

Royal Burgh of Wick Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Via Zoom

Date: Monday 7th March 2022

Time: 7pm

Present	Elected Members	Joanna Coghill	(JC)	Chairperson
		Allan Farquhar	(AF1)	Vice-Chair
		Wendy Campbell	(WC)	
		David Dunnett	(DD)	
		Wendy Campbell	(WC)	
	Co-opted Members	Allan Bruce	(AB)	
		Roy Mackenzie	(RM)	
	Ex-officio Members	Raymond Bremner	(Cllr RB)	Highland Councillor
	Non-Members	Jayden Alexander	(JA)	Secretary
		Harris Gilmore	(HG)	IGNIS
		Grant Anderson	(GA)	IGNIS
		Gary Leith	(GL)	IGNIS
		Alan Hendry	(AH)	NOSN Newspapers

Apologies: Sharon Powell, Kimberley Miller-Rosie, Eswyl Fell, Claire Mackenzie, Doreen Turner, Alasdair Goskirk

1. Welcome and Apologies.

JC welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed her disappointment that no response had been received from any councilors apart from Cllr RB after the meeting invitation was sent.

Apologies as per listed.

2. Adoption and Approval of Previous Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 10th January 2022 was circulated by JA.

These minutes were approved and adopted as follows:

Proposed By: WC

Seconded By: AB

3. Review of Monthly Correspondence List.

All correspondence received by the Secretary is recorded. The correspondence list for February 2022 was circulated by JA.

JA confirmed that all correspondence had either been dealt with or were in hand.

4. Review of Action List.

Some amendments to the action list were discussed and JA will amend the list accordingly for the March meeting.

5. Highland Councilors' Report.

To be received.

6. Report from Local Police.

Due to the absence of a representative, a confidential report was provided. JA circulated this to RBWCC members. Inspector Alasdair Goskirk attempted to join the meeting by Zoom, however, due to technical difficulties he was unable to join.

7. Update from Wick Development Trust (WDT).

Due to the absence of a representative, no report was given.

8. Report from SSE Transmissions.

Due to the absence of a representative, no update was provided.

9. Update on East Caithness Community Campus.

AF1 confirmed that there were no further updates, but that there may be a couple of new points to raise at the March meeting.

10. Treasurer's Report.

Community Council Accounts:

Wick Community Market
Wick Christmas Lights
Wick Flower Baskets: £2,746.76
HAPPY

11. Community Council Sub-Group Reports.

- Friends of Wick Cemetery: WC confirmed that work for the year would commence in the next few weeks.
- Wick Community Market: AF1 said that a spring market is hopeful and that a date will be confirmed.
- Wick Christmas Lights: Due to the absence of CM a report was not given.
- Wick Flower Baskets: EF confirmed that the AGM was held last week and that they will be having a meeting in the next fortnight to discuss flower orders for the spring.
- Wick Paths Group: A report was provided by John Bogle in advance of the meeting: *"February was another quiet month for the Paths Group but there was a successful litter pick at Market Street and Riverside on 13th February when a trailer load of rubbish was collected, on the same day the base of the stone plinth at the Coghill Bridge was weeded and the area round the interpretive panel was tidied up. The base of the Calder statue behind the railings was also tidied. Planning for the work to upgrade the South Head Quarries Path continues and we are very grateful to the North Highland Initiative who have donated £1,000 towards the cost of purchasing quarry stone for the paths. We are hopeful that we might receive further donations for new picnic benches and interpretive panels. The date for carrying out this work has not yet been set."*
- All agreed to donate £250 to Wick Paths Group from RBWCC.
- HAPPY: AF1 said that there was nothing to report.

12. Council Business.

- Dog Fouling:
It was raised by a member of the public that dog fouling is becoming an issue again. AB is to look at the possibility of starting a new campaign again for the spring and summer months.

- **Halsary Windfarm:**
JC is awaiting feedback which she will hopefully receive in March.
- **Wick Common Good Fund and Assets:**
RM advised that he hopes to get access to the former Carnegie Library to look at possible artefacts which are housed there (including the attic, cellar, store and former air raid shelter). RM confirmed that some artwork has been found in Wick Heritage Museum and a logbook at Nucleus. JC expressed to Cllr RB that a local representative should be on the Wick Common Good committee who could then report back to RBWCC on a regular basis.
- **Scottish Spring Clean Update**
AB said that he is busy preparing for the Keep Britain Clean project which, locally, involves RBWCC, Wick Paths Group and Wick Development Trust. JA and AB will liaise to create a schedule for posting on Facebook. It will also be communicated to the public that photos of litter picks and clean ups should be sent directly to the RBWCC Facebook page, JA can then post this on the page. AB confirmed that NOSN Newspapers are also on board with the project too for press coverage.
- **Beatrice Community Fund:**
JC confirmed that this is the last year of the fund and that any leftover monies would go to the community council. It was mutually agreed that Beatrice have given a lot of good to the Wick and surrounding community.

13. AOCB.

- It was agreed that lighting for different areas in Wick would be very effective. Barnies are to get in touch with EF with a quote for lights underneath the main bridge in-front of the hospital with some information on the works that would be required for installation. EF confirmed that she spoke with the owners of some of the boat sheds at the harbour and they are keen to get them lit up on a more permanent basis. EF suggested for informative panels to be installed on the sheds also giving a background on some of the history of the sheds.
- JC advised that the team are looking into lighting up the Johnston photographic panels and quotes are awaited.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 4th April 2022 at 7pm (Via Zoom or in person depending on COVID-19 guidelines). JA will confirm.