

Bertha Park Residents Community Group

Notes and updates from the Bertha Park Residents Community Group (BPRCG) Meeting held on Wednesday, 6th of March 2024 at The Hub, 15 Adamson Avenue, Bertha Park, Perth.

In attendance:

Chairperson, Gordon Davidson (GD); Vice-Chairperson, David Walters (DW) and 15 residents
Also Matthew Webster and Roddy from Tayside YMCA for the early part of the meeting

Apologies:

Secretary, G. Crawley; Treasurer, M. Osborne; Cllrs Laing and McLaren, and one member of the committee.

Welcome from Chairperson

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting

Proposed by Linda Lessels and seconded by Alice Davidson

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting

No matters arising.

Chairperson Report

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

Youth Club update

Matthew Webster gave the meeting an update on the progress of the Bertha Park Youth Group and he thanked the Residents Group for providing the Xbox etc as it is proving very popular activity at the club. He also intimated that he hoped to a Primary School club for P5-P7 from 15:45-17:45 after the Easter Holidays. Matthew also stated that he was planning to host some Activities Wednesday 10th April between 11-2. Publicity materials will be available soon. The Residents thanked Matthew and Roddy for all their hard work in getting the youth group up and running and volunteered to help get any promotional materials for up and coming events out to the community.

Committee's Reports

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

Vice-Chairperson Report

DW intimated that he hoped to have a representative from Kingdom Housing Association attend our April meeting. He had had no response from Simple Life despite sending four emails.

Discussion took place regarding the performance of ScreenAutumn. Gd stated that Lynne Haden had left the business and will not be replaced. Her duties will mainly be absorbed by Stephen Davis. The residents felt that this would just further add to his extensive current workload.

After further discussion the residents unanimously agreed that the Group should move to Stage Two of the ScreenAutumn complaints procedure. DW to compose a letter defining the areas where ScreenAutumn have not met the prescribed standards noted within the 2011 Scottish Factor Act. This letter to be passed to the Treasurer who will endeavour to have it checked out from a legal perspective.

Funding / Initiatives Update

GD provided an update on current issues / initiatives.

Bus Service 4 - proposed Stagecoach Timetable changes

The residents again intimated their concern and dismay at the proposed changes.

GD intimated that he had written to our MP, MSPs, our Elected Councillors, Stagecoach East of Scotland MD and Springfield.

Our MSP, J. Swinney had attend a meeting in the Hub on Friday, 1st March to listen to the concern of the 41 residents who attended. J. Swinney now to seek a meeting with Stagecoach whilst also formally realise his concern with this company.

GD also intimated that PKC Senior Officer and some elected officials are due to meet Stagecoach this week regarding the issue.

Springfield had discussed the issue at the March monthly meeting but as yet no feedback.

Parent and Pre-School Group

The Group ran a preliminary meeting to discuss the implementation of this group. Only one resident turned up which was disappoints especially as 38 who completed the survey had said they would be interested. The meeting was held on Saturday morning, which again the survey had highlighted as the best time to meet. However, the Group is to push ahead with some taster sessions working closely with Anne Stott. It is hoped these will be well attended and we can then push forward with the formation of this group.

Factor

The Group is still pursuing a map of areas covered by ScreenAutumn to be hopefully to be provided on 22nd March. All hedges in apartment areas have been cut

Still pursuing transparency around Nurture's attendance on site

Nurture portal is now available for SD to view - will assess and revert back to the group

The Group is helping residents in apartments understand their solar energy facilities and how this contributes to the common areas electrical costs - once established should be shared with other residents in apartment.

Road Adoption

No further feedback from PKC

Speeding

PKC is liaising with Springfield regarding the installation of traffic "tubes" (cables straddling the road) in Geddes Avenue. The tubes count the numbers of cars and the speed they are going. PKC pursuing this with Springfield as part of a Road Traffic Audit prior to the adoption of the roads.

