

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 19th Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 27th August
in the Dunshalt Village Hall.

PRESENT: 1. Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], 2. Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], 3. Bobby Thomson [Gateside], 4. George AITKEN [Strathmiglo]. 5. Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], 6. Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty].

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. David MACDIARMID, Valerie Morland WEIR, Ilona MAIR, David COWLING.

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members attending. Apologies were given by the Minute Secretary for his late arrival.

Apologies: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], Wendy GUDMUNDSSON [Dunshalt]

CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Two new members were put forward for co-option to the Community Council, Ilona MAIR (Dunshalt) and Valerie Morland WEIR (Gateside) AGREED

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Auchtermuchty Community Centre on Monday 25th June 2012 was accepted by those present, following further discussion of 7.1.2 Auchtermuchty/Strathmiglo path.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING:

- 3.1 **Auchtermuchty/Strathmiglo path – 7.1.2:** The meeting reiterated that this area was ideally suited for such a path network though it was recognised that there may be a need for substantial funds to see it through. Cllr. Heer pointed out that there were 'untapped' sources, in particular those coming from 'Europe'. It also noted that the main stumbling block to such a scheme was getting the landowners 'onboard'.
- 3.2 **Gateside blocked drains – 7.3.1:** it was reported by Bobby Thomson that the drains though now cleared, did cause flooding into properties in their blocked state.

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS:

- 4.1 **Caravan Park Development, Gateside;** the meeting was addressed by Mr Cowling concerning the recommended approval for a caravan park development in Gateside that had been the subject of much discussion and correspondence over the past two years between the residents of Gateside, the Community Council and Fife Council. He summarised the background to the application and reminded the meeting that previous recommendations by officers for Fife had been for its refusal. There is a lot of local objection to the application and he informed the meeting that a large number of residents were to attend the Planning Committee meeting at which it was scheduled to be decided, the aim being to convey local objection and at best have the application refused and at worst have it delayed to allow for a site visit in the presence of local Fife Councillors who had not been available over the holiday period.
- 4.2 **Binn Farm Wind turbines;** it is noted that an addition of wind turbines at the Binn Farm complex is in its early stages. It appears that a possible 4 or 5 100m turbines may be sited. The Chair suggested that early involvement in discussions would be recommended. AGREED. A meeting is to be held by the Binn Farm developers at the Bein Inn on September 4th. The secretary had attended the initial meeting but cannot attend on the 4th. The Chair will attend and Cllr Heer offered to

accompany him. This was agreed. The matter will no doubt be further discussed at the next Binn Forum on September 27th.

5.0 POLICE MATTERS:

5.1 **Community Engagement Meeting [CEM];** the next CEM will be in Auchtermuchty – Upper Town Hall, Thursday 6th September

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS:

6.1 Dunshalt

6.1.1 **Playing field contamination;** it is reported that the playing fields are being contaminated with a sludge believed to be connected with the work being undertaken on the sewer system in the area. SEPA referred the local Community Association back to Fife Council. Cllr. McDiarmid will follow up.

6.2 Gateside

No new business

6.3 Strathmiglo

6.3.1 **Street lighting – Bankwell Crescent;** residents have reported the lights operating erratically over the last week to Fife Council but have been met with little positive response. Fife Council put the blame at the door of Scottish Power. Though the fault was ultimately fixed the manner it was dealt with did not inspire confidence. It also served to highlight a problem with street lighting that affects all the communities in the area. Chair reminded Councillors present that when checked the lights are left to burn all day rather than being switched back into sequence.

6.4 Auchtermuchty

6.4.1 **War Memorial;** there had been a lot of local concern at the apparent disappearance of part of the War Memorial. It transpires that the Fife 'heritage squad' has removed it for repair. The meeting recommend that in such circumstances some local representatives be informed to allay local fears.

6.4.2 **Public Conveniences;** Provision of facilities through the use of local businesses is still being pursued. Cllr. McDiarmid indicated that the Tannochbrae Tearoom might be re-instated to the scheme to continue to provide toilet facilities.
Jane Kerr wished it to be noted that such provision is a widespread problem in Fife citing the Fife Coastal Path as an example where provision of public conveniences must have been overlooked in its development.

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS: None

8.0 PLANNING: The Secretary reported on those applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting.

Of note;

8.1 Rossie Den; an application for an 84m turbine will be discussed at the next Planning Meeting, it is noted that permission for 3 smaller turbines on the same site had already been given.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE: covered under previous items

10.0 AOCB; None

11.0 Date and venue of next meeting.

Gateside Memorial Hall, at 7.30pm Monday 24th September 2012