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MINUTES of MEETING of BUTE COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM held in EAGLESHAM HOUSE, ROTHESAY on FRIDAY, 17 APRIL 2015

Present: Councillor Len Scoullar (Chair)

Robert Cowper, Anti-Social
Behaviour Co-Ordinator
Jim Ferguson, Amenity Warden
Joe McCabe, Amenity Supervisor
Craig Boland, Buteman
Insp. Gordon Anderson, Police
Scotland
Rosemary MacMillan, ACHA
Kathryn Armstrong, Fyne Homes

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated from:-

Colin Whiteford, Scottish Ambulance Service
Richard Gorman, Environmental Health Officer

2. **MINUTES**

Adjustments to the Present Section – Insp. Paul Robertson, Kathryn Armstrong and Richard Gorman did not attend the last meeting.

The minute of the Bute Community Safety Forum held on Friday 13 February 2015 was approved as a correct record subject to an amendment that the above persons intimated apologies.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

(a) **DOG FOULING SUPERVISORY CAMERA**

Councillor Len Scoullar advised that he had met with Apple Tree Nursery to indicate the securing of a camera to monitor dog fouling. The three housing associations are paying £750 each towards the camera and Bute Community Council are applying to the Common Good Fund for a payment.

Robert Cowper had given Councillor Len Scoullar a report on the legalities of having a camera which he gave the meeting a summary of:- Argyll and Bute Council have at present 4 mobile CCTV cameras which are deployed across the council area specifically to monitor Anti Social Behaviour. It was originally agreed that the Council would obtain and maintain the cameras and the Police would monitor them. No one in Argyll and Bute Council is authorised to monitor public space CCTV evidence.

Jim Ferguson advised that the environment wardens wear body cameras these are monitored by Ailsa Cunningham.

Insp. Gordon Anderson advised that in the past CCTV Trusts through grants and capital projects obtained cameras and local citizens would sit in local police stations and monitor the cameras, however, when the Public Security Industry Act 2001 came into force, persons had to be qualified to monitor cameras. So for someone now to monitor CCTV evidence they must be qualified.

Actions

1. Insp. Anderson to speak with Chief Inspector Paul Robertson regarding the role of the police with CCTV
2. Councillor Len Scoullar to speak with Iain Jackson to clarify the Council's position.
3. Jim Ferguson to speak with Ailsa Cunningham to seek any further advice she can give.

4. PARTNERS UPDATE

(a) POLICE SCOTLAND

Insp. Gordon Anderson advised that there had been changes to personnel within the Police. Insp. Paul Robertson had been promoted to Chief Inspector and is now a Commander for the Area. This has left a vacant post in the Bute, Dunoon and Helensburgh Area, so Insp. Gordon Anderson will be filling that post on a temporary basis.

Crime figures on Bute since the last meeting are:-

50 Crimes reported
32 detected
7 being Drug related
10 being assaults
9 for dis-order – 8 detected
3 – Road Traffic Accidents/Careless Driving
Vandalism and a charge under the Dangerous Dogs Act.

Inspector Robertson had presented these figures at the last Bute Community Council Meeting.

Police Scotland has carried out a nationwide Bogus Caller Initiative. Bute does not get many cold callers; however, the police were giving out literature at the local supermarket.

Another initiative that police are running is Safe Cycling on the Island, which has been promoted on the local radio station Bute Island Radio, this is on the back of a cycling fatality last year and another incident which resulted in serious injuries.

(b) **SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE**

A representative from Scottish Fire and Rescue was not present at the meeting and therefore no update was provided.

(c) **SCOTTISH AMBULANCE**

A representative from Scottish Ambulance was not present at the meeting and therefore no update was provided.

(d) **FYNE HOMES**

Kathryn Armstrong advised that Fyne Homes Welfare Rights Officer was extremely busy at the moment, mainly helping tenants affected by the bedroom tax. Universal Credit will come into force in April 2016 which will have a big impact on tenants, Fyne Homes are putting out as much information as they can to support their tenants. There is a backlog with the DWP over The Personal Independent Payments.

Kathryn had meeting with Jim Ferguson and Joe McCabe concerning dog fouling – Fyne Homes have carried out meetings with tenants who have dogs making them aware of the implications of dog fouling.

They have a nursery nurse working in Rothesay and Dunoon running support classes.

Interest has been shown in the buying of Bute Court House.

(e) **ACHA**

Rosemary MacMillan advised that Bute Community Council had raised with ACHA child road safety concerns on the road at Roselea Crescent. There is an issue with speeding vehicles, mainly delivery drivers between the hours of 3pm and 6pm. At the moment there are “20’s Plenty” signs. A “Children at Play” sign and a speed bump could help. ACHA are waiting on prices for putting up a fence on the footpath.

Rosemary to email Councillor Scoullar with details of meeting and he will take it forward.

Insp. Gordon Anderson will take forward putting further patrols in Roselea Crescent. The Police do have a school liaison officer who could go to the schools to do Road Safety talks.

(f) **WOMENS AID**

A representative from Women’s Aid was not present at the meeting and therefore no update was provided.

5. ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Amenity Services

Jim Ferguson, Amenity Warden gave a verbal update on the following points:

- A dog biting incident resulted in individual being charged by police and reported to Procurator Fiscal. The dog has now been rehomed in the Balloch area and the council have withdrawn their report to PF. Jim has created a Dog Control leaflet which is on the Council website.
- Female being charged with Fly Tipping.
- Garden Waste which is dumped is classed as Fly Tipping.
- Trailers are not being treated as abandoned vehicles but are being classed as rubbish.

A discussion took place regarding fixed penalty fines within Amenity Services

- Dog fouling - £40 going up to £60 after 28 day period
- Fly Tipping - £80 - £200. Businesses caught fly tipping can be prosecuted and fined up to £40,000
- Littering - £80

Joe McCabe, Amenity Services advised that himself and Jim are working with partners to set up a Pilot Scheme to tackle Dog Fouling – first steps have been taken for everyone to work together, setting up joint initiatives with housing associations.

Joe explained that complaining to Council about Dog Fouling has been made simpler and can be reported on-line through the council website. The council received 27 complaints on dog fouling this time last year, there has been considerably more this year.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Robert Cowper, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator advised that the next Anti-Social Behaviour Sub Group meeting in Bute is in May.

6. AOCB

Rosemary MacMillan of ACHA advised that she had sent Richard Gorman, Environmental Health Officer, an email looking for advice on how to deal with Seagulls. Jim Ferguson confirmed that Amenity Services do not do Bird Control, due to the cost. He did advise that there are “Birds Free Optical Gels” available at £32 per box of 15 trays, which can be put on the roof of a house to deter birds nesting. With regards to people feeding the birds, by throwing food out to them the council are taking a stand and will give a fixed penalty notice £80 for Littering.

Joe McCabe to be added to the Community Safety Forum distribution list.

No further business discussed.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 12th June, 10.15am Eaglesham House, Bute