

# Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Community Council, held at 7.30 p.m.  
on 28<sup>th</sup> September via Zoom conferencing online facility

PRESENT: Helen BOWMAN [Auchtermuchty], Maaike COOK [Strathmiglo], Shona DRYBURGH [Auchtermuchty], Susan JACK [Gateside], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Ian MCCAULAY [Dunshalt], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo],

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN and 1 member of the public

- 1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed Community Councillors, Fife Councillors  
Apologies: none
- 2.0 Police Matters: No police presence at the meeting and no monthly report. The Secretary informed the meeting that two new community officers had taken up post but no contact has been made. Chair expressed the hope that one or both could take part in the next Zoom meeting; Secretary will send them a note.
- 3.0 Declarations of Interest; it was agreed to make these when appropriate.
- 4.0 Minutes of Meeting: the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August were accepted as correct.
- 5.0 Matters Arising:
  - 5.1 5.1 Press release; Chair had drawn up two possible submissions which were much approved by members. Chair will make final adjustments and submit the longer of the submissions. Final version will be circulated to members.
  - 5.2 5.3 Glenvale/Dryside parking; the situation of cars parking along the verge of the Dryside has continued. Actions have been taken by local residents, Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, Police, Fife Council, with little success so far. The issue was discussed on the Lomond Hills Regional Park RTI Funding Zoom meeting [see 11. AOCB] where it was agreed that further publicity of the walk would be avoided and consideration given to the anti-social parking including introducing charges allowing those parking 'illegally' to be issued a penalty notice and removing the existing car park to dissuade parking. Involvement by the new community officers will be pursued, along with further action by Fife Council. Evidence - e.g. photos - showing situation should be forwarded to Cllrs. Heer and Lothian to be passed on to relevant Fife officer.
  - 5.3 6.1.1 Gladman development Auchtermuchty; Helen Bowman has attempted to make contact with no response. There has been no activity in the area, the situation will continue to be monitored.
  - 5.4 6.1.2 Melville Wood ash disposal; awaiting progress of application. It was thought best to leave this to the Giffordtown CC to pursue, being the nearest CC to the site. There has been no concrete reason as to why the application failed to appear on the weekly planning lists, it appears to have been an oversight.
  - 5.5 6.1.5 Low Road Auchtermuchty wall; it was reported that funds for the repair will now be expected to come from Fife Transportation rather than a storm damage budget.
  - 5.6 6.2.1 Dunshalt Hall; this is now ready though has few bookings as yet.
  - 5.7 6.2.2 Dunshalt shop; the AGM of the shop group is to be held Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> Sept. It has now received its license.
  - 5.8 6.3.1 Station Road Gateside water leak; this is still occurring, it was reported that the road is to be dug up though whether this will require a road closure is not known.

- 5.9 6.3.2 Bower Park Gateside; the warning signs have not as yet been organised as the CA has not yet met [Memorial Hall has not re-opened] next meeting scheduled for Thursday 31<sup>st</sup>.
- 5.10 6.4.3 KGV Park toilets Strathmiglo; it was reported that the toilet block has been demolished but rubble left. It was suggested that, as an external company to Fife Council undertook the work, the removal of the rubble might not have been part of the contract. Also it has become apparent that the placement of the storage container may require planning permission that has not been sought - n.b. site is within a Conservation Area. Cllr. Lothian will pursue.
- 5.11 6.4.1 Tree in River Eden Strathmiglo; it was reported that the landowner has agreed to arrange for a tree surgeon to inspect site and remove what is deemed necessary. There may, in future, be a further call for Fife Council to deal with a tree on the other side of the Toll Bridge as it stands in Fife Council land.
- 5.12 6.4.2 Litter at Bellfield road side; though thought less obvious due to long grass it was felt that an official litter pick on the A912 from the edge of the village to Easter Cash Cottages would be beneficial. Cllr. Lothian will request an inspection.
- 5.13 6.3.3 No. 23 bus service; this service has stopped permanently. It is hoped that it may be possible to establish a connection to Kinross through the extension of an existing route. Cllr. Lothian to pursue. It was noted that, for those without their own transport, travel from the Gateside/Burnside area is now very limited. It was noted that a new Dundee to Edinburgh route is to be opened, thought to be via Perth, and it was suggested that a request for some of this service be routed through Fife via the A91.

## 6.0 Other Business

- 6.1 Burnside Telephone Box Auchtermuchty; Shona Dryburgh reported that the installation of the defibrillator in the phone box was progressing. Once established it will be taken care of by a group of local volunteers.

## 7.0 Fife Council

- 7.1 Auchtermuchty; no new issues

- 7.2 Dunshalt; no new issues

### 7.3 Gateside

- 7.3.1 School closure; it was noted that the final stages of the closure process are underway.

### 7.4 Strathmiglo

- 7.4.1 Village hall; the hall is now open to socially distanced activities. Though the school, a major user, have not restarted their bookings.
- 7.4.2 Fife Flood Forum; Paul Laidlaw of the FFF met with residents effected by recent flooding and was shown problem areas in the village. Advice is available from the FFF regarding protection measures, home insurance etc. He will be invited to attend the November meeting of the Strathmiglo CA with the intention of establishing a local flood group.

## 8.0 Other Service Providers. none

## 9.0 Planning

The Secretary drew attention to the fact that members can be added to a Fife Council mailing list to receive weekly updates directly through [development.central@fife.gov.uk](mailto:development.central@fife.gov.uk).

- 9.1 Planning complaint; a local resident has complained to Bill Torrance that, during a recent application, the planning process was not conducted as robustly as might be expected. It was felt that more attempt should have been made by Fife officers to bring objectors and applicant together to resolve issues and that the steps being undertaken 'remotely' did not allow for a full understanding of the situation. It was questioned whether the covid pandemic is limiting activities of officers resulting in the planning procedure being curtailed.

9.2 Planning process; it was agreed that proposed changes to the planning procedures should be discussed at a future meeting.

10.0 Correspondence

This is circulated to members via email. Secretary will resend any material that fails to get through.

11.0 AOCB

11.1 Lomond Hills Regional Park Zoom meeting Wed. 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept.; the meeting [attended by 2 members of the public] was aimed at introducing a presentation to the approach the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust are intending to take towards Rural Tourism Infrastructure Funding. They are looking to bring a number of developments together into one action for which large amounts of funding could be applied for than as individual projects. Feedback as to how the public use/would like to use existing tourist facilities in the area is also sought. A large part of the discussion formed around providing support to attractions, before they are publicised, using lack of parking at the Glenvale walking route as an example of what can go wrong.

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

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm via Zoom online.**