

# Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 5th Meeting of the Community Council,  
Held at 7.30 pm on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008  
In Dunshalt Village Hall.

PRESENT: 1. George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], 2. David COWLING [Gateside], 3. Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], 4. Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], 5. Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], 6. Bill GUDGEON [Dunshalt], 7. Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], & 8. Eric CARSLAKE [Gateside].

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andrew ARBUCKLE

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chairman welcomed all present.

Apologies: Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt], Bob SMEATON [Auchtermuchty], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Colin GILBERT [Fife Council], Councillor Donald LOTHIAN, PC A. PEARSON.

2.0 MINUTES: The Minute of the Meeting held in the Town Hall, Auchtermuchty, on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008 was accepted.  
The minute secretary notes the recommendation to use the full title of Fife Council in the minutes.

3.0 POLICE MATTERS: The absence of a police representative was due to holiday arrangements, but a report of Community Council concerns was sent.  
Matters brought to the attention of the meeting;

3.1 Mike King will have retired by the date of the next meeting and it was felt that the Community Council should write expressing our thanks for his endeavours on the community's behalf. AGREED

3.2 It was reported that the 'foreman' of the gang repairing lamp standards in Gateside felt it necessary to request police intervention, while the traffic lights were not in-situ, due to the excess speed of traffic passing the work.

4.0 MATTERS & BUSINESS ARISING:

4.1 Protect Rural East Fife; The secretary and Chair attended the meeting which largely discussed the, in their view excessive, number of houses planned particularly in the Cupar area. The Chair took the opportunity to 'network' with our Ceres compatriots.

4.2 Local Landscape Designation Review; [taken on the arrival of Cllr. Arbuckle] A. Heer, A. Muirhead and D. Cowling attended. The Chair gave a précis of the situation including reference to the Community Council's submission – previously copied to members – and reported that presentations were

made by a numbers of bodies presenting plans for protected areas. It was noted that it appeared little or no notice had been taken of submissions. Cllr. Arbuckle agreed that such protection through designation was important, but acknowledged that this would be another area that planning/development services would have to consider while examining applications. He has also raised the issue with Fife Council to point out the Liberal group's dissatisfaction with the process and the results. Chair suggested that this was another example of the Fife Council's, especially Development Services, lack of engagement in true consultation/debate and the 'frustration' it causes.

- 4.3 BBC Audience Council; The Secretary attended and raised the issue of non-reception of digital services in the Community Council's area. He was informed of the launch of 'FreeSat' sponsored by the BBC and ITV, a free to view service that requires the installation of a satellite dish [at the customers expense]. It was the understanding of some members that this service is already available from Sky.
- 4.4 Core Paths; The Secretary has received correspondence regarding the Mournipea to Lechie Bank section. An agreement has been reached where the path will be rerouted away from the farm buildings. G. Aitken raised the issue of the sections needing undertaken to complete the Core Path network in our area, in particular Strathmiglo-Gateside. The Secretary will write to A. Irvine [Core Paths] explaining our concerns and request an update on the status of the Strathmiglo-Gateside section.
- 4.5 Planning for People workshop; The Secretary gave a report stating while the information was gone through by Fife Council officers, most of it is available on Fife Council's website. The meeting he felt was poorly attended and those there were mainly Community Councillors.
- 4.6 New Liquor Licensing system; A. Heer is [has been for some time] a member of the Fife Licensing Forum that oversees the Fife Licensing Board. He reported that new regulations are coming into place that will apply to all outlets selling alcohol, irrespective of quantity or form. Application will be a much more expensive and detailed process, and the Community Council will be notified by statute.
- 4.7 Future Strategy; [taken on the arrival of Cllr. Arbuckle] The Chair opened a discussion on the ISSUES AND STRATEGY document circulated to members, giving a brief description of the intentions behind it. He hoped that the Community Council would establish a view/standpoint on the issues raised – other issues being brought to the Community Council at future meetings – with one or two being actively pursued. Cllr. Arbuckle responded with comments on the issues mentioned in the document and pointed out that the 'wind' has seemed to change in the favour of community level decision making.

## 5.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS

### 5.1 Dunshalt

- 5.1.1 Flood study; Colin Gilbert [Fife Council] had informed the Community Council that the report was not ready and would not come to the Community Council before it had been before Fife Council [expected May].

### 5.2 Gateside

- 5.2.1 Recycling area; A fence has been erected screening the recycle bins.
- 5.2.2 Old Town road surface; The road surface was in need of attention and the Chair hoped that Fife Council would look favourably on a request for work to be undertaken. Cllr. Arbuckle suggested that Fife Council take a more 'relaxed' attitude to unadopted roads where locals are seen to make some contribution.
- 5.2.3 On-going problems; Water is still flowing on the main road due to blocked gullies and Bower Park pot holes are beginning to attract the attention of cavers.

### 5.3 Strathmiglo

- 5.3.1 Exposed sewer pipe, south bank River Eden; Photographs have been taken of the leakage from the sewer pipe and will be sent to Scottish Water. Bill Torrance will copy correspondence to the Secretary.
- 5.3.2 Container Kirk Wynd car-park; A container has been in situ for a considerable period of time with no activity or ownership obvious. Cllr. Arbuckle will pursue the matter.

### 5.4 Auchtermuchty

- 5.4.1 Bondgate road surface; The road surface was reported to be in need of attention. A. Heer will check to see if work has been undertaken.

## 6.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

- 6.1 None.

## 7.0 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 7.1 No comments made to applications.

## 8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary listed the incoming and outgoing correspondence since the previous meeting.

- Of note;
- 8.1 Fife SMART community; there is to be a formal launch of the Fife SMART community to which the Community Council has been invited to send representatives.
  - 8.2 City Region Boundaries; A questionnaire is now on-line, the issue will be added to the next meetings agenda to allow for a formal response from the Community Council.
  - 8.3 Home for Scotland Forum; The Chair and Secretary will attend.
  - 8.4 Weak Bridges; Details of work to be undertaken has been received detailing work that is to be done in the Community Council's area, though some appear to relate to work already undertaken.

#### 9.0 AOB

- 9.1 Community Council website; With the site up and running past minutes are being placed, 'current' minutes will also be placed with the provision "subject to acceptance at the next meeting". It is hoped that a section/forum could be established with topics such as the Issues and Strategy document discussed.

Date/venue of the next meeting;  
Dunshelt Village Hall, at 7.30 p.m. Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

BILL TORRANCE  
Minute Secretary.  
10<sup>th</sup> April 2008.