

# Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 30th Meeting of the Community Council,  
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
in Dunshalt Village Hall.

PRESENT: George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], Susan JACK [Gateside], Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty], Ian MACCAULAY [Dunshalt], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], Valerie WEIR [Gateside],

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, PC Whittaker and 2 members of the public

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members attending.

Apologies: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Cllr. David MACDAIRMID,

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Auchtermuchty Community Centre on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September, having been circulated to members, was accepted by those present.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING:

3.1 3.5 Dunshalt village shop; the price for the property has been agreed and negotiations are proceeding.

3.2 6.1.1 Bowiehill, Auchtermuchty; roads officers are to look into the situation.

3.3 6.3.1 A912 repairs; a date has been set for the 18<sup>th</sup> November, it is expected that the repairs and related diversion will last for 3 weeks.

3.4 6.4.1 Strathmiglo park trees; action is to be taken

3.5 6.4.2 Strathmiglo park wall; matters are in hand, as the wall supports West Road it has been agreed that Transportation will take responsibility for repairs.

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS: none

5.0 POLICE MATTERS:

5.1 Police report; PC Whittaker told the meeting that lack of attendance by officers had been due to manpower issues and shift times and gave an explanation as to how different grades of calls made to the police are responded to - in particular expected response times. He went on to give a summary of events in the area and actions being taken by officers including their work with local schools, the placing of 'Pop-up Bob' and the use of the speed camera. It was felt that the number of speeding tickets and warnings issued reinforced the benefits of a 'personal appearance' by officers. It was noted that the safety camera van has been seen in Gateside early on Saturday and Sunday when the community feels there would be more benefit if it were seen early weekday mornings.

5.2 New business; In Auchtermuchty residents are being disturbed by a high-powered vehicle being 'revved up' before driving away at speed. Environmental Health should be contacted concerning the noise issue, the Police will concentrate on the speeding. Details were passed on to PC Whittaker.

It was noted that communication, via email, concerning local issues are best directed to the Howe of Fife address where it can be picked up by all on the team, rather than individual officers where it may take time to answers due to shift patterns etc.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS: [not already covered]

**6.1 Dunshalt;**

6.1.1 Defibrillator; with the unit now installed training has been organised for 6pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> November in the village hall, this is open to all that are interested. The unit has been registered with the Scottish Ambulance Service.

6.1.2 Book events; a number of events are being run out of the village hall by Gail Honeyman - the first 7pm on the 28<sup>th</sup> November, these are open to all in the area.

**6.2 Gateside;**

6.2.1 School roll; it was noted that though Gateside Primary has a roll of 5, there are around 23 children of primary age in the village most having attended the school at one point then moved to other schools. It was commented that this situation appears to mirror Dunshalt and it was hoped not with the same result. Local residents, through the Community Association, hope to bolster the image of the school and encourage attendance. It was suggested that with the increase in Early Years provision, perhaps Gateside could have a nursery/pre-school unit formed, instead of attending such provision elsewhere, with the children then carrying on to the main school.

**6.3 Strathmiglo;**

6.3.1 Disabled parking bay; it was thought with the closure of the church hall on the High Street the disabled parking bay could be removed. Cllr. Heer thought that contractors for Fife did this work so there might be some delay in this being undertaken.

**6.4 Auchtermuchty;**

6.4.1 Road markings; it was noted that a number of road marking, particularly at junctions, have become worn and difficult to see. Cllr. Heer will pursue.

6.4.2 Defibrillator; a unit was installed recently at the Fire Station and training sessions are to be arranged. The Secretary informed the meeting that he had been told that it was the intention of the Coop shop to have a unit fitted at the shop as well.

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS; none

8.0 PLANNING: The Secretary drew attention to applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting.

8.1 East Mill Cottage; a planning in principle application has been lodged. As this was familiar to members checks will be made to see if Community Council has commented on a previous application.

8.2 Neighbour notification; discussion was held concerning the situation where Neighbour Notification had been sent out by Fife Planning but returned "unable to be delivered" resulting in the neighbouring property not receiving the statutory notification. Questions were asked if the fault was with the postal service for non-delivery to an address that exists or with Planning for not following up on the non-delivery.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE: the Secretary is now forwarding all correspondence received electronically to members.

9.1 Community Council elections; an email was received by the Secretary seeking clarification concerning the membership of the Community Council, election of the said body and its constitution and agendas for meetings. The Secretary pointed out that the member referred to had resigned and been replaced - indeed finding people to put their names forward had been a difficult task not helped by the short notice given by Fife Council. The last election of members had taken place in 2014 and will be due to take place 2018. The Constitution is lodged with Fife Council - as they are co-signatories. Agendas and Minutes of meetings are placed as soon as

possible on the Community Council's web site. Residents should contact the Secretary with any issue that they would wish to see placed on the agenda. In the discussion that followed it was agreed that wider participation in election of Community Councillors would be welcome and that better public notice would be beneficial. Though responsibility for this rests with Fife Council, the Community Council could raise awareness through the local Community Associations, noticeboards and shops in the area.

10.0 AOCB;

- 10.1 Unadopted roads; information was requested as to who would be best to contact within Fife Council concerning the spending of 'discretionary' funds that have in the past been used to repair 'unadopted' roads. If the monies are now not spent on such roads where is it being spent and how is it determined. Cllr. Heer told the meeting that demands for funds come from all areas - every Councillor has a number of issues that require funding - and it is the Council as a whole that determines where funds go.  
Cllr. Heer was asked if an area group could be formed to lobby Fife Council concerning the issue. Cllr. Heer will pursue.

11.0 Date and venue of next meeting.

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm, Gateside Memorial Hall.