

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 11th Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 pm on Monday 27th October 2008
In Strathmiglo Village Hall.

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

ATTENDING: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Cllr. David MACDIARMID, Colin GILBERT [Fife Council] and PC. Ian Laing

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

Apologies: PC. PEARSON, Cllr. Andrew ARBUCKLE.

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the Meeting held in Auchtermuchty Town Hall, on Monday 29th September 2008 was accepted.

3.0 POLICE MATTERS:

- 3.1 Gateside – 4x4 vehicles; word was passed on to the organisers of the Dunhill Golf Tournament where drivers were spoken to about the reported speeding, it is hoped that this will be sufficient to prevent repetition.
- 3.2 Off-road motorcycles; the matter has been raised with the officers in the area and will be pursued.
- 3.3 Congregations of youths around Auchtermuchty Primary School; a 'watching brief' will be maintained with the possibility of CCTV an available option.
- 3.4 Dunshalt cyclists; there was no sign of the children riding unlit bicycles when officers when to Dunshalt, the officers will attend local primary schools to speak to the children about the dangers of such activities. They are still pursuing the possibility of discounted lights.
- 3.5 Gateside Traffic speeds; there was a significant police/safety camera presence in the past week, it is hoped that this may have some effect on this continuing problem.
- 3.6 Fife Constabulary Questionnaire; the Chair asked for comments, a summary of which follows.
 - A. Areas requiring improvement:
Police visibility/presence, traffic speed reduction measures, tackling irresponsible/anti-social use of off-road vehicles.
 - B. What the police do well:
Recent response to speeding reports, courtesy of officers in carrying out duties, attendance of Community Council meetings.

- C. Areas to concentrate on:
 - Those matters covered in section A –
- D. Satisfied with feedback/input to Community Council meetings:
Yes.

The Secretary will complete and return the questionnaire.

4.0 MATTERS ARISING & OTHER BUSINESS:

- 4.1 Community Council Support Working Group; the Chair remarked that this was a worthwhile organisation with its access to Fife Councillors and staff that, though it has a fault in its poor representation of Community Councils – there was concern over its composition/members election, it would be worth supporting its reformation. The Chair and Secretary will respond
- 4.2 Association of Scottish Community Councils [ASCC]; The Chair took the meeting through the four motions to be submitted to the ASCC's next meeting – the Secretary had circulated these to members – and a decision was taken for or against each.
 - 1. 90-day consultation; Agreed.
 - 2. Quantifying 'cumulative impact'; Against.
 - 3. Fixed term contracts for senior officers; Against, strong feelings were expressed as to how senior officers appear not to be held to account for their actions/inactions.
 - 4. Community Council Secretary Stipend; Against, though against the particulars of the proposal the meeting agreed that it raised issues such as resource requirements to access information presented by authorities.

The Secretary is to attend the meeting at the Scottish Parliament on Saturday 22nd November accompanied by one other.

- 4.3 Fife Constabulary Questionnaire; taken under Police Matters.
- 4.4 Digital Switchover; the Secretary attended a meeting in Dundee, all the information covered is available on the website – www.digitaluk.co.uk. It appears that the service to the Strathmiglo area will be very restricted in comparison with other areas – this decision was based on financial considerations and it was suggested that reactions to this would be best channelled through MSPs for the area. Cllr. Lothian will liase with Iain Smith MSP.

5.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS

- 5.1 Strathmiglo
 - 5.1.1 Sandygates footpath construction; a press statement expressing the community's appreciation of the work being undertaken will be released once work has commenced.

5.2 Auchtermuchty

5.2.1 Auchtermuchty Festival; A meeting was held to discuss the future though the attendance by members of the public was disappointing.

5.2.2 Mournipea; a large pothole is in the process of forming. Cllr. Lothian will pursue and report to the Auchtermuchty Community Association meeting.

5.3 Dunshalt

5.3.1 Flood study; a formal invitation to the next [November] Community Council meeting will be sent to Transportation [they were asked by Colin Gilmore to attend the October meeting but there was no reply]

5.4 Gateside

5.4.1 Cllr. MacDairmid reported on a meeting he had with a resident suffering from the effects of water and soil runoff in the recent inclement weather. The Chair remarked on a similar problem recurring on the Gateside-Burnside section of the A91 where previous work appears to have been overwhelmed. The Secretary will write to Transportation informing them of the situation and determine their intentions.

6.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS:

6.1 Gateside power cuts have been reported.

7.0 PLANNING

7.1 Corinzion; the Chair and the Secretary made comments on the proposed development in the period between meetings of the Community Council covering the points that it was outside the original footprint, that access should be from the east side and that street lighting should not be allowed as this would infer further developments.

7.2 The Secretary listed planning applications in the. last month. Of note was a development on the Low Road at the western entrance to Auchtermuchty that would – due to the design – make a substantial visual impact as well as an additional access directly on to the A91. It is noted that objections have already been submitted.

7.2 Landscape value; it is noted that a ‘piece’ appeared in the local press concerning the Community Council’s opinion on the current discussions regarding Areas of Great Landscape Value. The Chair reported to the meeting that a St. Andrews group had suggested that we adopt a joint approach; he was against this as he felt that their aims were too specific to the St. Andrews area. A meeting has been offered by Fife officers responsible for this area of concern and this will be pursued.

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Of note;

- 8.1 Strathmiglo, Sandygates roadworks; detailing the building of a footpath on the south of Sandygates and pedestrian safety measures.
- 8.2 St. Andrews and East Fife Environmental Report; the Secretary will circulate via email to those members connected.

9.0 AOCB: None

Date/venue of the next meeting;
Auchtermuchty Town Hall 24th November 2008.

BILL TORRANCE
Minute Secretary.
2nd November 2008.