

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 12th Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 28th November
in the Gateside Memorial Hall.

PRESENT: 1. Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], 2. Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], 3. Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], 4. Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], & 5. Bobby Thomson [Gateside].

ATTENDING: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Cllr. David MACDIARMID, David COWLING, Derek THOMSON

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members and members of the public attending.

1.1 **Presentation to David Cowling**; The Chair, with the agreement of all, voiced the opinion that David Cowling's contribution over many years to the Community Council should not go unmarked and presented him with a small gift. David Cowling expressed his thanks and did admit to enjoying the 'experience' but most of all the fellowship of those he had encountered over the years.

Apologies: David JONES [Gateside], Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt] George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], Cllr. Andrew ARBUCKLE.

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Dunshalt Village Hall on Monday 31st October 2011 was accepted by those present.

3.0 POLICE MATTERS:

3.1 **Thefts/break-ins**; a number of break-ins and thefts have been reported in the area recently.

3.2 **Next Police Forum**; The next forum was to be held in January prior to the next Community Council meeting, if there are matters to be raised contact the Chair or the Secretary who will attend.

4.0 MATTERS ARISING & other business:

4.1 **Road works on Newburgh Road**; Works have been undertaken and the site cleared.

4.2 **Binn Farm development**; a newsletter concerning the activities in the development has been circulated via email by SITA to those registered to receive it.

4.3 **Alcohol ban**; this is expected to be discussed at the January meeting of the licensing committee.

4.4 **Speedwatch**; there seems to be little interest in forming a 'Speedwatch' group in the area. There have been too few volunteers to accept training to make up a viable unit.

- 4.5 **Grit bin A912/Cash Feus junction;** Cllr. Lothian has this in his 'pending' tray and will raise the request at the appropriate time.
- 4.6 **Zero Waste/Planning;** the Secretary attended the offered training – run by Planning Aid -concerning Fife Council's approach to waste management and planning procedures. He informed the meeting that he found the occasion interesting and informative.
- 4.7 **Community Council's statutory position;** [in relation to planning applications] the Secretary received communication that supports the Community Council's statutory right to be consulted; however it specified that the Community Council needs to inform the authorities that they wish to be consulted on a specific application within 7 days, objections or comments can then be submitted at the appropriate moment.
As this may fall between Community Council meetings, it was suggested that all members look at planning applications, notify Fife Council – via email is possible – of our interest if the member feels it necessary and bring it to the attention of the next meeting where the Community Council can decide whether further action needs to be taken. AGREED
- 4.8 **Proposed UK Parliamentary Constituency Boundary changes;** The Chair informed the meeting that he had contacted affected Community Councils who agreed that the status quo should remain. The Chair will make a response in the name of the 4 Community Councils at the public consultation in Dundee on the 29th November. The Chair has circulated his proposed response to members.
A useful offshoot of the matter has been that the Community Councils involved agreed that such joint meeting should be held on a regular basis to compare ideas and opinions on matters affecting the area

5.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS:

- 5.1 Gateside; No new business for the Community Council.
- 5.2 Strathmiglo; No new business for the Community Council.
- 5.3 Auchtermuchty;
- 5.3.1 Christmas lights; Cllr. MacDiarmid asked when the Auchtermuchty Christmas lights were due to be switched on and how it was organised. Chair advised the meeting that the lights were due to be switched on Sunday 11th December at 5:00p.m. and that there was an organised event at the time.
- 5.4 Dunshalt; No new business for the Community Council.

6.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS:

None

7.0 PLANNING

The Secretary reported on applications made in the area, having circulated a list previously due to the unusual number of applications in the area.

Of note;

- 7.1 **Burnside turbine;** a screening option has been submitted for a turbine at Burnside most notable was the fact the Secretary was sent a copy of a letter from Head of Planning to his counterpart in Perth & Kinross asking for comment as it lay close to the border of the regions. Chair suggested that we request an Environmental Impact Assessment [EIA] AGREED.
- 7.2 **Demperston turbine;** a scooping request concerning a 91m turbine at Demperston has been placed. It was suggested to the Chair that a full EIA could take up to a year to complete if it were to include the wildlife studies required at specific periods. It appears likely from documents appearing on Fife's website that an EIA is to be called for.

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary listed the incoming and outgoing correspondence since the previous meeting, copies of which are, where possible, forwarded to members by email.

Of note;

- 8.1 Ladybank Community Council; this communication concerns a report commissioned by a group in Newburgh into the viability of reopening Newburgh railway station and the impact on other stations in the area. The Secretary asked members to be aware of the letter and the report it concerns and has circulated these. Cllr. Lothian hoped that discussion and a joint approach would result rather than confrontation with an either/or outcome developing.
- 8.2 Fife Local Development Exchange; The Secretary will attend expressing our interest in the future of the group.

9.0 AOCB;

- 9.1 **Bank Signatories;** The Treasurer has been informed that the bank is changing how it handles Treasurer accounts and has been issued with signatory forms to complete. These will be completed by the Treasurer, the Chair and the Vice-Chair and submitted as soon as possible

10.0 Date and venue of next meeting.

Strathmiglo Village Hall, at 7.30pm Monday 30th January 2012