



## FORT, SEAFIELD & WALLACETOUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes** Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 9 November 2016 in Royal Burgh Suite 3, Ayr Town Buildings at 7.00pm.

**Present** Michael Hitchon, Norman McLean (Chair), Elizabeth Martin, Phil Martin, Eileen Munro, Olena Stewart, Frank Ward.

**In Attendance** PC Gavin Dalgleish, Chris Campbell, Cllr Kirsty Darwent, Cllr Bill Grant, Catherine Hunter (Ayr Advertiser).

**1 Apologies** Sandy Crawford, Cllr Allan Dorans, Dympna Gardiner, Judith Hood, Peter McCall, Richard McMinn, Forbes Watson.

**2 Minutes of Previous Meeting** Minutes proposed by Norman McLean, seconded by Michael Hitchon.

**3 Matters Arising** There was none.

**4 Welcome** The chairman welcomed Frank Ward, Wallacetoun sub ward, and the meeting agreed the co-option of Liz Martin, Seafield sub ward and Richard McMinn, Wallacetoun sub ward.

**5 Police Business** Police business compared crime October 2015 with October 2016 – there was less crime this year with the exception to drink driving offences. The increase in drink driving detection could be due to more traffic police. The message to the public at this time of year is to lock home and car doors, leave lights on and report any suspicious activity. The survey [www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts](http://www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts) continues across Ayrshire with the main issue of concern being anti-social behaviour followed by drug dealing and drug misuse. The survey has now been live for 6 months and has been completed by more than 1200 people. Click on the link to take part and help shape policing priorities.

**4 Public Business** There was none.

**6 Ayr Town Centre Renaissance and Belleisle** Councillors gave the Ayr Renaissance report – outline planning permission is in for the Riverside block. James Knox had spoken to Kyle and Carrick Civic Society on Monday. Tamfest was a great success showing what the community can achieve when working together bringing new life to our High Street. It is recognised that the use of our High Street has changed since the introduction of online shopping and we should look at other uses for our town centre. Fresh Ayr Happening begins on Friday 18 November with a private viewing invitation only – FSWCC will be attending the evening. There is a programme of events lined up until the 27 November to entertain you. See [facebook.com/freshayr.info](https://facebook.com/freshayr.info)

FSWCC annual town centre shop window display competition is underway – this is a joint venture with Ayr & Prestwick Lions Club, Ayr Guildry and the Rotary Club of Ayr. The Provost will present the winner and runners up with an engraved plaque to display. Belleisle had been visited by Lottery Fund representatives. Friends of Belleisle had received funding for fish pond pump and for signs. Belleisle Conservatory Ltd had received funding for plants. To support sustainability, there was ongoing fundraising with a raffle, Quiz on 3 December at Cambusdoon Cricket Club 7.00 for 8.00pm, Rangers' Christmas wreath making sessions on 10 December 12 noon - 3.00pm, Winter Wonderland 17/18 December with 10 foot tree and sponsored by Ayr Model Railway Club, meet Santa £5.00 (present guaranteed) hamper raffle 11.00am – 3.00pm.

Work was going on at the former Clydesdale Bank building. There was no further information about either BHS or the Kyle Centre.

**7 Councillors' Business** Council Leadership Panel meeting agreed that Kyle Academy Head Teacher give additional support in Ayr Academy, the consultation has taken place and the pilot has begun to raise attainment within the school. No merger is taking place. Ayr Grammar new school move to Ayr Academy has been agreed.

Ward boundary change – in 2013, stopped using schools for voting but this has not worked well with complaints from the public about access to public buildings being inadequate. Choosing to revert back to schools, all scheduled elections will take place on in-service days.

Christmas Lights switch on this year will be at Ayr Central and High Street on the 20 November with the Coca Cola truck.

Smith Street is congested with traffic, parked taxis beyond the taxi rank, and with ongoing repairs to a building there – Ayrshire Roads Alliance are looking to make improvements. Ayr Railway Station cycle hub is in progress and should be completed for Christmas. In Kyle Street the Victoria Bar may be demolished.

Book Day 26 November in Ayr Carnegie Library 2.00pm Janice Mackay, children's author; 6.00pm Rab Houston, professor of History, University of St Andrews.

There was some discussion on Hartfield House in a residential area being given approval to locate a shop there. Rozelle House needs maintenance and this was recognised with tenders being prepared.

Community Council Conference 18 November is 9.30am – 4.00pm in County Buildings.

**8 Planning Control** Planning Control Applications are for Eglinton Terrace dwelling to become flats, Fort Street flats, Hope Street shop and flats to turn into Escape Rooms experience. FSWCC support this initiative which brings a fun element to the High Street.

**9 Reports** Over 1,400 people have attended the weekly organ concerts in Ayr Town Hall so far and yet to come are as follows: 14 Nov Archie Thom, 21 Nov Gordon Cree, 28 Nov Iain McGlinchey. *Christmas with the BBC SSO* is a concert conducted by Stephen Bell with Jamie MacDougall, tenor, and Clare Teal, BBC Radio 2 jazz vocalist, in Ayr Town Hall on Wednesday 21 December, and *New Year in Vienna* concert by the SCO conducted by Nicholas McGegan with Elizabeth Watts, soprano, is on Tuesday 3 January – and tickets are going fast.

**10 Correspondence** The Ayrshire Roads Alliance offer of training and supply of grit and shovels.

**11 Financial Report** £440 available for administration.

**12 Any Other Competent Business** There was none.

**13 Date of Next Meeting** Wednesday 14 December at The Newmarket, Newmarket Street, 7.00pm.