

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 22nd Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 28th January 2013
in Dunshalt Village Hall.

PRESENT: 1. Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], 2. Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], 3. Bobby Thomson [Gateside], 4. Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], 5. Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty], 6. George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], and 7. Jim McGeorge [Dunshalt]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. David MACDIARMID

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members attending.

Apologies: Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Valerie WEIR [Gateside]

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Auchtermuchty Community Centre on Monday 26th November was accepted by those present.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING: None

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS:

4.1 Fife Council Wind farm review/consultation; this is being undertaken as part of the review of the Fife Development Plan, including wind turbine/ onshore energy. As part of the consultation a presentation is to be held on Wednesday 30th January in the County Buildings, Cupar from 3p.m. - 7.30p.m.

Cllr. Heer informed the meeting that at a recent meeting he had attended the impression was given that the whole of the Community Council's area was seen as suitable for the placement of wind turbines. Chair commented that the Community Council's area was very similar to some in Perth & Kinross/Ochils on which a large number of wind turbines are sited.

5.0 POLICE MATTERS:

5.1 **Community Engagement Meeting [CEM]**; the Secretary was the only 'member of the public' who attended the January CEM in Auchtermuchty. The next meeting will be in Strathmiglo on the 7th March, this is likely to be the last in the present format.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS: [not already covered]

6.1 Dunshalt

6.1.1 **Drainage**; Dunshalt Community Association appreciates the work that has been undertaken by Fife Council to ensure that drainage channels in the area have been kept clear. They are of the opinion that this has prevented flooding in areas that have been previously affected.

6.1.2 **Road condition**; concerns have been raised about the condition especially around farm entrances in the area where mud etc. has not been cleared promptly.

6.1.3 **Roadside Hedge**; as part of pavement reinstatement on the Auchtermuchty Road a hedge has been removed and it was hoped that some form of replacement is planned. It was agreed to wait until the completion of the works. Jane Kerr was curious as to why this part of the pavement was repaired,

Jim McGeorge pointed out that the Dunshalt Community Association had made comments as part of the Safe Route to School and this may have been a factor.

6.2 Gateside

6.2.1 **Grit Bin empty:** it was reported that the grit bin in Bower Park had been completely emptied by a local resident leaving none for use on the pavements/roads in the area. Cllr. McDiarmid will look into the matter.

6.2.2 **'Caravan Park':** an appeal against refusal has gone to the Reporter. Cllr. McDiarmid said that Fife still opposed the development and would continue to do so. It was agreed that the Community Council would continue with its objection and seek to attend any site visit organised.

6.3 Strathmiglo

6.3.1 **Water Hydrants:** the Chair has been informed that a number of hydrants in the village are/were silted up or unable to be operated. [It was discovered as attempts were being made to fill a bowser to clear the remains of a traffic accident], he questioned whether it was still the responsibility of the Fire Service to ensure that these hydrants remained operable. Cllr. Heer will check at the Auchtermuchty Fire Station and report back.

6.4 Auchtermuchty

6.4.1 **Street light;** it was thought worth noting that a light in Gladgate reported last January has finally been repaired, it is uncertain as to why there was a delay.

6.4.2 **Roadside shrine;** Bill Torrance raised the issue of a shrine/marker on Station Road, while it is common nowadays to temporarily mark the location of accidents, this appeared to have a more permanent nature. It was agreed that this was a sensitive issue and we would wait to see if Fife followed their existing policy in dealing with it.

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS:

7.1 **Freeview TV signal:** Bill Torrance reported on a number of interruptions to the signal in recent weeks. A number of potential local causes were given, though none fitted the current situation.

8.0 PLANNING: The Chair reported on those applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting. Of note,

8.1 Wester Nether Urquhart; It was felt that the Community Council should continue its objection to developments such as this as it falls on currently agricultural land outside the village envelope. This might act as a precedent for similar developments in the area. The Chair will discuss with the Secretary the best approach.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE: [not already covered during the meeting.] None

10.0 AOCB;

10.1 **Street lighting;** Cllr. McDiarmid raised the issue of Fife's Street Lighting Improvement Plan in which lamp standards and fitting are to be replaced. He felt that in a number of areas, particularly those with conservation status, that the planned replacements would be detrimental to the ambience of the locations. He was proposing that each settlement/area be dealt with separately with local concerns being heard and wished the support of the Community Council. Discussion followed concerning the pros and cons of spending monies on non-standard standards.

11.0 Date and venue of next meeting.

Gateside Memorial Hall, at 7.30pm Monday 25th February 2013