

Royal Burgh of Wick Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Via Zoom

Date: Monday 1st August 2022

Time: 7pm

Present	Elected Members	Joanna Coghill	(JC)	Chairperson
		Wendy Campbell	(WC)	
		David Dunnett	(DD)	
		Doreen Turner	(DT)	
		Alastair Ferrier	(AF2)	
	Co-opted Members	Allan Bruce	(AB)	
		Roy Mackenzie	(RM)	
		Eswyl Fell	(EF)	
	Ex-officio Members	Raymond Bremner	(Cllr RB)	Highland Councillor
	Non-Members	Jayden Alexander	(JA)	Secretary
		Alan Hendry	(AH)	NOSN
		Sharon Powell	(SP)	SSE Transmissions

1. Welcome and Apologies.

JC welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies as per listed.

2. Adoption and Approval of Previous Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 4th July 2022 was circulated by JA.

No paper copies of the minutes were available, it was agreed that members should email JA with any amendments, and these will be adopted via email.

3. Report from Local Police.

No apologies had been received and neither had a report. JC expressed her disappointment, however, JC and JA re to meet up to compose a letter addressed to the local Police staff.

4. Highland Councilors' Report

To be received.

5. Report from Noss Power Station.

SP presented a short video to everyone present of the current progress after RBWCC visited the site during the weekend passed. The main works are now mainly complete; however, cable pulling is still underway. JC expressed how RBWCC were very impressed with the site and how SSE should be very proud of what they have achieved community wise with communication etc.

6. Update from Wick Development Trust.

No update was provided due to no representatives being in attendance.

7. Update on East Caithness Community Campus and Noss Primary School.

Members were made aware in advance of the meeting by Allan Farquhar that the panels on Gym are now being replaced and the new access pathway is subject to technical issues and the flooring in the Community Facility is undergoing replacement.

8. Review of Monthly Correspondence List.

There was minimal correspondence for the previous month and JA advised that all current correspondence had either been dealt with, except for the last of the Beatrice-Micro Grant applicants which JA is currently dealing with.

9. Review of Action List.

All current actions are either outstanding or ongoing.

10. Treasury Reports.

JC agreed to step in as acting treasurer until someone more permanent has been found.

Community Council Accounts: TBC

Wick Community Market: TBC

Wick Christmas Lights: TBC

Wick Flower Baskets: £4,000

HAPPY: TBC

JA is to issue a communication to all sub-groups to advise that RBWCC require a bank balance to be communicated prior to each monthly meeting of the community council.

11. Community Council Sub-Group Reports.

- Wick Community Market: Allan Farquhar provided the following report in advance of the meeting: *"Good day last outing with loads of compliments as to how it was a vast improvement to the visual / aesthetics of the town centre. Approached local business to see if they would be interested in sponsoring a palm tree @ £135 a plant. Caithness Creels will make us a few simplified prototypes of plant potholders. Dates Now 2nd weekend in the month to avoid clashing with others Watten / North Coast."*
- Wick Christmas Lights: Due to the absence of CM, no report was provided.
- Wick Flower Baskets: EF said that the displays are being well admired by locals and visitors alike and that x2 representatives met HRH Prince Charles during his recent visit to Wick and that he touched on the "visual impact" the displays make to Wick.
- Wick Paths Group: Congratulations to RBWCC and particularly Community Councillor Allan Bruce (also vice chair- person of Wick Paths Group) for organising the town spruce up event on 19th and 20th July. There was an amazing turnout of volunteers and a remarkable difference was made to the town centre. The Paths Group took responsibility for clearing the fountain area and getting it working again. We continue to raise funds through the Coop and Tesco, support from RBWCC members is welcome. Most of our new equipment has arrived and is in use. Volunteers are invited to join our work nights at 6.30pm on Wednesdays 10th August (meet at Camps Car Park) and 24th August (meet at Old Herring Mart), also a work day on Sunday 21st August meeting at 10am at the Stevenson's Breakwater.
- HAPPY: Allan Farquhar confirmed prior to the meeting that there was nothing to report on.

12. Council Business:

- JA advised that no follow up had been received from Mack. All agreed that HC have been aware of the current membership status and that business will carry on as normal until we are notified of anything.
- An email had been received from an individual with regards to bike issues in the Battery Road issue, JA is to contact the ground owner to raise the issue further.

13. AOCB.

- AB touched on the huge success of the spruce up which fifty-six people had turned up for. He said that volunteers were surprised at the amount of work you could do with such a great number of volunteers and that this is clear evidence of the people of Wick doing their bit, "when will HC do their bit?".
- JC mentioned how the Carnegie Library have so many rooms which are unused, which could potentially be used by different community groups in need of space. JC is to contact HLH regarding this.

JC thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting then closed for private business discussion between RBWCC members and the Secretary only.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 5th September 2022 at 7pm,
Mowat Room in Wick Assembly Rooms