

Bertha Park Residents Community Group

Notes and updates from the Bertha Park Residents Community Group (BPRCG) Meeting held on Tuesday, 5th February, 2024 at The Hub, 15 Adamson Avenue, Bertha Park, Perth.

In attendance:

Chairperson, Gordon Davidson (GD); Treasurer, Michele Osborne (MO) and 14 residents

Apologies:

Vice-chair, D. Walters; Secretary, G. Crawley, and 5 residents

Welcome from Chairperson

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting

Proposed by Morag Hutchison and seconded by Linda Lessels.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting

A resident highlighted that the date of the ScreenAutumn AGM in the January minutes was recorded as 1st December, 2023 but should in fact be 1st November, 2024. Chair to rectify.

Chairperson Report

GD stated that the items included in his report will be covered within other agenda items.

Vice-Chairperson Report

In the absence of the Vice Chair - the Chair read out a report that the vice-chair had sent in. This indicated that the vice-chair had established contact with Paul Green from Kingdom Housing who he invited to our next meeting in March. The vice-chair also listed areas where he felt ScreenAutumn had failed to deliver or meet our expectations. The vice-chair thought it would be prudent to seek legal advice before embarking on our next steps.

During this report the subject of invoicing came up and it was mentioned that we should have had our quarterly invoice from ScreenAutumn for the period Oct-Dec. The chair stated that he was given information from Stephen Davis (SD) from Screen Autumn that the invoices were to be out by the end of January 2024, although SD had intimated that it was a challenge as Lynne Hadden had now left ScreenAutumn without adequate handover to the residual staff. GD to raise with SD.

The residents also thought it would be good if SD could come along to one of our Residents meetings to answer questions directly - GD to ask SD and supply meeting dates.

Treasurer's Report

MO not a lot to report on - we do have monies in the bank from the PKC funding and need to make sure that we maximise the monies supplied.

Funding / Initiatives Update

GD provided an update on current funding initiatives.

Bertha Blethers

Bertha Blethers continues to take place every Thursday from 12.00-2.00 pm in The Hub and the group have organised a Move to Music activity running for 4 weeks commencing on Thursday, 22nd Feb from 11:15 to 12 noon in The Hub, with participants able to stay on and get their lunch if they wish via Bertha Blethers.

Youth Group

Taking on board the feedback from the taster session. The club now meet on a Wednesday from 17:45 to 19:15. Attendance is starting to pick up with some new faces coming along. The Youth workers are happy with how it is developing.

Parent and Pre-School Group

GD ran through the results of the survey with 48 responses were received. MO to take on the development of the group and organise a preliminary get together of parents to agree on days, dates and times of sessions. MO is also liaising with PKC. GD to investigate Public Liability Insurance for the Group.

Warm Welcome Items

It was agreed to buy more items using the funds credit balance and bring them into stock. So far 17 residents have benefited with 48 items distributed.

Update on Issues

Factor

The Group still does not have a definitive map of the development highlighting which areas ScreenAutumn actually service. GD to chase with SD

GD to check with SD who is responsible for the Street lighting in Bertha Way as it is on all the time.

Discussion took place around apartments and their communal stairwell lighting and fire alarms. Residents who own apartments appear to be being charged quite a bit for communal lighting and fire alarms. GD/SD and a residents are trying to establish if 1) the solar panels are working and 2) by monitoring the electric meter export function, should be able to ascertain the benefit of the solar panels to residents. However, one meter in one block is faulty. Trying the other meter on 16th Feb and will feed back at next meeting.

SD/GD to visit an address where the Resident has been complaining about the poor state of their hedging due to sub standard planting. This should take place on the 16th of Feb.

Next financial year's budget will be due from ScreenAutumn at end of March.

Car parking area behind apartments on the corner of Mercer St and Geddes Avenue has been tidied up.

Planted beds on corners or at the end of a row of houses where there is a wall followed by approx a metre of planting then the service strip. It has been established using the Land Registry of Scotland's website Scotlis to be the responsibility of the owners.

Update from discussions with PKC

Road Adoption

Have received a spreadsheet and map highlighting areas defined on spreadsheet. No progress to update.

Speeding

GD trying to establish if Springfield will allow a big circle with 20 in the middle of it to be located at each end of Geddes Avenue. If Springfield agree, then GD to approach Tayside Contracts to fulfil this via their Community Engagement scheme.

No feedback on traffic "tubes" being installed in Geddes Avenue as yet from PKC.

Bus Service

No feedback from PKC or Stagecoach

Cross Tay Link Road

Nothing more to update from last meeting.

Primary School Plan

No further update. Comments made by Residents that Ruthvenfield school is nearly at capacity as is Pitcairngreen.

Paths

The Land owners is open for the path to be developed. Involving Capability Scotland to ascertain their view regarding access for people with mobility issues. Next step is GD/DW on SWECO review body looking into walking, horse riding and cycling routes as a result of the new link road. Aim to try to expand this into areas where these paths should link.

Litter Picking

PKC will provide equipment. GD to request.

Developers Fund

GD has written to PKC to clarify interest accrual and where it goes and also to establish application process to access funding.

Update following Latest Meeting with Springfield

Surfacing of roads and pavements in the Mercer Avenue, Draper Road and Consul Road has been completed.

Residents have suggested to Springfield that they plant a real tree this spring in the existing planted bed adjacent to where the christmas tree was located. Christmas tree planted by Nurture in Dykes of Grey also fell down three times. Poor workmanship appears to be the cause on both counts.

Additional bins have been requested for a new bin at the junction of Draper Road and Calico Way. Approval for this additional bin has not yet been received. Springfield will absorb associated costs until handed over to Screen Autumn. Still awaiting confirmation from Springfield.

SUDS pond - as requested GD did send in an email to Springfield highlighting the material changes that have occurred since the risk assessment conducted in 2019. Springfield replied that the survey was conducted with full occupancy of the school and the number of additional anticipated houses taken into consideration. Springfield concluded that a further risk assessment was not required. However, during the Springfield monthly site H&S inspection, the inspector will have a look at the life rings to ensure they are present, correctly mounted and available.

GD has asked for clarification from ScreenAutumn / Springfield as to who is responsible for the area of ground on the park side of the pond immediately on your left prior to going over the bottom wooden bridge.

AOB

A discussion took place around some fundraising ideas for the Group. After discussions it was thought that a "Brains of Bertha" might have some traction. With streets able to nominate teams of 3 or 4 at £30 per team to compete. Hopefully get prizes donate by local businesses. Also discussed was a summer BBQ, Christmas Fayre/Craft Market, Car boot sale - GD to meet with Andrew of Starfish to discuss licences and any synergies the group may have with Starfish around these events. Contact Dog Warden around increase in dog mess in Bertha Way and in general.

An incident of anti-social behaviour had been witnessed at the end of Bertha Way whereby a fire had been started in the waste ground adjacent to the flats. A resident had to call the fire brigade to attend.

The Hub will be hosting Evening Conversation on Thursday evening during Lent. Will be advertised.

Next Meeting is on Wednesday, 6th March 2024 at 19.30 at the Community Hub, 15 Adamson Avenue, Bertha Park, Perth.