

# Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Community Council,  
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009  
In Strathmiglo Village Hall.

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

ATTENDING: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Colin GILBERT [Fife Council], PC Ian LAING, Cllr. Andrew ARBUCKLE, and Cllr. David McDIARMID .

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed all present.

Apologies: Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt]

2.0 MINUTES: The Minute of the meeting held in Gateside Village Hall on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009 was accepted with one correction;

7.3.2 The clearance of the Burn is for general safety i.e. debris not for the removal of weed for aesthetic purposes.

3.0 POLICE MATTERS:

3.1 Police newsletter; PC Laing would like to compile a list of those interested in receiving this publication.

3.2 General area report; Nuisance and anti-social behaviour were the main causes of concern with alcohol involved in a number of incidents and many of the offenders coming from out with the area.

At this point Auchtermuchty residents concerns over the issue of groups of teenagers gathering in the area of Andrew Johnstones Close and the disturbance/nuisance caused by their behaviour was brought to the meetings attention. PC Laing indicated that he was aware of this and had spoken to the residents involved.

The possible flouting of residency rules by the proprietors of the Forest Hills Hotel was also raised. As the hotel is now being used by Fife Council as temporary accommodation Local Councillors will raise the matter with the appropriate Fife Council department.

The Chair raised the issue of a drinking in public ban that will be looked into at the next available occasion for licensing changes. Due to the major changes occurring with the licensing laws and the workload of the department involved this may be delayed.

3.3 Speed checking; Police activity has been visible in the area and is much appreciated.

3.4 Auchtermuchty Festival; a question was asked of PC Laing concerning the number of complaints regarding anti-social behaviour, he agreed that the number was lower than on previous occasions – with the caveat that this may have been weather related.

4.0 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair gave a brief resume of his report highlighting the fact that some of the topics have already been overtaken by events and many will make a future appearance on the Community Council's future agendas.

## 5.0 MATTERS ARISING:

- 5.1 Wester Nether Urquahart; The Chair reported on an inquiry which was held in Kinross – he was somewhat puzzled that accommodation within Fife could not be arranged – that he had attended as a representative of the Community Council. Both applicant and residents were represented. The Chair had reworked the Community Council's objection maintaining the position that it was an unsuitable development. No indication was given as to when a decision would be released.
- 5.2 TAYplan SDPA; The Secretary has circulated the location of information concerning this. A response is looked for by the 18<sup>th</sup> September, relating to the concerns of the local community to development in the area. The Chair and Secretary will produce and submit a response, as it is due before the next meeting of the Community Council.  
AGREED
- 5.3 Core Paths; The Secretary explained that this was included in the agenda as there has been some changes to the proposed route, in particular the section from Strathmiglo to Auchtermuchty and to the dates of its construction. The Secretary recommended that the Community Council oppose the changes and a reply should be sent stating our opposition. AGREED
- 5.4 Local Review Bodies [LRBs]; The Chair noted that from the 1<sup>st</sup> September LRBs will come into force looking into developments of up to 50 houses a number that he considered would make a considerable impact on any of the communities in the Community Council's area. These LRBs will be made up of Councillors from outside the ward of the Community Council.  
The meeting was informed that Cllr. McDiarmid has been in receipt of training in the workings of these bodies and that he had concerns over the loss of 'local' councillors and their 'local' knowledge from the process. He also felt that there was the possibility of cross-ward and regional level politics effecting decisions.  
Cllr. Arbuckle gave a more positive view of the LRBs in that their decisions would be made by a body of councillors and not an individual reporter, that the spread of the councillors would make 'local' politics less likely to play a part and that the proposer of any sizable development would have to prove that the local community had been consulted.
- 5.5 Tayside Environmental Action Group [TEAG]; the TEAG – which has the Binn Incinerator development as a focus, have been in contact with the Community Council asking for assistance. B Thomson will go to their next meeting as an independent observer.

## 6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS:

### 6.1 STRATHMIGLO

- 6.1.1 Recycling ; Concern has been raised at the failure to empty recycling bins – in particular those for plastics – around the village. Contact has been made with the relevant department but local residents are not satisfied by the reasons given for collection failure. Cllr. Arbuckle will pursue.

### 6.2 AUCHTERMUCHTY

- 6.2.1 The Burn weed [ 29<sup>th</sup> June 7.3.2]; Cllr. Lothian had contacted SEPA who pointed out that aesthetics were not a normal reason for the removal of 'weed' or plant growth.
- 6.2.2 Speeding in Glassarts Glen; Cllr. Lothian is awaiting the specific proposals that was agreed at the previous meeting. Chair will contact residents.

6.2.3 Ponding at Community Hall; Cllr. McDiarmid that the occurrence of ponding in the area of the Community Centre is to be examined and he will report back to the next meeting.

### 6.3 Dunshalt

6.3.1 One way system at Wynd; The one-way system will not now be installed.

### 6.4 Gateside

6.4.1 Main Road; The works undertaken have not taken account of existing issues including the built-out pavement and water gathering in areas of the road and not following gullies to drains. Complaints were made regarding the traffic control system employed and its failure to take account of vehicles approaching the work from the A912, Station Road or the Old Town. Cllr. Lothian reported on correspondence that had occurred concerning the built-out pavement, the assumption that this would be dealt with and his disappointment that this had not happened. Cllr. Lothian has asked the Gateside Community Association for a list of issues of concern.

6.4.2 Station House; Cllr. McDiarmid reported on proposals to deal with the flooding in the environs of Station House and his hopes that they will finally deal with the issue.

## 7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS:

NONE

## 8.0 PLANNING

The Secretary listed planning applications in the area.

Of note;  
NONE

## 9.0 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Of note;  
9.1 Bellfield; Official notice has been received concerning the rejection of the Bellfield development application.

## 10.0 AOCB

None

## 11.0 Date and venue of next meeting;

Auchtermuchty Town Hall, at 7.30pm Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009.