

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 37th Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 26th May 2014
in Strathmiglo Village Hall.

PRESENT: 1. George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], 2. Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], 3. Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], 4. Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], 5. Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], 6 Valerie WEIR [Gateside]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. McDairmid

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members attending.

Apologies: Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty],

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Gateside Memorial Hall on Monday 28th April was accepted by those present.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING: none

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS:

- 4.1 **Demperston Wind Turbine;** the Secretary had received notice that the application was to be brought to the June meeting of planning committee, this was concerning as the Community Council were of the opinion that the application had already been refused. It was explained that it is a part of the planning process that applications where a decision has been made are brought back to the following committee meeting for ratification, and that the refusal still stands.
- 4.2 **Locality Budget;** Cllr. Heer explained that it has been decided that additional funds, beyond that of the normal annual allowance, are to be allocated to projects suggested by local communities – to the tune of £50,000 in this Community Council's ward. Suggestions/applications are looked for.

5.0 POLICE MATTERS:

- 5.1 **Community Engagement Meeting [CEM];** the latest CEM took place immediately before the Community Council meeting and was attended by PC Michie. Recent offences in the area were listed by community, and the steps being taken to catch those responsible and to prevent recurrence.
Police action has included traffic stop points being used and farms being offered - free of charge – a physical security survey to aid crime prevention.
New matters raised included;
- speeding in Bower Park, Gateside and Cash Fues, Strathmiglo
 - inconsiderate tractor drivers
 - noticeable presence of motorbikes at the weekend
- 5.2 **Next CEM;** the date and venue has yet to be set for the next meeting. It was remarked that combining the CEM and Community Council meetings seemed successful.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS: [not already covered]

- 6.1 Strathmiglo;
 - 6.1.1 **Roads signs in area;** it has been remarked that a number of road signs in the area have become so dirty that they are verging on the unreadable. Also vegetation is being allowed to obscure road -signs and sight lines at junctions. It was felt that these matters should be dealt with as soon as possible.
 - 6.1.2 **Skateboard Park;** G. Aitken asked if the Community Council would be willing to write in support of the application to construct the skatepark in Strathmiglo. He felt that this would be a boon to the village, in particular the youth element. Agreed. The Chair will supply a comment through the Fife planning website.

- 6.2 Auchtermuchty
 - 6.2.1 **Play park equipment;** it was noted that various pieces of equipment have been replaced or removed in playparks around Auchtermuchty. This appears to have been part of a general revamping of facilities.
 - 6.2.2 **Redevelopment of 'old surgery';** there has been further local comment concerning the apparent 'double standards' being applied in this conservation area, for example, the application for a change of use where local residents have been denied in the past and formation of a new glazed exterior door.

- 6.3 Dunshalt – none [no communication has been forth coming from the Community Association and no members have attended to represent the residents]

- 6.4 Gateside; none

- 7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS:
 - 7.1 **BT broadband;** information has been received that residents in the Auchtermuchty and Dunshalt areas should notice an increase in download speed soon. No further planning applications for changes to exchanges, that would benefit the other communities, have been submitted as yet. Cllr. Heer to pursue.
 - 7.2 **Phone lines;** it is noted that a number of phone lines in the Burnside/Gateside area are still not functioning despite the efforts of a number of teams of engineers. A number of lines had been reconnected after a few days, but as these included a line used for an emergency response button, it was felt that even this was too long.

- 8.0 PLANNING: The Secretary reported applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting not already discussed within the meeting.

- 9.0 CORRESPONDENCE: [not already covered during the meeting.] The Secretary will continue to forward correspondence to members, unless they state otherwise, from the various organisations with connection to the Community Council.
Of note:
 - 9.1 Japanese knotweed eradication; a schedule was sent detailing the programme that is to be followed regarding an outbreak of Japanese knotweed in Bankwell Crescent in Strathmiglo.

- 10.0 AOCB;
 - 10.1 Milestones; a query was made as to why the milestones in the area had received a coat of white paint but the writing showing the names and mileage had not been added. It was felt that as they are of historic and cultural import, that this was remiss of Fife Council.
 - 10.2 Auchtermuchty-Newburgh Road; a recent occurrence of horses being loose on the road has reinforced the speeding problem in that area and it is hoped that the speed calm measures proposed will be put into place as soon as possible.

- 12.0 Date and venue of next meeting.
Monday 30th June, at 7.30pm, Auchtermuchty Community Centre.