

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 39th Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 24th September 2018
in Auchtermuchty Community Centre
[initially scheduled for Gateside Memorial Hall]

PRESENT: Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], Susan JACK [Gateside], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Ian MACCAULAY [Dunshalt], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], Valerie WEIR [Gateside],

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, and 17 members of the public

- 1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Vice-Chair welcomed members attending and apologised for the change of location due to double booking of the Gateside Memorial Hall.

Apologies: George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], Christine LITTLE [Auchtermuchty], Cllr. David MACDAIRMID, PC's Parker and Fisher

- 2.0 MINUTES:

The Minute of the meeting held in Auchtermuchty Community Centre on Monday 27th August, having been circulated to members, was accepted by those present including the 'pop up bog' [sic] featured in the Police Community Newsletter.

- 3.0 MATTERS ARISING: none

- 4.0 OTHER BUSINESS: [taken at the start of the meeting]

- 4.1 Millflat/Leckiebank planning application; the floor was opened for discussion concerning the proposed development. Topics covered included:
- road safety - dangers to pedestrians and the increased traffic in High Street/Low Road junctions
 - land quality being 'substandard and unsuitable for building [though features in Local Plan as zoned for housing]
 - entrance to site difficult causing nuisance and disturbance
 - lack of parking available for potential residents
 - planning information failing to delivered to neighbouring residents even though they appear in papers submitted to planning department
 - that reports from Fife Council departments [e.g. Transportation] are to be submitted direct to the Planning Committee so not allowing comment by members of the public
 - that the state/condition of roads in the area with the need for 'roads construction consent' - normally applied for after a successful planning application and covered by separate legislation, the granting of one does not automatically lead to the granting of the other - would form the best avenue for objection
 - wildlife disturbance, it was noted a colony of bats, amongst other animals, is evident in the area and a survey would need to be conducted

The Secretary and Cllr. Heer reminded the meeting that where objections are submitted they must be specific to planning legislation and that if there are at least 6 objections [these can be from individuals] it will go before committee. The question was raised as to whether it was the number of houses involved that was the issue. Those present felt that access problems and the unsuitability of the site was more the issue though there was a fear that this would be the initial phase of a larger development that would extend beyond the village envelope.

The process of land being included in the Local Plan was explained by Cllr. Heer involving the submission by interested parties of 'ideas' to Planning, though the separation of departments within Fife Council at times prevents planners pointing problems. The role of the Community Council and how they could 'get ahead of the game' was discussed. The motion was made that the Community Council object to the application on the grounds of access, state of roads and pedestrian safety. AGREED

The Secretary reminded the meeting that the Community Council always push for the redevelopment of brown field sites before the breaking of new ground.

The Vice-Chair closed the discussion and invited those interested to stay for the rest of the meeting.

- 4.2 Community Council elections; this is the last meeting of the present Community Council. No election has been required for the new Community Council that will meet on Monday 29th October in Strathmiglo Village Hall.

5.0 POLICE MATTERS:

- 5.1 New sergeant; a new sergeant is apparently now in place though the Secretary has had no notice
- 5.2 Speedwatch Campaign; 10 volunteers have come forward in Dunshalt and with the vetting process rather onerous it was felt that conducting them in Dunshalt, led by PC Parker, would be more efficient than individuals going to Cupar.

6.0 FIFE COUNCIL MATTERS: [not already covered]

6.1 **Gateside;**

- 6.1.1 Primary School; the local Community Association have requested to be part of the consultation process as the closure will effect the community as well as parents.
- 6.1.2 Road closure; the "Gateside Gallop" went well with no problems. A few yellow jackets around did wonders for the speeding issue.
- 6.1.3 Carnmore development; the houses had brown bins delivered, but these have never been emptied.
- 6.1.4 Burnside; the entrance markers have been damaged - it is believed that this matter has been reported.

6.2 **Strathmiglo;**

- 6.2.1 KGV Park; a fallen tree by the skate park is causing concern. The meeting was told that teams have been formed by Fife Council to inspect trees and deal with those considered unsafe.
- 6.2.2 A91 road sign; the large information sign on the north side of the A91 at the western approach to the village has been damaged.

6.3 **Auchtermuchty;**

- 6.3.1 Service of Union; the Edenshead Parish has been formed and its first service took place on the 23rd September. A minister has still to be appointed.
- 6.3.2 Auchtermuchty-Strathmiglo footpath; maintenance of this footpath has been neglected, reports have been submitted to Fife Council but no feedback has been given. Cllr. Heer will pursue.

6.4 **Dunshalt;**

- 6.4.1 Community Shop; the contract for internal alterations is about to be awarded. It is thought the shop may open in January 2019.
- 6.4.2 Traffic accident; the meeting was informed of an accident involving a tractor and a child on a cycle by the bridge at the south of the village.

7.0 OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS;

- 7.1 Postal services; scam mail literature is now being distributed by Royal Mail in the area. Police officers will come to Community Association meetings if requested to advice local residents.
- 7.2 Virgin Media; it is thought that Virgin Broadband installation is to take place in the community therefore locals should expect roadworks .

- 8.0 PLANNING: The Secretary drew attention to applications that appeared on the Fife list since the last meeting.
- 9.0 CORRESPONDENCE: the Secretary is now forwarding all correspondence received electronically to members.
Of note; none
- 10.0 AOCB;
- 10.1 "Adopt-a-street"; questions were asked as to what became of a recent campaign of that name. It would appear that public reaction to the campaign was rather negative though it was thought that a re-branding and re-launch is to occur in the future.
- 10.2 Grit bins; questions were asked of Councillors as to where Fife have reached with their proposals for siting/re-siting/removal of grit bins. The meeting was informed that more grit bins are to be removed - Fife Council had the highest ration of bins to size of Scottish authorities - though no policy appears to have been set. Councillors are told where grit bins are to be removed but there is no means of preventing removal. It was suggested that the Community Council contact Fife Transportation for clarification.
- 11.0 Date and venue of first meeting of the new Community Council.
Monday 29th October 2018, 7.30pm, Strathmiglo Village Hall,