

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Community Council held at 8:00 pm on the 30th of October 2023 in Auchtermuchty Community Centre.

PRESENT: Maaike COOK [Strathmiglo], Mark Gibson [Auchtermuchty] Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt], Andrew MACNAUGHTON [Gateside], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, 2 Members of the Auchtermuchty Theatre Group

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

Apologies: Cllr. Gary HOLT, Cllr. David MACDIARMID, Susan JACK, Bill TORRANCE, PC's Haddow and Lowe.

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

3.0 **Police:**

A new sergeant is appointed. NO speed-watch during wintertime, this due to Health & Safety reasons. The Low road is very dangerous, especially during the weekends. 20 mph limit will probably only be implemented as of 2025. All local councils are waiting on the Scottish Government's decisions. Inadequacy of signage around schools apparent. More visibility of Police is requested. During a Councillors meeting with Police, these items will be addressed again.

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

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

6.0 **Other Business:**

6.1 Binn Wind Turbine Community Fund [BWTCF]; No new updates. Applications are on hold. Susan JACK to give an update after contact with Greencat.

7.0 **Fife Council:**

7.1 **Auchtermuchty**

7.1.1 New street-name for housing estate is Shand Place ?

7.1.2 The Speed-indicator on Station Road is still not working. Cllr. Lothian to take this up with Fife Council. In the mean-time, keep reporting the issue

7.1.3 Flooding: **Auchtermuchty** was particularly badly hit, especially around Upper Greens, West Bank and Orchard Flat. Water came over the parapet from the bridge, water flooding from all sides of the hill. 1 farmer will re-plough the field to prevent water running down the hill. 5 houses near the Fire station are very badly hit, Cllr. Lothian spoke with the occupants. The water rose 2 feet in 4 minutes, in total the water was 3 foot higher than normal. **Freuchie:** Houses were flooded 3 foot deep. **Dunshalt:** The water treatment plant was overflowing with the result raw sewage flooding and 1 near drowning accident. **Gateside,** groundwater was rising under the hall. **Strathmiglo,** Burn burst its banks, Cricket pitch, as usually, flooded, footbridge in the George V park was not passable. In 2022 Fife Council held a meeting about a flood-study. Preferred option was an overflow to the east. This is an 8-9 million project. Cllr. Lothian will follow up on this. Local thoughts have changed after the last flooding, there is more fear amongst the population.

A public consultation should take place. Local Place Plan should be involved.

Engineers should be involved, the water-flow from the river should be slowed down. Releasing Beavers upstream would be a good solution. 2 Flood-pods to be placed in Dunshalt, Flood-pods in Auchtermuchty are available, but 1 in the wrong position. People are not aware of this. Gateside does not need flood-pods, Strathmiglo has flood-pods. Codes from the padlocks should be centrally registered at the Community Council. In case of emergency they can be released.

7.2 Dunshalt

7.2.1 Fife Council is reluctant to build out speed reduction measures, road-signs should be re-painted. Before the end of the year Fife council to replace signs and repaint the road.

7.2.2 Fly-tipping is cleared.

7.3 Gateside

7.3.1 Road-lines to be repainted, according to Cllr. Lothian this is still on the 'to do' list from Fife Council

7.3.2 There is a request to 'register' as of 2024 all events within this Community Council area centrally on the CC website, to avoid 2 or even 3 events on the same day.

7.4 Strathmiglo

7.4.1 Local Issues concerning 'rewilding' etc. during the summer are being resolved, more co-operation between the different groups is encouraged.

7.4.2. X-mas Craft Fair scheduled for 2nd of December, Strathmiglo Senior Citizens X-mas lunch scheduled for 17th of December

8.0 **OSP:** the Secretary forwards all relevant information that he receives.

8.1 An email has been received from the GP surgery manager, Carla Scott, to suggest another meeting between herself, GP's and Community Councillors. Linda Johnson (Community Enterprise + LPP) to be contacted about General Health and well-being issues. The Secretary will follow up on this.

9.0 **Planning:** Strathmiglo School has made an application for a heat-pump. Each Monday morning Planning applications are available on the Fife Council Website.

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

11.0 **AOCB;**

11.1 2 members from the Auchtermuchty Theatre Group have approached the CC, about the Victoria-hall. At this moment they use the Church-hall, but due to high demand it is getting very difficult and neighbours are complaining about the noise. The hall itself not really suitable. Props are stored in Dunkeld and were nearly lost in the last flooding. The Theatre Group asks help from the CC to be able to contact the Fife Council Community Assets Transfers group to take over the Victoria Hall. First for the Theatre Group to use, but in future to build it into a real Community hub. Rigorous and viable plans are needed. From the past a business-plan is apparently available. The Theatre Group is advised by the CC to contact the Auchtermuchty Community Trust for more information about this Business plan, to contact the Local Place Plan group via Brian Slattery, and attend the arranged workshops from the LLP. The hall is currently closed. Fife Council was to do a survey, this is not done until now. Cllr. Lothian to follow up on this. Time is, very much of the essence as the Theatre Group needs a new place in 2024. Community Council to write a letter to Fife Council.

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

Monday 27th November, Dunshalt Village Hall, 7.30p.m.