

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minutes of the 36th meeting of the Community Council held at 7.30pm on the 30th January 2023 via Zoom conferencing facility.

PRESENT: Shona DRYBURGH [Auchtermuchty], Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Susan JACK [Gateside], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt], Andrew MCNAUGHTON [Gateside], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Derek THOMPSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo]

ATTENDING: Brian SLATTERY [ACT]

1.0 **Welcome and Apologies:** The Chair welcomed all those attending.

Apologies: Maaike COOK [Strathmiglo], Cllr. Gary HOLT, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Cllr. David MACDIARMID, P.S. Manuel

2.0 **Declarations of interest:** these will be made when appropriate.

3.0 **Police:**

3.1 Report has been circulated to members; a number local offences recorded and volunteers still looked for for Speedwatch campaign.

4.0 **Minutes of Meeting:** the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 28th November were accepted.

5.0 **Matters Arising:** the Chair will take items and individual community matters within the agenda.

6.0 **Other Business:**

6.1 Parish Online mapping system; a digital mapping system that may be of use in the forming of a Local Place Plan. Will be looked into by LPP group.

6.2 Binn Wind Turbine Community Fund; applications for up to £3000 are now being accepted via the Foundation Scotland website;
<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/fundingavailable/binn-wind-turbine-community-fund> [though CC was not forewarned] with the first deadline for applications 26/02/2023.

Also open is the application for Fund Panel members, 9 in total, available at;
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=eNTJ099Ymkq8XcLMWeEqY15VJz9KHelEn7tEAFU3h7JUMkwwRIBONk5DRtc5RTRaTzM5VEs4M0RZNS4u>] with a deadline for applications 26/02/2023.

It is hoped that a fund for microgrants will be released to CC's shortly for dispersal. More publicity is required for the Fund and Panel member application it is hoped that Foundation Scotland will be responsible for this rather than the CC.

Our Community Energy, no meeting has yet been called [though scheduled for January 2023] regarding the appointment of Directors -suitable candidates should be looked for in the meantime. The Board will need to be formed to allow future monies to be released. Chair will pursue.

7.0 **Fife Council:**

7.1 **Gateside:**

7.1.1 Glenvale parking; notices at the car park [recently renovated] have been reported concerning parking charges now in operation, though there is some uncertainty about who was responsible, it appears that the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust [FCCT] are aware of them. While the CC has no major objection to such charges, it was felt that enforcement would be a major difficulty as even though the day time parking is voluntary, there is no way to show which particular vehicle has made

payment. There has been no consultation with the CC though it is reported that local residents had spoken to workmen during the installation. Fife Councillors will be asked if they were consulted. The question of whether a private contractor to collect charges/fines for non-payment was raised. Local residents see little evidence of the current parking signage [rural clearway] being enforced and have little confidence in this improving the situation. The Secretary will contact P.S. Manuel about the current police position on enforcement and the Chair will consult with the FCCT.

7.1.2 Village events; both Christmas and Burns Night went well, and it is hoped that there will be involvement in the Conservation event based in Strathmiglo in February.

7.1.3 Toasty Tuesday; is now an official warm place event receiving funding from Fife Council and therefore open to all Fife residents. It is hoped that it will be used in future by Fife Council staff as an information hub to spread information concerning welfare, help available etc.

7.1.4 Foodbanks; concern has been raised as it appears Gateside is not 'officially' covered under the Cupar area foodbanks system with cover stopping at Strathmiglo. Local residents feel that this is another example of them losing out by being on the edge of the community. Questions were raised as to who made the decision and whether there was a capacity problem. Funds and goods raised in the area are done so with all the CC area meant to benefit.

7.2 Strathmiglo:

7.2.1 Conservation Group; leaflets have been distributed concerning the weekend event based in Strathmiglo Public Hall on the 19th February. A number of both indoor and outdoor activities are planned.

7.2.2 Path Group; the route from Strathmiglo to Auchtermuchty is to be re-examined as a result of evidence of recent flooding on part of the planned route. [Paul Harris has been given as a contact in Auchtermuchty] The next Path Group meeting [8th February] will discuss possible changes.

7.2.3 Western entrance road surface; the poor condition of the surface has been repeatedly reported.

7.2.4 Aberargie to Strathmiglo road; the question of why this road is 40mph and considered walking and cycling friendly until you reach the Fife border was raised again. The CC is in need of a definitive answer from Fife Council as to why this is the case. [The Dryside being in a similar position should be included in any answer.]

7.3 Auchtermuchty

7.3.1 Low Road/High Road junction flooding; photographic evidence was sent to Fife Council, but as no domestic properties are threatened it is thought unlikely that the situation will be given priority. It was acknowledged that instances of flooding are less frequent, though it also the case that original drains are no longer in use [blockage/removal?] and water from the area now converges into this one culvert.

7.3.2 Outstanding issues for Councillors; Weddersbie Farm water crossing road, the possibility of traffic lights at the junction of the B936 and A91, the Mournipea road surface [damage to road surface properly repaired but nothing done to drainage resulting in repairs being undone], parking restrictions planned for Orchard Flat [it appears that the map being used does not show a true representation of the current situation. There is a need for the parking in the area to be addressed, the Secretary will contact Transportation and recommend a site visit.

7.3.3 Auchtermuchty Hub Cafe; is functioning successfully.

7.3.4 Auchtermuchty Community Association; new officers are now in place, they are currently planning the Coronation street party.

7.4 Dunshalt:

7.4.1 Village Hall; activities and general use are going well, but ‘fresh blood’ is needed for the management committee.

7.4.2 Speed survey; a recent speed survey has shown the need for further speed restriction measures to be put in place. No timetable for installation given.

8.0 **OSP:**

8.1 Cemetery provision; a recent survey found no problems in this area.

8.2 AbilityNet; an offer has been made to assist members of the public, charities and organisations to increase digital inclusion. The local community relationship administrator [Chris Andrews] is hoping to work with the CC through their free volunteer service.

9.0 **Planning:** the Secretary had noted no applications requiring CC comment over the past 4 weeks. Members are reminded that they can be added to the weekly email list sent out by Fife Council.

10.0 **Correspondence:** the secretary has forwarded on to members all relevant correspondence received.

11.0 **AOCB; none**

12.0 **Date and venue of next meeting:**

Monday 27th February at 7.30pm. Via the Zoom conferencing facility.