

Royal Burgh of Wick Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Via Zoom

Date: Monday 7th January 2022

Time: 7pm

Present	Elected Members	Joanna Coghill	(JC)	Chairperson
		Allan Farquhar	(AF1)	Vice-Chair
		Kimberley Miller-Rosie	(KMR)	Treasurer
		David Dunnett	(DD)	
		Doreen Turner	(DT)	
		Wendy Campbell	(WC)	
	Co-opted Members	Allan Bruce	(AB)	
		Eswyl Fell	(EF)	
		Roy Mackenzie	(RM)	
	Ex-officio Members	Raymond Bremner	(Cllr RB)	Highland Councillor
Non-Members	Jayden Alexander	(JA)	Secretary	
	Fiona Morrison	(FM)	Beatrice Rep'	
	Jonathan Miller	(JM)	WDT Rep'	

Apologies: Sharon Powell, Claire Mackenzie, Cllr Jill Tilt.

1. Welcome and Apologies.

JC welcomed everyone present to the meeting as the first for the new year. JC thanked all members for their dedication and hard work throughout 2021.

2. Adoption and Approval of Previous Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 5th December was circulated by JA.

No comments were made, and no amendments were proposed.

These minutes were approved and adopted as follows:

Proposed By: AB

Seconded By: WC

3. Review of Monthly Correspondence List.

All correspondence received by the Secretary is recorded. The correspondence list for December 2021 was circulated by JA.

JA confirmed that all correspondence had either been dealt with or were in hand. No comments were made.

4. Review of Action List.

JC stated that no response had been received with regards to the painting of the yellow lines on Thurso Street (outside of Sunbeam Terrace) which was raised by RBWCC in early 2021. AB confirmed that he would contact Highland Council with regards to this when he makes contact regarding other issues which he had come across during the week past.

5. Highland Councilors' Report.

JC expressed her disappointment with the lack of correspondence RBWCC have had from Councilors Jill Tilt, Andrew Sinclair, and Willie Mackay. JC gave a vote of thanks to Cllr RB along with RBWCC members for his continued support with various projects. AF1 stated that the four Highland Councilors had been voted in by the public, and although RBWCC are in regular contact with Cllr RB, it would be good to know what the remaining three Councilors are currently working towards.

Cllr RB explained that a confidential report had been emailed to JA for circulation to RBWCC members only. JA went on to circulate this to members.

6. Report from Local Police.

A confidential report had been received from Sergeant Brian Hamilton, in light of his apologies. This was circulated by JA to RBWCC members.

7. Update from Wick Development Trust (WDT).

JM kindly emailed the new issue of the Trust's newsletter. JA circulated this to RBWCC members. JM gave an update on some of the projects which the Trust are currently working on:

- A Re-design of the bus stance for Riverside Car Park.
- The Trust is now officially recognised as Wick Development Trust, with "Wick's Heart" which was their trading name, being dropped. JM explained that the two names caused some confusion to the public.
- A consultation was held to gauge some ideas for the redevelopment of the former Dominoes' site on High Street. The most popular idea was a bowling alley. WDT imagine this as being a multi-story attraction which could be more sustainable in the long term. JM stated that 126 High Street is a long-term project, while the trust can focus on other smaller projects alongside it.
- WDT hope to recruit some new directors.
- JM stated in answer to a question raised by DD that the former Sloan's site had been sold to the owner of the Camps Bar. JM went on to explain that this individual was the only person who expressed interest in the site. WC said "If it is public money then the site should have been advertised publicly and everyone should have been made aware of where it stands".

JC thanked JM for joining the meeting and for the update provided. JM left the meeting.

8. Report from SSE Transmissions.

In light of Sharon Powell's apologies, RBWCC were asked to forward any questions on to her. No questions were raised and RBWCC gave a vote of thanks in Sharon's absence for the great work they are doing to help the community and on the new site at Noss.

9. Treasurer's Report.

Community Council Accounts	£33,666.00
Wick Community Market	TBC.
Wick Christmas Lights	TBC.
Wick Flower Baskets	£3,361.00
Wick Paths Group	TBC
HAPPY	£532.85

10. Community Council Sub-Group Reports.

- Wick Community Market: AF1 stated that a total of fourteen applications has been received for holding marquees for the Christmas Fayre. Twelve marquees are to be set up for during the summer and it has yet to be arranged as to how the Market will be run. The paid fees for the pitches are to go back into the running of the Market. AF1 has liaised with Thurso Community Market to share marquees when required. Marquees can be loaned to local causes and charities but are not to be hired out for personal use.
- Wick Christmas Lights: Due to the absence of Claire Mackenzie, JC stated that the "elves" had a great time helping at Santaland. Barnies are to inspect the lighting on the trees at Caithness General as this issue has yet to be resolved.
- Wick Flower Baskets: EF stated that that new bulbs have been planted for springtime. The AGM is to be held in February (this is yet to be arranged).
- Wick Paths Group: The following report was kindly provided in advance of the meeting by Secretary, John Bogle. "December was a relatively quiet month for the Paths Group but we still managed to have a well-attended litter pick on Sunday 12th December when a large amount of rubbish was collected from both sides of the river in between the 2 road bridges. At the same time, our Chairperson, Willie Watt, cleared the boulders which were blocking the access road to the North Baths car park— thanks to Subsea 7 for the loan of heavy plant to carry out the works. Thanks also to Allan Bruce for removing all the rubbish collected and taking it to the recycling centre and also for clearing a couple of roadside drains which were blocked and resulting in large puddles at the kerb side. The Community Payback Team have refurbished the wooden picnic bench and put it back in place, they have made an excellent job of it and a big thank you goes out to them.
- HAPPY: AF1 stated that there was nothing to report or than that they hope to run in 2022.

11. Council Business.

- Coastguard Fields: DD explained that motorbikes had been running around the fields at the coastguards and on the road also, causing a mess and a lot of noise late at night. JA is to compose an email to Sargent Brian Hamilton to notify them
- Dog Fouling: AB is to contact Alan Hendry to arrange for a report for the local press, and to contact the local dog warden, Jodie Wilson for a possible springtime campaign.
- North Head Memorial Tower: A meeting with RBLS is to be arranged by JA for JC, DD, AF1 and AB to attend, JA will take minutes of the meeting and will confirm with everyone once organised.

12. AOCB.

- AF1 stated that a report to inspect if the Community Campus building is fit to withstand the Caithness weather is to be carried out.

There was no other business for discussion. JC thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting closed for private business discussion between RBWCC members and the Secretary only.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 7th February 2022 at 7pm (Via Zoom or in person depending on COVID-19 guidelines). JA will confirm.