

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 8th Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 pm on Monday 30th June 2008
In Auchtermuchty Town 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. Eric CARSLAKE [Gateside].

ATTENDING: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Cllr. David MACDIARMID

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

Apologies: Cllr. Andrew ARBUCKLE, Colin GILBERT [Fife Council]

2.0 MINUTES:
The Minute of the Meeting held in the Village Hall, Strathmiglo, on Monday 26th May 2008 was accepted.

3.0 POLICE MATTERS: No police representative was present. The Chair had been informed, by phone, that Sgt. McLaren was to be leaving the area for Police Headquarters. It is assumed that the Community Council will shortly be informed in writing including details of her replacement.

No new matters.

4.0 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT: Traditionally the June meeting is regarded as the AGM and the Chair produced an annual report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The Chair, after making some covering remarks commenting that most of the items covered were ongoing, he then opened the discussion to the meeting.

One matter discussed was that of the Designation of Landscape Areas. Details mentioned in the Chair's report had been extracted from papers for a planning committee that still leaves the Community Council's area in an unsatisfactory position. An amendment to these papers, proposed by Cllr. Lothian, has been agreed to allow adjustments by the East Area Committee on publication of the Local Plan.

The Secretary pointed out, that with the changes currently being proposed in the way Community Councils are organised and the production of a 'template' our 'traditional' form may have to change. G. Simpson made the comment that continuity was a good thing, the Secretary agreed and recommended the status quo for the time being. AGREED.

5.0 MATTERS & BUSINESS ARISING:

- 5.1 Follow up to Fife Safety Camera Partnership attendance; The Chair reported that Andy Jones of the Fife Safety Camera Partnership also attended the Gateside Community Association where they were informed that 'regular' speeding offenders were being approached directly with a warning. It is hoped that this will have the desired effect. Colin Stirling agreed to supply the Community Council with details of any proposals made for the Burnside area, though it was the feeling of the meeting that any proposals should include, or at least acknowledge, the problems occurring on the A91 through the Community Council's area.
- 5.2 Core Paths; The Chair reported that a solution is still being sought to the Gateside to Strathmiglo core path issue but it was hoped that any final decision should be part of a core path from Burnside to Auchtermuchty. A further meeting with Alison Irvine [Access Officer] will be sought – taking account of the formal consultations being undertaken in the coming period. The Chair also reported that there was a possibility of a Public Inquiry being undertaken.
- 5.3 City Region Boundaries; The Chair reported that Fife Council has agreed that it views the whole of the St. Andrews and East Fife Area should be included under the Dundee City Region Plan and this will form the basis of Fife Council's proposals to meetings of relevant groups.
- 5.4 Future Strategies; The Chair again emphasised the need for the Community Council to be pro-active in its endeavours.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS

- 6.1 Auchtermuchty
 - 6.1.1 Public Hall review; This process is ongoing and consultation is expected.
 - 6.1.2 'Muchty Festival; A. Heer informed the meeting that this years festival has requested the closure of streets leading to the town square to enable the erection of a marquee during the period of the festival.
- 6.2 Dunshalt
 - 6.2.1 Flood report; The Secretary has asked Colin Gilbert for an update on the progress of these reports, but despite his best efforts Colin was unable to find out any further information.
 - 6.2.2 School closure; New documentation has been sent out by the Scottish Government seeking the views/experiences of local communities involved with school closures. It was agreed by the meeting that the Chair should register to ensure that the Community Council's experience is submitted.

6.3 Gateside

6.3.1 Old Town road repairs; The request for road repairs to be undertaken in the 'Old Town' is still awaiting a response from Fife Council.

6.3.2 The Memorial Hall has now been officially reopened after the renovations. The Community Council sends its best wishes.

6.4 Strathmiglo

6.4.1 20MPH signage; Correspondence has been entered into with C. Stirling [Fife Council] and the matter pursued. Strathmiglo Community Association has other Transportation issues and Cllr. Lothian will suggest that these be 'rolled together'.

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

7.1 British Telecom [BT]; Concerns has been raised regarding the siting and construction of the telephone exchange building in Heckler's Wynd, Strathmiglo and the security implications. G.Aitken requested the Community Council contact BT and request a site visit to look at the perceived problem. G. Aitken will pass a contact address to the Secretary.

7.2 Pay Phones; The Chair pointed out that any opposition to the removal of a pay phone would have to counter their lack of use. Any argument against their removal would have to provide a reason for them to remain when they are not being used.

8.0 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Secretary listed planning applications in the area.

8.1 High St. Auchtermuchty; Conditions have been set by Transportation Services, Fife on an application to a building in the High St. Auchtermuchty and the Chair raised the question of how these will impact the status of the Conservation Area. The Secretary will write to D. O'Hare [Planning Officer] to seek clarification.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Of note;

9.1 Fife Council's review of Library and Museum Services; Fife Council is looking to consult as many people as possible. The Secretary has/will emailed members the questionnaire.

9.2 Childrens Panel; Members are sought, details can be obtained from the Secretary.

10.0 AOCB

- 10.1 Bill Gudgeon [Dunshalt] has submitted a letter of withdrawal from the Community Council. The Chair and Secretary have endeavoured to persuade him to remain but it appears they were unsuccessful. The Community Council will look to Dunshalt to suggest individuals who could be co-opted.
- 10.2 Tayside Constabulary have sent cards to houses in the area, detailing a non-emergency phone number. It is feared that this may cause confusion as people may attempt to contact Tayside Police instead of Fife Police. Fife Police had hoped that Press release would have been issued highlighting the error, but as yet this has not happened.

Date/venue of the next meeting;
Dunshalt Village Hall, at 7.30 p.m. Monday 25th August 2008.

BILL TORRANCE
Minute Secretary.
17th July 2008.