

# Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Community Council, held at 7.30 p.m. on 30th November via Zoom conferencing online facility

PRESENT: Shona DRYBURGH [Auchtermuchty], Maaïke COOK [Strathmiglo], Susan JACK [Gateside], Ian MCCAULAY [Dunshalt], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo],

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Dallas Searwright [FCCT], John Weir, Angus Bayne

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

Apologies: Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], PCs Lowe and Haddow

2.0 Police [It appears officers are unable to use Zoom facilities, the Secretary will forward any points raised.]

2.1 Dryside parking; this issue is a growing concern and will be one of the matters discussed when Councillors [Fife] meet with them this week.

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 26th October were accepted as correct.

5.0 Matters arising

5.1 3.2 Dryside parking; input from local farmers gave a clearer view of the severity of the situation and how the problem is far from abating. The hoped for easing of the problem with the winter months has not occurred causing major disruption to farm working, search and rescue activities, and general traffic in the area. The installation of a Rural Clearway was discussed though time to implement was thought a problem. Cllr. Heer noted that Perth & Kinross had managed to install a Rural Clearway quickly so it should also be possible for Fife. Police officers have been present, as has the Fife Coast and Countryside rangers, most weekends but are having difficulty enforcing obstruction laws Cllr. Lothian will be asking officers what is deemed 'obstruction' and at what point they would take action. As the road in question is part controlled by Perth & Kinross it was suggested that the authorities work together, given that Perth & Kinross have experience in moving quickly with Rural Clearways, it was thought that Fife should act as quickly as possible and Perth & Kinross would then follow. There are to be meeting held within Fife Council with no community representation, this was thought inefficient and the Chair would be willing to attend as Community Councillor if members of the public were not [ie local farmers]. It would appear that local farmers are to be consulted prior to the next meeting. Photographs of the situation are to be uploaded to the Community Council's Facebook page.

5.2 3.3 KGV toilets; a recent Strathmiglo Community Association meeting highlighted site designated for the container was more prone to flooding than the existing position. It would also have more visual impact on surrounding facilities. Fife officers have agreed that the original site of the toilet block would be the best option.

5.3 3.4 Stirling bus service; Fife Council are looking into extending the no. 66 to Milnathort & Kinross and are currently in discussion with Moffat & Williamson. Positive so far.

5.4 4.1.1 B936; the speed problem was raised with Fife Council and there appears to be no issue with the establishing of a 20mph limit, though how quickly it will be and whether it would extend the full length through Auchtermuchty is uncertain. It was noted that there are other areas that suffer from a similar problem where a 20mph is being ignored, one such being Millflat. Applying a 20mph limit to the A91 through Auchtermuchty was also discussed. Driving to the conditions should be the watchword. It was also noted that Borders authority have rolled out 20mph limits in most if not all villages and towns, this will be worth watching.

5.5 4.3.2 Gateside Halloween Walk; unfortunately cancelled due to concern over social distancing by 'Zombies'.

5.6 4.4.2 Community woodland den; this apparently has moved out of the woodland and the village boundary.

## 6.0 Other business

6.1 Low Road Coop plan; local residents appear to welcome the planned development but there are concerns regarding pedestrian crossing, on street parking and hours of business. Cllrs. Heer and Lothian have a personal connection to the application and will not be taking part in an official capacity. The Secretary recommended that the road layout in the immediate area be considered as with land available opposite the proposed entrance there is the possibility of installing a roundabout [this would also have an effect on the speeding issue in the Low Road].

The Community Council would like to be consultees on the issue [Secretary will so communicate] with possible issues:

- pedestrian guardrail/barrier at on edge of pavement at shop entrance
- additional pedestrian crossing provision
- how to carry out a discussion with Fife Planning

As there will be no meeting before the cut-off date the Chair and Secretary will draft a submission and circulate it to members for comment.

## 7.0 Fife Council

### 7.1 Auchtermuchty

7.1.1 Station road developments; it was noted that a whisky bond and bottling plant have been constructed with the developers showing an interest in the old whisky bond on Distillery Street, Cllr Heer is currently pursuing the issue of the ownership of the building. The area around Station Road has now become a welcome commercial hub for Auchtermuchty and the surrounding communities.

7.1.2 Old Kiln; [opposite the Cycle Tavern] it was noted that this has changed ownership and there is the intention of conversion to a "People's Shed".

7.1.3 Old phone box; this has now been purchased for installation of a defibrillator. Auchtermuchty CA have funds that could be made available, the group are seeking funds from various sources.

### 7.2 Dunshalt

7.2.1 Tree planting; the Woodland Trust is to supply trees for the community to plant.

### 7.3 Gateside

7.3.1 Road surfacing; the resurfacing of the A91 through Gateside is predicted to cause major problems with diversions yet to be finalised, these may include diversions through Glenfarg and the use of Station Road and the Dryside. There is local concern that the work is scheduled for the winter period but it was hoped that traffic calming measures could be included in the program eg 'rumble strips'. Cllr. Lothian noted that a new flashing speed sign is to be installed.

7.3.2 Memorial Hall; this has not reopened for public use but there are applications being submitted for work to be done on the building while closed.

#### 7.4 Strathmiglo

7.4.1 Flood Forum; after meeting with some Strathmiglo residents it was recommended that a representative be invited to a future meetings the information that is available would be useful to all the communities in the area. Secretary will so invite.

7.4.2 Vandalism; the Police have been made aware of a spate of vandalism in the community and have started to take steps to deal with offenders. The bus stop signal the Toll Bridge on the A912 was pushed over and although placed upright will need to be more permanently fixed. Cllr. Lothian will report.

7.4.3 A91/A912 road sign; this sign has again been given a temporary fix to allow it to be read but is in need of a permanent repair. Cllr. Heer will speak with Fife Council [Colin Stirling], there could be an issue with the damaged wall immediately behind the sign the land owner may be contacted.

7.4.4 White lines; a request was made to have the 'dimpled' texture [been seen in a number of areas within Fife] applied to the white lines on the A912 from East Mill Court entrance to the Toll Bridge as traffic regularly strays over the existing lines into on coming traffic.

7.4.5 Cash Fues resurfacing; local residents are well pleased with the standard of work done in the area.

#### 8.0 Other Service Providers.

8.1 Power cut info; the Secretary has received, and forwarded on, contact details concerning power cuts.

#### 9.0 Planning

The Secretary gave a brief summary of those applications in our area. Members were reminded that they could 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).

#### 10.0 Correspondence

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

#### 11.0 AOCB

1.1 Condolence; the Chair sent letter of condolence to Bill Bowman.

1.2 Future meetings; the Secretary has made no hall bookings for future meetings in the present situation. Meeting will continue via Zoom until further notice.

#### 12.0 Date and venue of next meeting of the Community Council.

**Monday 25th January at 7.30 pm via Zoom online [connection details nearer the date]**