

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 17th Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 27th June 2016
in Auchtermuchty Community Centre.

PRESENT: 1. George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], 2. Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], 3. Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], 4. Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty], 5. Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], 6. Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo] 7. Valerie WEIR [Gateside],

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER and one members of the public.

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members attending.

Apologies: Raymond HARDING [Auchtermuchty] Ian MACCAULAY [Dunshalt], Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Strathmiglo Village Hall on Monday 30th May, having been circulated to members, was accepted by those present with one correction;
2.0 Minutes; the meeting in Gateside as held on the 25th April not 28th March as stated.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING: None

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS:

4.1 Bus Changes; it was agreed that the quality of the consultation regarding the changes to the bus service in the area was poor. At the meeting no notes were taken and there was no method for giving a written response. Some minor changes have been made and suggestions raised at the Community Council meeting will be forwarded on to the Transport Commissioner [copied to MSPs].

There appears to be little thought given to connecting bus services or timetabling to suit those working outside the area. It was recognised that the number of passengers is small from the more rural locations becoming busier nearer towns, this would argue for more effective connections. It would appear that the 'school run' is the main focus/earner for the bus companies with other services a secondary consideration.

4.2 Roads closures; the Secretary has sent out information concerning the up-coming road closures in the area including High Street and Kilnheugh, Mournipea, the crossroads at Burnside/Cupar Road and the A91 Rossie to High Street. [Dates and diversions are available from Fife Direct as well]

4.3 Pedestrian Crossing upgrade; the crossing at Stratheden Place is to be upgraded to a Puffin crossing.

5.0 POLICE MATTERS: the Secretary forwarded the report from local officers on the current situation in the area from the 30th May which included three crimes in Auchtermuchty and two in Strathmiglo with a warning that trailers and quad bikes appear to be targeted in North East Fife. Speed checks in Strathmiglo were carried out and officers attended the Strathmiglo School Fair – in an advisory capacity.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS: [not already covered]

6.1 **Auchtermuchty;**

- 6.1.1 Football Park Low Road; a discussion was held concerning the advertisements attached to the Clubhouse and the mini-skip on it's roof. It was thought that it was not the most attractive feature to see on entering the town from the west. It was agreed that the Community Council would not want to deprive the Club of the revenue derived from the advertisements but wondered if it could be made more visually appealing.

6.2 **Dunshalt;**

- 6.2.1 Village shop; [see 9.0 Correspondence]

6.3 **Gateside;**

- 6.3.1 A912 road condition; it was agreed that the condition of the road is worsening and potentially dangerous, especially in wet weather. Cllr. Heer repeated the report he was given that monies for patching were not available and we await a full repair to be budgeted for. The Community Council will write to Fife requesting a weight restriction be placed on the road in the meantime to prevent further damage, with a particular focus on the eastern edge of the A912 as it enters Gateside from the North.

6.4 **Strathmiglo;**

- 6.4.1 Eastbanks Works; following the planning application in principle, the Strathmiglo Community Association has invited the developer to its next meeting to hear what is planned for the site.
- 6.4.2 Tolbooth Clock; the bells are striking one hour behind that shown on the clock, it was hoped that this could be corrected over the summer. Cllr Heer will pursue.
- 6.4.3 Tolbooth Lights; Strathmiglo Community Association were disappointed that plans to floodlight the spire of the Tolbooth have apparently come to nothing due the lack of communication by Fife officers.

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS; None

8.0 PLANNING: The Secretary drew attention to applications that appeared on the Fife list, reminding members that these are available on the Fife Council website and they can sign up to have the lists emailed directly.
Of note; [see 9.0 Correspondence]

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

- 9.1 Dunshalt PO change of use; the Secretary received word that a group in Dunshalt intends to attempt to purchase the property to maintain the shop and PO. The group are making application to the Scottish Land Fund [SLF] and need time for their application to be processed. The Community Council were requested to become a Statutory Consultee and submit an objection to the change of use application requesting that no decision be made until the question of funding from the SLF has been settled.
- 9.2 Auchtermuchty PO changes; the Secretary received and forwarded to members, a letter containing information regarding the internal changes to be made to the premises [change of counter layout] and the hours of operation.
- 9.3 Mill Flat application; the Secretary received a request for information, he responded by pointing out that there was, at this date, no application concerning the property and that any future application could be found on the Fife Council Planning web pages.
- 9.4 Orchard Flat bridge; received correspondence questioned there was no weight limit placed on the Orchard Flat bridge to prevent its use by lorries and buses. The

Secretary had replied that the appropriate officers within Fife Council have no doubt examined the bridge, and no weight limit thought necessary.

10.0 AOCB;

10.1 Gateside School; it was noted that the pupil numbers in Gateside Primary have fallen and that there is now share a head teacher with Strathmiglo Primary. This has caused some local concern given the history of school closures in NE Fife and the pending Education budget cuts.

11.0 Date and venue of next meeting.

Monday 29th August at 7.30pm, Dunshalt Village Hall [Secretary will check if the meeting conflicts with the choir practice, if clash it was agreed to look into changing the date or location of the meeting.]