

# Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 6th Meeting of the Community Council,  
Held at 7.30 pm on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2008  
In Gateside Memorial Hall.

PRESENT: 1. George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], 2. David COWLING [Gateside], 3. Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], 4. Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], 5. Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], 6. Jane KERR [Strathmiglo] 7. Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], 8. Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt], & 9. Bob SMEATON [Auchtermuchty],

ATTENDING: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN

1.0. WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chairman welcomed all present.

Apologies: Eric CARSLAKE [Gateside], Cllr. Andrew ARBUCKLE,  
Cllr. David MACDIARMID, PC A. PEARSON.

2.0 MINUTES: The Minute of the Meeting held in the Village Hall, Dunshalt on Monday 31<sup>ST</sup> March 2008 was accepted after two corrections;

'4.6 should read, " notified by statute".'

Venue for the next meeting was to be Gateside not Dunshelt as given.

3.0 POLICE MATTERS: No police representative was present. An email from PC Pearson pointed out that attendance at meeting would be difficult due to shift patterns and that the first meeting that he could attend would be September 2008. The Secretary commented that this situation was not what he had expected after the Community Council's meeting with the three local officers.

Matters brought to the attention of the meeting;

3.1 Speeding; Officers were present in Gateside in the past weeks, but the feeling of the meeting was that speed checks were so infrequent as to have little lasting effect.

G.Aitken asked of the meeting if names of the companies whose lorries are 'perceived' to be breaking the speed limit are passed on to the police was the matter taken further. The Chair informed the meeting that it had been the case that companies, so named, would be contacted by the police to discuss the issue.

Occasions of the 20mph speed reduction sign in the vicinity of Gateside School being ignored are causing concerns. A police presence during its operation was requested.

The Secretary will write to request a police presence at the next meeting.

#### 4.0 MATTERS & BUSINESS ARISING:

- 4.1 Core paths; material was circulated by the Secretary setting out the present position of the Strathmiglo-Gateside pathway. This is now seen as a 'future' project due to a land dispute. The Chair asked Cllr. Lothian to raise the issue at the next North East Fife Area committee. It was the understanding of the meeting that negotiations were ongoing and this was not reflected in the communications received.  
The Secretary was asked to write to Development Services to ascertain the status of any planning applications/permissions concerning the area of dispute. Also the Secretary will write to the relevant body [British Railway Residual Board was suggested] concerning the ownership of the land in question.
- The meeting felt it necessary to record that the dispute concerning the obstruction of the pathway has been an issue of concern for a number of years.
- 4.2 Housing Needs Forum; The Chair attended and reported on the forum organised by Homes for Scotland. The main speaker was to be the Director of Planning and Communication Alan Lundmark, he was replaced by Jim Lockhead. The most interesting presentation put forward the thought that Fife Council is not on the side of house builders and highlighted the anticipation of the publication of the Local Plan. John McLaren [economic consultant from Glasgow University] presented a paper on Fife's future housing needs, the key point being that the Scottish Government will reject Fife's Structure Plan because the figures do not add up.  
It was felt that pressure from developers would increase, as long as Fife Council do not have an up to date Development/Structure Plan.
- 4.3 Forest Enterprise; The Strategic plans for all areas of Scotland can be found on the forest Enterprise web site ... [www.forestry.gov.uk/fesplans](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/fesplans) or a hard copy of the Tayside plan can be got from the Secretary. Nothing appears to be of strategic issue in our area.
- 4.4 Fife Health and Social Care Partnership; plans/information can be accessed through Fife Health web site... [www.fifedirect.org.uk/hscpplan](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/hscpplan) . A hard copy is available from the Secretary.
- 4.5 New Liquor Licensing system; Leaflets detailing the changes were available at the meeting. The Secretary received notification of premises applying for licences at this time. Members have until the 9<sup>th</sup> May to lodge objections.
- 4.6 City Region Boundaries; The Community Council have until the 9<sup>th</sup> May to state whether it wishes the communities of the Community Council area to be included in the Dundee City Region boundary. The Chair recommended that we write to Fife Development Services pointing out that we do not have the information necessary to come to a conclusion, but feel that being sandwiched between a City Region to the east and Perth & Kinross to the west with the potential of Edinburgh City Region not too far to the south might not be a desirable situation. The Chair and Secretary will compose a response. AGREED.

- 4.7 Future Strategies; the Chair would like to see a wider access to the Community Council's business through publicity including the Community Council's web site, with the possibility of a discussion forum, and through the SMART Communities network. AGREED.
- 4.8 Fife Access Seminar; Correspondence has been received giving the date of the 12<sup>th</sup> June. Those wishing to attend should contact the Secretary.

## 5.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS

- 5.1 Gateside
  - 5.1.1 Old Town road surface; Cllr. Lothian informed the meeting the Old Town is adopting a grace and favour attitude to aid repairs.
- 5.2 Strathmiglo
  - 5.2.1 Container Kirk Wynd car park; Cllr. Lothian to enquire as to the ownership/reason for its placement.
  - 5.2.2 Flood Insurance; G. Aitken reported to the meeting that the insurance company Esure was declining applications for house insurance in the KY14 area giving the reason that it is on a flood plain. Other insurance companies that he checked with did not have an issue. The Secretary will write to Esure for an explanation for their position.
  - 5.2.3 Exposed sewer pipe, south bank River Eden; Various activities have been observed in the area but no information has been forthcoming.
- 5.3 Auchtermuchty
  - 5.3.1 Bondgate and Madras Road road surface; small sections of the road surface are in poor condition.
  - 5.3.2 B. Smeaton raised the heavy goods traffic in the Low Road in particular the width of many of the lorries and the intimidating effect it has on pedestrians. The Chair commented that this is an ongoing issue and solutions would be expensive and involve major works.
- 5.4 Dunshalt
  - 5.4.1 Flood study; The Secretary will confirm with Colin Gilbert [Fife Council] as to the date of the release of the study.
  - 5.4.2 20MPH; Works appear near completion though not yet finished.
- 5.5 Weak bridges; Cllr Lothian is to make enquiries into the situation as there are points covered in the correspondence received that make little sense.

## 6.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

- 6.1 British Telecom; Correspondence has been received detailing the phone boxes planned for removal. In our area these are at Rossie and

- Burnside[west of Gateside]. Objections must be made before June, but lack of use will most likely be given as the reason for removal.
- 6.2 Scottish Water; Improvements to the water mains are to be made in areas of Auchtermuchty, particularly Lechiebank Road, which may lead to low pressure. Cllr. Lothian had written for details but received only the letter sent out to the households in the area concerned.

## 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 Green Space Strategy for Fife; A conference is to be held in Dunfermline on the 28<sup>th</sup> May. It is to concern the way ahead for green spaces in and around towns and villages.
- 8.2 Calor Village of the Year; Details will be passed on to any Community Association that requests them from the Secretary.

## 9.0 AOB

- 9.1 Income and Expenditure 2007-8; An account of the Community Council's income and expenditure to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 was circulated at the meeting. It is hoped to have the accounts audited shortly and an application for the 2008-9 Fife grant made.

Date/venue of the next meeting;  
Strathmiglo Village Hall, at 7.30 p.m. Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

BILL TORRANCE  
Minute Secretary.  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2008.