

## Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

### Minutes of the 39th meeting of the Community Council held at 7.30pm on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in Strathmiglo Public Hall.

**PRESENT:** Maaike COOK [Strathmiglo], Susan JACK [Gateside], Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt], Andrew MCNAUGHTON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo]

**ATTENDING:** Cllr. Gary HOLT, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Dallas SEAWRIGHT [FCCT], Robbie BLYTH [FCCT], James FRETWELL

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

Apologies: Shona DRYBURGH [Auchtermuchty], Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Derek THOMPSON [Gateside], Cllr. David MACDIARMID, PC. Haddow and PC. Lowe.

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

3.0 **Police:** Awaiting latest area report. Reports of sheep worrying have been made to officers with quick response given, this was appreciated.

4.0 **Minutes of Meeting:** the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March were accepted.

5.0 **Matters Arising:** the Chair will take items and individual community matters within the agenda.

6.0 **Other Business:**

6.1 FCCT activities; Dallas Seawright outlined some of the current activities being undertaken in the area. The Lomond Regional Park has been in a lull, Covid and staffing, is to be reinvigorated with invitations being given to local landowners – there is the aim to restart the regional park newsletter put out twice a year. It is a good forum for joint efforts including tree planting on a large scale and invasive species control through its ability to apply for funds and engaging interested parties. The invasion of non-native species leads to issues including habitat and biodiversity degradation and river bank erosion and is to be tackled over the long term collating any information available. They would be looking to put together a comprehensive report on the environment of the River Eden from source to sea [working with other groups such as Sustainability Cupar, SEPA, Eden Anglers Association] using a Project Officer, steering group, contractors and volunteers. Community involvement could include habitat improvement – based on an agreed accreditation scheme with Perth & Kinross, and would appreciate Community Council backing. It was agreed to send a letter of support. Dallas will keep the CC informed with the progress of the project so that the CC can help in whatever way it can. Robbie Blyth updated the CC with the Glenvale Car Park alterations, it now has 16 spaces including one for a disabled driver and motorhome overnight. New litter bins [including for recycling and disposable BBQs] are to be put in place. It is recognised that inappropriate parking is still going on but as the site is monitored – with rules displayed making it obvious that the site is regulated – it is hoped that the situation will improve as has been the case in other car parks. Mobile parking attendants are in operation, though there are no enforcement powers, as part of the Parking Association driver details can be obtained from the DVLC for frequent offenders. It is a ‘softly softly’ approach rather than an ‘income generator’. Though the clearway signs are still on the Dryside it would be up to Fife Council to pursue to legal side. Informing the public is being tackled through signage and the production of a series of leaflets covering the use of motorhomes, wild camping and toileting in the countryside. How to distribute these leaflets was discussed and giving some to local farmers – those most likely to come into contact – was suggested. The Chair recommended that this ‘public education’ stress the fact the ‘amenity’ being used [the Regional Park] is maintained and supported by local land owners and that the FCCT is a charitable body working in conjunction with Fife Council and not as part of it.

6.2 Johnny Cash Ancestral Trail; James Fretwell gave an outline of his project to link all the places connected to the Cash name with a circular walk including Falkland, Strathmiglo and Dunshalt,

making use of the No. 64 bus route, existing paths, speaking to local land owners and planting apple trees along the walk at key points. With a website and leaflet being prepared and opening 'event' to be organised. Unfortunately, he had hoped for local school involvement but has received no response to his enquiries [the Strathmiglo CA has had similar problems], Cllr. Holt and Lothian will see if they can help establish contact.

6.3 Binn Wind Turbine Community Fund; as part of the setting up of the fund, Foundation Scotland are looking for a Memorandum Of Understanding with the CC's to outline the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved, how they will work together and what will happen in the event of any changes. This has already been signed by the Glenfarg and Abernethy & District CCs, the Chair will seek clarification of the process of terminating the Fund Agreement before the CC signs. The Panel is to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May to begin making decisions on grant applications [a 4<sup>th</sup> 'reserve' Panel member is still being sought from Auchtermuchty to provide one from each community], it was noted that the application process is still reported as being laborious and over complicated. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will meet to come up with a possible arrangements of dealing with Microgrants including publicity, application for, decision making and recording. [the Treasurer will endeavour to contact Fife Council concerning how these might impact the CC's financial records]

## **7.0 Fife Council:**

### **7.1 Strathmiglo:**

7.1.1 High Street pot holes; a large number of small pot holes have formed along the length of the High Street and although there is evidence of repair to some it was suggested that these be treated as a single issue rather than individuals. A check will be made to see if they have been reported and if not endeavour to link the reports on the Fife website.

7.1.2 Dogs/Land owner concerns; dog fouling on agricultural land and sheep worrying are causing local land owners a great deal of concern. Signage at favourite dog walking areas is being considered and an article in the Strath Newsletter will seek to highlight the problems reminding residents that fines, imprisonment and the dog being put down are all possible outcomes of sheep worrying.

### **7.2 Auchtermuchty**

7.2.1 Community Association update; it is hoped to keep the CA running, there is to be another meeting to discuss its role in the town.

7.2.2 Millflat no entry sign; now not obscured.

### **7.3 Dunshalt**

7.3.1 Playpark; a successful meeting held with the way forward explained. It is to be included in the group of projects from April, local fund raising to go ahead.

7.3.2 Resignation; it was noted that Matthew McDonald is to resign from the CC.

7.3.4 Community Association; ad hoc groups are to be formed for residents to sign up to without having to be involved in the CA itself.

### **7.4 Gateside**

7.4.1 Community Association; a new committee has been formed at the AGM, in looking to the future and possible changes to their constitution, they aim to form a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation and recommend the other CAs do the same.

7.4.2 Toasty Tuesdays; these will continue in reduced form.

7.4.3 Traffic calming; awaiting the last elements to be put in place.

7.4.4 Springfest; a successful event held, which amongst other things highlighted the lack of provision for the youth of the village,

8.0 **OSP:** the Secretary forwards all relevant information that he receives.

9.0 **Planning:** none causing concern.

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

10.1 Cupar Development Trust; are holding a meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May in the Cupar Corn Exchange to discuss the formation of an Action Plan to cover the catchment area for Bell Baxter School [Cupar and the 57 settlements in the area]. The CC is invited to attend.

10.2 CC training; this is being provided online or in person to CC members on the 15<sup>th</sup> May between 5.30 and 7.30 pm in 2 sessions focussing on Planning. Register with [development.central@fife.gov.uk](mailto:development.central@fife.gov.uk)

11.0 **AOCB;** none

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

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May, Auchtermuchty Community Centre, 7.30p.m.**