

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minutes of the 40th meeting of the Community Council held at 7.30pm on the 29th May 2023
in Auchtermuchty Community Centre.

PRESENT: Maaïke COOK [Strathmiglo], Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Susan JACK [Gateside], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Andrew MCNAUGHTON [Gateside], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Derek THOMPSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Gary HOLT, Auchtermuchty Community Association [ACA] members Annette SCOTT, Julie COOK, Deborah STEAD and 1 member of the public.

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

Apologies: Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt], Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Cllr. David MACDIARMID, PC's Haddow and Lowe.

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

3.0 **Police:** Awaiting latest area report. Further reports of sheep worrying, including sheep killed, officers with quick response was again appreciated.

4.0 **Minutes of Meeting:** the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24th April were accepted with one addition;

6.1 Fife Coast and Countryside Trust [FCCT] activities; the FCCT are currently fund raising to carry out its activities and that the Community Council would support them in this.

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

5.1 6.1 FCCT activities; the FCCT have received funding for the River Eden survey and though the car park ticketing system is still settling in it was thought that more/clearer communication with the communities would assist in the process.

6.0 **Other Business:**

6.1 Binn Wind Turbine Community Fund [BWTCF]; the amount available to the CC is less than was expected and money has still to be paid out by Greencat to allow distribution, so although some grants have been awarded to projects in the area the actual transfer of funds will be delayed.

Communication with administrators is very unsatisfactory, attempts will be made higher up the managerial ladder. A request is to be made for a copy of the accounts.

A draft application form, to apply for a micro-grant from the CC, has been produced and circulated and any suggested improvements should be sent to the Treasurer. The CC needs to supply details to Foundation Scotland on how it intends to organise the distribution of micro-grant monies – Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will confer.

The Chair gave a brief summary of the history and situation so far for the benefit of the ACA members.

6.2 Local Place Plan; the Steering Group are awaiting the results of grants applications to assist in paying for the Plan. It was noted that a Plan was suggested for Cupar and the catchment area of Bell Baxter School ie all of the Howe, which would overlap. Contact has been made and the situation explained. Though the Plan would only relate to Land and Building use the Steering Group hope to use the information gathered to also form an Action Plan for the area. Andy Heer stressed the advantage of keeping the Plan to a few pages as Fife Council is likely to be inundated with Plans and will be unable to commit the time that a lengthy document would require.

7.0 **Fife Council:**

7.1 **Auchtermuchty**

7.1.1 Auchtermuchty Community Association; has now been reformed with new officers in post. They hope to canvas the residents of Auchtermuchty to find out what role 'they' would like the ACA to carry out.

7.1.2 Speeding; Burnside and Low Road are particularly effected, the feeling was expressed that traffic calming measures other than 'speed humps' would be looked for. The ineffectiveness of the current pedestrian crossing arrangements on Low Road requires attention. A number of points were raised that should be borne in mind; there has been a change in the Fife officers who deal with these matter which may result in a more positive outcome, perseverance is the key, there is a lack of consistency through Fife that needs addressed, Perth & Kinross's approach to roads outside the villages [i.e. 40mph and walker friendly signage] is an example Fife should follow.

7.1.3 Cemetery; a request has been made to have a sign on Station Road showing the entrance to the cemetery. Cllr. Holt will pursue.

7.1.4 Play parks; the ACA are concerned about the condition of some of the equipment. It should be noted that in other parks equipment was removed, without warning, due to safety concerns and there are very limited funds for replacements.

7.2 **Dunshalt**

7.2.1 Community Association update; the CA is running with a register of volunteers to commit to events, members are looking to benefit from compliance training through Fife Voluntary Action, other CA's are welcome to join them.

7.3 **Gateside**

7.3.1 Community Association; Toasty Tuesday is to reform in July to cater for the school holidays, there is work to be undertaken on the hall, the CA is aiming to change to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation [SCIO] which is a legal form that allows the CA to enter into contracts, employ staff, incur debts, own property, sue and be sued. It also provides a high degree of protection against liability.

7.3.2 Pavement A91; it was noted that the earth and plant life has been removed from the pavement alongside the A91 from Gateside to Cowiefaulds. It would be nice to see this continued through to Auchtermuchty.

7.4 **Strathmiglo**

7.4.1 Community Association; a Fun Day has been planned for the 2nd July [other communities welcome] the highlight is to be a Highland Games style competition for children.

7.4.2 High Street; resurfacing is taking place, inconvenient but necessary.

7.4.3 Cemetery; the water tap is in need of repair and the roughcasting on the works building [on footpath side] is needing replaced.

7.4.4 School; the failure of the school to respond to communications is being looked into.

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

9.0 **Planning:** none causing concern, but noted was the reapplication for the works entrance on the Low Road to nearer the actual situation and the change of use of the old Coop shop.

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

10.1 Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland; email looking to see if the CC wished to continue membership, AGREED.

11.0 **AOCB;**

11.1 Community Council elections; elections will take place on the 28th September 2023, nominations to be in by 31st August 2023 [forms not available yet]. It was agreed that an effort should be made to encourage new members and that information about the election should be spread where possible. It was noted that Jane Kerr does not intend to put herself forward as a candidate for Strathmiglo in the next election.

11.2 Resignation; it was noted that Shona Dryburgh has resigned with immediate effect.

11.3 Community Council AGM; it was agreed that the AGM will take place prior to the August CC meeting on the 28th August in Strathmiglo Village Hall.

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

Monday 26th June, Dunshalt Village Hall, 7.30p.m.