

## Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minutes of the 27th meeting of the Community Council held at 7.30pm on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 via Zoom conferencing facility.

Present: Maaïke COOK [Strathmiglo], Shona DRYBURGH [Auchtermuchty], Susan JACK [Gateside], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Andrew MACNAUGHTON [Gateside], Ian MCCAULAY [Dunshalt], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Derek THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo]

Attending: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN

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

Apologies: PC's HADDOW and LOWE.

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

3.0 **Police:** any matters thought pertinent will be passed on to the community officers by the Secretary. The February report has been circulated. It is hoped that with Covid restrictions easing officers may be able to attend future meetings.

4.0 **Minutes of Meeting:** the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January were accepted as correct.

5.0 **Matters Arising:** the Chair will take individual community matters arising as each community is dealt with in the agenda.

5.1 6.1 Binn Eco Wind Farm Benefit Fund: the Chair and Secretary took part in planned Zoom meetings which discussed the distribution of funds. Two options took prominence Open Grant Funding [OGF] and individual Community Councils controlling 'pots' of money by channelling funds through a third party group in the form of 'micro-grants' [discussed maximum of £250]. The simplest format, and that preferred by the Chair and Secretary was OGF where community groups make application directly to Foundation Scotland who would be responsible for the administration and, where the application meets the agreed criteria, the distribution of funds [an aim would be that the overall distribution would be equal to each Community]. The decision making group would also have representatives from the Community Councils. It was made known that Foundation Scotland would charge a fee for this service but despite pressure from the Chair they did not give details. It was agreed that the Community Council would start with OGF but look to leave open the possibility of change to a hybrid form. It was noted that not all the Community Councils involved favoured this approach but would prefer their Community Council to have direct management of their 'share'. Further meetings are to be held.

6.0 **Other Business:**

6.1 Carswell Wynd Planning appeal; Fife Local Review Body plan to conduct a site visit with regard to the planning application [19/03631/PPP] for the land to the west of Carswell Wynd. It will take place on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March. The Review Body will then meet remotely at 2pm where the first consideration will take place. Though members of the public are not allowed to make representation, it can be viewed online at <https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/about-your-council2/politicians-and-committees/committees/committee-livestreams>

7.0 **Fife Council:**

7.1 Auchtermuchty:

7.1.1 [7.2.4] the defibrillator has arrived – delayed – training and installation organised.

7.2.2 [7.2.2] Coop crossing: correspondence has been received from Lesley Craig, Fife Council, concerning the speed reduction measures in Low Road in particular between Stratheden Place and the west gateway. The Secretary replied that, with the opening of the new Co-op shop on the Low Road,

there will be a need for a crossing in that location – a point expressed by the Community Council at the planning stage – and that traffic management for the length of the Low Road should be examined before monies are spent. To this end he recommended a site visit be arranged and discussion held, a suggestion also pressed for by both Fife Councillors Andy Heer and Donald Lothian.

7.2 Dunshalt:

7.2.1 Place Planning; Dunshalt CA have invited Brian Slattery to discuss the plans for the community facility raised at the last Community Council meeting.

7.2.2 Village hall; roof was damaged in storm, looking for funding.

7.2.3 Heids and Hearts; the group are to be making a video about community halls in the Howe.

7.3 Gateside:

7.3.1 Speeding; the Gateside CA are to accept proposals put by Fife Council to ensure a speedy installation. They are however still seeking to have Cowiefaulds recognised as a hamlet allowing suitable road signage, and lighting, to be installed.

7.3.2 Station Road bridge surface; the full width of the carriageway has been resurfaced instead of the patching that normally occurred, this was welcomed by residents.

7.3.3 Defibrillator; funds are to be raised to have one installed at the Memorial Hall.

7.4 Strathmiglo

7.4.1 Place Planning; Strathmiglo CA are also to invite Brian Slattery to discuss his plans.

7.4.2 High Street; local residents looking to buy an electric vehicle have found that as a Conservation Area there would be difficulty over the installation of charging points and are looking for possible solutions. It was noted that houses within conservation areas have similar problems with some types of insulation and solar panels.

7.5.3 Cottown [1854 spelling] Road: the issue with flooding is still evident, a path was cut through vegetation for walkers, but will need a long term fix. The CA will contact the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust and the local land owner to come up with a possible solution.

8.0 **OSP:** none

9.0 **Planning:** it has been a very quiet time for applications in the area, with only a few domestic improvements applied for. Details of all planning application in the Community Council area in the last month were sent to all Community Councillors.

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

11.0 **AOCB:** none

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

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022, 7.30pm, held in person. Details of venue to follow.**