

Kingsbarns Community Council
Minutes of meeting held at Kingsbarns Memorial Hall,
Monday, 7 November 2016 at 7 p.m.

In attendance: KCC members: Eileen Brown (Treasurer), Calla Cobb, Martin Dibbs (Secretary), Shona McIntosh, Ulrike Weiss (Acting Chair); Councillors John Docherty and Donald Macgregor; six members of the public.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. under Acting Chair, Ulrike Weiss.

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Harkins and Councillor Elizabeth Riches.

2 Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes were proposed by Sue Jenkins and seconded by Shona McIntosh.

3 Matters Arising

As the matters raised were new, they were dealt with under Any other Business (see below, para. 8).

4 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that KCC's current balance stood at £3,090.88 with cheques to the value of £231.37 waiting to be cashed.

5 Planning Report

16/02467/LBC and 16/02466/FULL - 2 Lady Wynd, Kingsbarns, St Andrews

Chair of the Planning Sub-Committee (Kate Holy) reported that Fife Council have refused permission for the demolition of the further part of the historic wall at 2 Lady Wynd. Unless the developer appeals to the Reporter, the wall cannot be further demolished. The Airs are currently rebuilding the wall alongside the alleyway, which they demolished without permission. The Planning Department are unhappy about the standard of the wall, have given full instructions on how it should be finished and have asked us to keep an eye on the work. Kate reported that If there were concerns about the work, or anything untoward happens, the Enforcement Officer was to be notified immediately.

6 Annual Report from Kingsbarns Gardeners

Rob Moodie presented a short report on the work of Kingsbarns Gardeners (KG) over the past year. He said that last year's Fife Council grant of £220 fell short of the £300 needed. At the time, KCC had offered to make up the shortfall and he wondered whether this was still available?

For the year 2017-2018, a grant of £350 was being requested to maintain planting of the fourteen tubs and three small planters in Lady Wynd, The Square and at the two bus stops.

This year Kingsbarns had again received a Silver Award in the Beautiful Fife Competition.

KG was in serious need of new members to continue their work and it was AGREED that a notice be placed on the KCC notice board to this effect.

It was also AGREED that KCC make up the shortfall of £80 between the amount needed by KG and the grant awarded by Fife Council.

7 Any Other Business

7.1 Street Lighting It was reported by Cllr. Macgregor that apart from the lighting in Main Street, Kingsbarns' street lighting had been upgraded to LEDs and was dimmed between 22:00 and 05:00 which involved a power reduction to 70%. It was proposed that the Main Street lights be changed to LEDs and subject to a two-stage dimming i.e. 20:00 to 00:00 to 70% and from 00:00 to 05:00 to 50%. From 05:00 to dawn the lights would revert to full power.

In the discussion which followed it was felt that the new lights were inappropriate for the village and too high. As a result the lights in the side streets provided little light for pedestrians. It was AGREED that the community would be consulted on the nature of future alterations to street lighting before anything was decided. Mention was made of the Dark Sky Movement - the campaign to reduce light pollution.

7.2 Scrutiny Committee The report and conclusions of the Working Group looking into the conduct of Fife Council's Housing Department has been released and is shown in full as the Appendix to these minutes.

It was reported to the meeting that two of the properties on this development - which promised to alleviate housing shortages in the area - are currently being advertised as lets on Airbnb; that Cambo tenancies had been advertised on the Gumtree website and that one house still remained unsold on the development. As to this last point, it was AGREED that Councillors Docherty and Macgregor would look into the possibility of Fife Council buying this house and report back to the next meeting on progress.

7.3 Beach It was reported to the meeting that damage to the steps had been done: handrails and risers had been removed and used, possibly by overnight campers, to light fires. This and other damage would be reported to the coastal ranger.

7.4 Christmas Tree The village Christmas Tree will be decorated by the pupils of the school and the lights switched on at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday 7 December. All are welcome.

7.5 Small Sparks Scheme Cllr Docherty reminded the meeting of the availability of grants for local people under the *Small Sparks* scheme. It was explained that to join, three or more people from the local community had to plan a new and imaginative project that would connect people together, especially those who hadn't been involved in community groups or activities before. Funds of £50 to £250 were available to support each project. A simple application form had to be submitted to a panel who met monthly to consider each application. Participating projects would come together in a celebration event to share their stories. The contact is Geraldine Goldie who can be reached on 0345 55 55 55, ext. 444829.

8 Date and Time of Next Meeting

This was scheduled to be on Monday, 2 January 2017 but most likely would be changed owing to the date falling during the holiday period. A new date would be publicised locally and to all other interested parties.