Bertha Park Link Road

In the design phase with many environmental and other studies to take place. Likely to start sometime in 2025 and will not be open prior to the new bridge over the Tay opening.

Primary School Plan

No further update.

Paths

The Group has met with BAM who are constructing the new bridge over the Tay and discussed the opportunity to benefit the area via BAM's community involvement project. After discussion BAM is going to assess the feasibility of them providing a type 1 path from Bertha Way up to Bertha Loch. The landowner would be supportive of this.

Litter Picking

Still waiting on the equipment being made available. GD has chased up.

Developers Fund

GD has received the application process to apply for funding. No feedback on where the interest goes on this account.

Update following Latest Meeting with Springfield

Springfield is actively seeking costings for the installation of road junction markings in the Draper, Mercer, Calico, Invictus area.

Springfield not minded to put a real tree in the planted bed on the grass area due to future construction plans. However, have agreed to provide a tree for this christmas and ensure it is more robustly erected.

Additional bins have been requested for a new bin at the junction of Draper Road and Calico Way. Currently seeking costs for purchase and installation. Springfield will absorb associated costs until handed over to Screen Autumn.

GD has liaised with Springfield to get the two bins in planted area in Draper Road emptied. Springfield have asked their site managers in the East and West villages to devise a rota for emptying the bins. Springfield is also seeking costing from ScreenAutumn to get their bin emptying contractor to add them to his work schedule. Springfield will absorb the cost of this until this area is adopted.

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. Responsibility has flipped and flopped between ScreenAutumn and Springfield. However, in the meantime Springfield have asked Nurture for a cost to remove the dead trees and trim the area in order to tidy it up until responsibility is established.

AOB

The bin areas behind the apartments in the Adamson Avenue are a disgrace with a lot of rubbish has been sitting outside of the bins for months. Fears that it will attract vermin to the area. A lot of confusion of which areas are allocated to the commercial businesses and those that are for residents use. Need to get a lot more clarity on the use of these areas, which areas should commercial businesses use and which areas residents should use. GD to liaise with PKC to try and get some out to have a look and then move to clarify the use of the areas with the subsequent communication to businesses and residents.

The Group worked with Springfield to get Heras fencing has been erected at the end of one of cul-de-sacs in Lormier Street to prevent people cutting through this area from the West village. A card had been damaged.

A local business owner gave the meeting an insight into ways that the Group could generate some income and reduce the need for the group to continually go to PKC for funding. The meeting was supportive of the ideas and agreed to go to the next stage of compiling a plan for submission to the Developers Fund to ascertain if it would be considered for funding. GD will work with business owners to compile plan and submit to PKC Developers Fund for consideration.

GD has written to the school regarding pupils using the Service button to gain entry into the common stairwells of apartments in Adamson Ave and Croll Gardens to eat their lunch / snacks. A lot of rubbish is being left on the stairwell with residents having to tidy it up. Some residents feel intimidated by the presence of these pupils in this area.

Discussion took place regarding to issues raised by the Group via Facebook. It was unanimously approved by the meeting that the Group will only respond to issues raised by residents via the Group's office bearers email addresses. GD to publicise this and ensure that the email addresses are prominent.

Discussion took place re the provision of the ability to remotely attend our meetings. There appeared to be some knowledge of how to get this to work and to what level we should take the interaction between face to face attendees and remote attendees. Some options were discussed via Zoom, Teams and FB Live. Agreed that GD would seek advice from the IT team at Bertha Park High School to ascertain what the best solution would be.

Digital skills session hosted by PKC in The Hub between 09:30-11:30 will take place on 18, 25 April and 2, 9, 16 May. GD to publicise

PKC Planning, Transport teams will be on site on 27th March to have a look at Bertha Park with a view to review "lessons learned" when it come to planning other such developments - what worked well and what should be done differently.

Next Meeting is on Tuesday, 9th April 2024 at 19.30 at the Community Hub, 15 Adamson Avenue, Bertha Park, Perth.