Ayr. Chair interjected to say that this issue has been handled by FW who is licensing link officer. Kenny MacLeod replied by stating that if FW had been doing his job properly, he would have known about this. Jim McKay replied that this was an outrageous comment and disrespectful to a long-standing community council member and that Kenny should put his concerns in writing to the community council, as it was too lengthy to minute.

E) Short Term Lets

- Kenny MacLeod raised the issue with 42 Churchill Court which he was also proposing to put in writing to ensure our planning link officer to attend to, rather than doing so that the best way to deal with this would be for himself to put in an objection as a member of the public as this would allow him to go to the Ombudsman with a complaint if the Ombudsman would not accept a complaint from an organization like the CC. He was reminded by the community council that he was free to object to any issue but as a community councillor he must declare as such. He was reminded by the Chair he was proposing to break our Code of Conduct with this proposal as well as being prepared to bring the community council into disrepute.
- **Action:** Community Council to discuss.

AOCB (Any Other Competent Business)

Place Planning Update

- There seems to be a technical issue with the consultation survey online.
- Place Planning Sub Group working with Audrey Gatt organizing flyers to be distributed Support from several members to help facilitate this
- Robert Singer to have leaflets in his bakery
- All members to be encouraged to get distribution out to general public.

Column for Magazine / Ayrshire Post

- To promote the external workings of C.C.
- AS could get 300-word article in magazine for Ayrshire.

- Also would investigate Ayrshire Post.
- Robert Singer to pursue Farmers Market at Cutty Sark.
- Jodie McFarlane to explore advertising funding.

Action: AS to co-ordinate.

Chair announced that a private meeting of community council members was being held to discuss the breach of code of conduct concerns would now proceed and George Weir, David Porte & Jodie McFarlane left the meeting. Kenny MacLeod then chose to leave the meeting and when asked by the chair why he did not respond.

The private meeting then proceeded and after a full & frank discussion, it was decided unanimously that Mr. Kenny MacLeod had broken the code of conduct and that he would be suspended for 12 months and that the appropriate procedures in doing so would be followed in that the community council had taken a vote of no confidence in him.

Action DS to write to KM informing him of the decision.

Meeting ended at 8:30 PM.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12th June 2024 Time to be confirmed Memorial Hall, Grammar School, Fort St., Ayr