

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 2nd Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 26th January 2015
in Dunshalt Village Hall.

PRESENT: 1. George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], 2. Raymond HARDING [Auchtermuchty] 3. Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty], 4. Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], 5. Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], 6. Valerie WEIR (Gateside)7. Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. MACDIARMID, Bob WESTON [Fife Coastal Trust], Sgt Neil MacKenzie [Scottish Police]

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members attending.

Apologies: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo],

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Auchtermuchty Community Centre on Monday 24th November was accepted by those present.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING: none

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS:

4.1 **Bob Weston;** Bob gave a brief summary of the works that had been undertaken in the area by the Coastal Trust and those projects to be undertaken. Access routes on to the Lomond Hills being a major focus though manpower available to carry out the works has been greatly reduced. Paths planned include an extension to the Glen Vale to Dryside, carrying this through Harper's Lee to Burnside eventually connecting to Gateside. It was requested that repairs could be done on the Reedieles path, this would have to be fitted into the current program. Thanks were also expressed for the work done on the Strathmiglo to Falkland path. The Community Council will write to formally express our thanks and appreciation for the works carried out and the great benefits that they have brought to the communities in the area and visitors. It is felt certain that future developments would be equally beneficial.

4.2 **Binn Farm Wind Turbines;** the planning application is in and there is to be a Binn Farm Eco group meeting on the 5th February which the Secretary hopes to attend. Perth & Kinross has asked Fife Council for comments on the application and local Fife Councillors have been asked to express their opinion. The Community Council will not be expressing an objection.

4.3 **BT Broadband;** Auchtermuchty has now – most of it – fibre broadband. There is a public presentation planned [proposed for the 19th February] to inform local resident of its benefits. It is hoped that Strathmiglo and Gateside will follow shortly.

5.0 POLICE MATTERS [taken after 2.0 Minutes]

Sgt. MacKenzie gave a brief outline of the restructuring and new manning arrangements in Fife. The dedicated Community teams are to be replaced with Ward teams [2 officers and a sergeant] who will not be withdrawn to other duties as members of the Community Teams often were. There will be no more Community Engagement Meetings unless it is determined that there is a specific need for one, but an officer will endeavour to attend some of the Community Council meetings – though given that there are a number of

Community Councils in the Ward this may be infrequent. A request for attendance can be made and contact can be maintained through email or phone message. The Secretary suggested that Sgt. MacKenzie be added to the mailing list for the Minutes of the meetings, this was agreed.

All Ward officers will be based in Cupar. The Auchtermuchty office will still be used as an office but will not be manned 24 hours a day.

As a result of the changes, it was hoped that the presence of officers, on foot or cycle, would be more obvious. It was also noted that Police Scotland intends to make much more use of social media to give out information.

In general there have been few problems in the area, when questioned Sgt. MacKenzie said that theft from farms had reduced.

There was a request made that action be taken against the number of vehicles showing faulty headlights, as it is a growing problem raising potentially dangerous situations.

Following incidents of mud on the road Cllr. MacDiarmid hoped that action would be taken; he also suggested that a calendar of likely occurrences be drawn up, with activities known to occur at particular times of the year marked on it. The meeting was told that where such incidents are seen they could be reported through the 101 phone number.

The Community Council was informed by Cllr. Heer of a lifetime contribution award from the World Wildlife Fund presented to ex-officer Ian Lang. The Community Council offered their congratulations to Ian who had once been a Community Officer in this area before moving on to the Wildlife section.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS: [not already covered]

6.1 **Dunshalt;** none

6.2 **Gateside;**

6.2.1 A912 condition of road; this matter is being dealt with by Cllr. Lothian through the Gateside CA.

6.2.2 Station Road; ice is forming over a large part of Station Road just below the crest of the hill. This is an on going problem it is thought to be a result of poor drainage. The matter is being pursued.

6.3 **Strathmiglo;** none

6.4 **Auchtermuchty;**

6.4.1 Blocked drains; recent resurfacing work appears to be blocking drains it is hoped that this will be cleared before the road team leave.

6.4.2 A91 road closure; road works are to be undertaken at the west end of Auchtermuchty leading to the A91 being closed from Wednesday 11th to Sunday 15th February.

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS;

7.1 Water; discolouring of the water was noticed apparently as a result of a burst pipe. The problem has been dealt with.

7.2 Bus Service; problems have arisen due to an apparent change in bus schedules. Bus timetables are to be changed Monday 1st February Cllr. Heer will look into the effects of the changes.

- 8.0 PLANNING: The Secretary reported applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting not already discussed within the meeting.
Of note;
- 8.1 Gateside Inn; application to convert to a private dwelling has been passed.
 - 8.2 Incorrect maps; it had been pointed out at previous meetings that Planning appear to be using maps/plans that incorrect or at least give a false impression of what is actually on the ground. A recent map used shows what appears to be a road running behind Strathmiglo Primary School where no road exists. It was felt that this might have affected Planning judgement on a recent application in Back Dykes.
- 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.
- 10.0 AOCB;
- 10.1 Local Plan consultation; it was brought to the meetings attention that developers have submitted applications to include four areas of land in the community – one in Strathmiglo north of the High Street and three in Auchtermuchty. These were submitted so close to the deadline that there is a suspicion that this was a ploy to prevent comments from the community being attached to them. It is hoped that the Fife Councillors present will pass on the Community Council's displeasure at this move.
 - 10.2 Strathmiglo Skateboard Park; it is hoped that further information will be available after the February meeting of the Strathmiglo CA.
 - 10.3 A91 tourism road sign; Fife Councillors present were asked if repairs are in hand to the large tourism road sign on the A91 at the eastern entrance to Strathmiglo.
- 11.0 Date and venue of next meeting.
Monday 23rd February 2015, at 7.30pm, Gateside Memorial Hall.