

# Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 31st Meeting of the Community Council,  
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
in Gateside Memorial Hall.

PRESENT: George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], Susan JACK [Gateside], Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, and 4 members of the public

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed members attending.

Apologies: Cllr. David MACDIARMID, PC Whitaker, PC Fisher, Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt], Valerie WEIR [Gateside]

2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Dunshalt Village Hall on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October, having been circulated to members, was accepted by those present.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING:

- 3.1 3.1 Dunshalt village shop; a draft business plan is now available for inspection at the Village Hall and a Community Website is about to be launched.
- 3.2 5.2 Auchtermuchty noisy car; the meeting was pleased to hear that the situation has been greatly improved.
- 3.3 6.1.1 Dunshalt defibrillator; the training session was well attended. It was suggested that refresher sessions are held at a Community Association level now that most of the communities have had defibrillators installed.
- 3.4 6.1.2 Dunshalt Authors evening; members were reminded that first evening was to take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> November.
- 3.5 6.2.1 Gateside school; Gateside Community Association are to produce a leaflet for distribution to potential parents in the area concerning the advantages of sending their children to the local school. Distribution has been agreed with the school and it is hoped that it will be available before the Christmas break.
- 3.6 6.4.1 Auchtermuchty road markings; the matter is in hand with the relevant department but it was thought that weather conditions would cause delay.

4.0 OTHER BUSINESS: none

5.0 POLICE MATTERS:

- 5.1 Police report; the Chair summarised the November report distributed by the local officers, who were unavailable due to shift patterns, covering number and grade of calls made to the police, the offer of a "Bite 'n' Blether" which presents an opportunity for residents to chat to officers over a cup of tea, the re-launch of the 'Good Citizen' award and the alert that bogus workmen are known to be operating in the area.
- 5.2 New business; it has been reported that hare-coursing is thought to be occurring in the area and any suspicions should be reported, 'phishing' phone calls appear to be targeting the area with the suggestion that an available police talk on hoax phone calls be organised for the area.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS: [not already covered]

6.1 **Gateside;**

6.1.1 A91 potholes; it was reported that a number of potholes have formed just on the Fife side of the regional boundary on the A91. If they have been reported then, as it is a main road they should be dealt with within 4-5 days. The Chair recommended that when reporting such matters that a report number be obtained so that matters can be pursued.

6.2 **Strathmiglo;**

6.2.1 Kirk Wynd road signage; matters are apparently in hand, though no sign of progress, the Chair has asked for an update.

6.3 **Auchtermuchty;**

6.3.1 Pedestrian 'Zebra' crossing on Low Road; it is unlikely that the crossing will be upgraded to a 'Pelican' because of the situation. Additional traffic calming approaches were suggested e.g. raised crossing, though in themselves may cause problems. Members were reminded that pedestrians would be better advised to take responsibility for their own safety and assume all drivers are 'inattentive idiots'.  
6.3.2 Bus schedules; it was noted that there are express buses [thought to be M90] running from Dundee stopping at the Kinross Park and Ride passing through Auchtermuchty without stopping. A request was made that they stop, as at present to get to Dundee residents have to go via Cupar or Glenrothes. More information concerning the buses will be sought and the matter discussed at the next meeting.

6.4 **Dunshalt;** no new business

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS;

7.1 Health Centre; it was felt that it should be noted that the 'flu immunisations had gone well this year, apart from a number of people arriving without completing their forms though there was uncertainty as to whether this delayed the process.

8.0 PLANNING: The Secretary drew attention to applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting.

8.1 Glassart's Glen mobile home; to be discussed under AOCB.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE: the Secretary is now forwarding all correspondence received electronically to members.

9.1 Glassart's Glen mobile home; to be discussed under AOCB

9.2 Possible formation of stand alone Auchtermuchty Community Council; to be discussed under AOCB

10.0 AOCB;

10.1 Glassart's Glen mobile home; a new application has been made regarding the siting of "temporary residential accommodation" in Glassart's Glen in relation to a smallholding. The application follows on from a previous application to site "temporary residential accommodation" refused by Fife Planning but granted on appeal to the Reporter subject to three conditions:

- the residential caravan is removed at the end of the two-year period and the site reinstated to its original condition.
- the site is laid out in a tidy manner with adequate off-road parking.
- visibility at the road junction at the new access meets set criteria and is maintained.

Local residents have a number of concerns regarding the smallholding and the running of the animal husbandry business there and will be submitting an objection. The Community Council expressed the opinion that planning conditions, stated in the Appeal Decision Notice should be adhered to/enforced. The Secretary will compile a comment for Fife Planning and circulate to members before submission.

10.2 Possible formation of a stand alone Auchtermuchty Community Council; the concept of a Community Council that represents only the Auchtermuchty area was

raised. It was argued that the relative sizes of the communities created an imbalance in representation and that the residents of Auchtermuchty would be better served if they were not limited by the number of Community Councillors allocated under the present arrangement. It was pointed out that the present arrangement, whereby local Community Associations representing each of the communities cooperate with the Community Council, has worked well for many years and that it is often finding the correct number of willing 'councillors' that has proved an issue. On past experience raising and maintaining the number of Community Councillors suggested from the Auchtermuchty area alone would not happen. The fact that meetings are open to the public - should they wish to attend - and that their presence and contribution was welcomed, was reinforced. It was agreed that methods of raising public awareness of the Community Council's presence and role could be explored, with meeting notices being placed in the local press. It was noted that the Community Council do run a website where minutes and agenda are already posted and archived.

10.3 Fife Plan 2; the meeting was reminded that Fife Plan 2 has more of a 'rolling change' approach to planning development rather than the 'big bang' of the existing Fife Plan. In many ways this makes it more important to be aware of proposals being considered by Fife as they may be incorporated in a less public manner.

11.0 **Date and venue of next meeting.**

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 7.30pm, Strathmiglo Village Hall.