

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 2nd Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 26th November 2018
in Auchtermuchty Community Centre

PRESENT: Helen BOWMAN [Auchtermuchty], Maaïke COOK [Strathmiglo], Jane FREER [Auchtermuchty], Susan JACK [Gateside], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], Valerie WEIR [Gateside]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN and 6 members of the public.

- 1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Vice-Chair welcomed Community Councillors, Fife Councillors and members of the public

Apologies: George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], Cllr. David MACDAIRMID, PC's Parker and Fisher

- 2.0 Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 29th October 2018 in Strathmiglo Village Hall.

- 2.1 3.0 Declaration of Interest; Cllr Heer pointed out to the meeting that the discussion, at the October meeting, concerning the Millflat development had included members who have a direct concern in the matter and they should have made a declaration of interest. The Secretary highlighted the fact that the Community Council's objection had been lodged before those concerned had become Community Councillors. The Community Council have not been in the practice of including a point in the meeting on the agenda for such declarations, but it will do so in future. It was felt that members are personally responsible for making a declaration at the time for items that are discussed at the meeting but had not appeared by name on the Agenda.

- 2.2 5.1 'Road Construction Consent'; though described as such at the meeting the correct term for the document referred to is the 'Fife Council Transport Report'.

- 3.0 Matters Arising; none

- 4.0 Other Business;

- 4.1 Millflat planning application; following the negative Fife Council Transport Report [FCTR] - discussed at length at the previous meeting - the situation does not seem to favour the developer. It was pointed out that the Reporter's response to the Local Plan, at the time of publication, was of the opinion that the access situation would not be a problem causing concern to the recently formed action group. There has been no comment concerning the current application. The meeting was told that the action group were looking to have the area of land removed from the Local Plan. Fife Councillors explained that once sites appear in a Local Plan they couldn't be removed until the Plan is reviewed and superseded by a new Local Plan. It is the intention of Fife Council that Plans will be reviewed on a 'rolling' basis and therefore may occur in a shorter time frame than the 'big bang' approach previously used. The site was included in the Local Plan because it met a number of basic criteria not because a detailed examination had taken place, which would occur on an application to develop. It was recommended that the action group meet with Fife planners to find out how they are approaching the proposed development. The action group were asking why the Fife Council Transport Report had been placed on the application site late allowing no comment by members of the public to be added. It was felt that the Roads Engineer may have gone through the objections and included them within their report. The Secretary reminded the meeting that the Community Council's objection had included all the points contained within the Fife Council Transport Report.

Councillor Lothian summarised the process of a planning application and the role of 'lay' contributors.

5.0 Police Matters;

5.1 Community Newsletter; November's edition has been circulated.

5.2 Police presence; the Secretary has emailed the local sergeant as no Community Officers have attended a Community Council meeting for some considerable time and also reminding him of his own wish to attend Community Council meetings. A Police presence at the January meeting was requested. No reply as yet.

6.0 Fife Council

6.1 Auchtermuchty

6.1.1 Fly-tipping; there have been reported occurrences at the Low Road park and in Pitmedden. Other occasions have been dealt with promptly by Fife Council once reported. Action against fly-tippers was sought, however catching offenders requires evidence and witnesses. It was felt that materials should be reported and left alone in order that untainted evidence could be gathered.

6.1.2 Strathview Care Home; the latest Care Commission report highlighted three areas two of which have been dealt with. There is an issue of staff retention and it appears lack of public transport, in particular on a Sunday morning, may be contributing to the problem. It was hoped at the next review of service this might be included in the discussion.

6.1.3 Bus timetables; there appear to be several stops without timetables. Remember to make a note of the bus stop code. **Contact Centre (Transportation - Report a Fault) Tel: 03451 55 00 11** or by using the online form: **Contact Contact Centre (Transportation - Report a Fault) online.**

6.2 Dunshalt

6.2.1 Speedwatch; it was reported that 8 volunteers have come forward for training. It was also noted that a number of accidents on the Dunshalt-Falkland road occurred in icy weather, it was hoped that speed was not a factor.

6.3 Gateside

6.3.1 Grit bins; when a request to fill a bin was made, the bin itself was removed. The process for siting bins appears, at best, erratic with no criteria obvious in the decision-making procedure. It was also noted that the Ambulance Service have given notice that they will not use an ungritted road/lane to protect the safety of their staff.

6.3.2 NHS service; the care and attention given to a local resident recently, was exemplary and worthy of recording in the Minutes.

6.3.3 Wi-Fi; the Memorial Hall is looking to provide a Wi-Fi service but was hoping for financial support. A search of Fife Direct for available grants was recommended.

6.3.4 Burnside bridge; it was reported that the small bridge on the region's border is being used by double-deck buses to avoid manoeuvring at the Burnside junction. It was not thought a safe activity. Bridges in Fife are inspected but it was questioned as to whether this particular bridge was on the list being on an unadopted road.

6.4 Strathmiglo

6.4.1 Road signs; West Road weak bridge signs have again been interfered with, one is still missing.

6.4.2 King George V park wall; repairs have been carried out to reported damage, but other areas have now been vandalised.

7.0 Other Service Providers; none

8.0 Planning Applications; The Secretary drew attention to applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting.

9.0 Correspondence; none

10.0 AOCB

- 10.1 Membership of Scotland's Towns; it was suggested that membership of this organisation be applied for by the Community Council. The question was raised as to whether the benefits and information can be obtained from Fife Council who are already a member. It will be discussed at the next meeting when more information may be available.
- 10.2 Planning Conference; it was suggested that the Community Council send a delegate, at the cost of £144, to the conference looking at the new planning legislation. Planning Aid for Scotland was suggested as an alternative, a mailing list is open to all, as the information on their courses is likely to be the same and more relevant to local organisations. The question was asked whether Fife Council are planning to run training course, including one for the planning process, for the new Community Councils. The meeting was told that these would be in hand but take time to organise.

11.0 Date and venue of second meeting of the Community Council.

Monday 28th January 2019, 7.30pm, Dunshalt Village Hall.