

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 1st [Inaugural] Meeting of the Community Council,
Held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 29th October 2018
in Strathmiglo Village Hall

PRESENT: Marj KEDDIE [Auchtermuchty], Susan JACK [Gateside], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], Helen Bowman [Auchtermuchty], Jane Freer [Auchtermuchty]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN

- 1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: Cllr Andy Heer welcomed Community Councillors and members of the public
- 2.0 Apologies: George AITKEN [Strathmiglo], Maaïke COOK [Strathmiglo], Valerie WEIR [Gateside], Cllr. David MACDAIRMID, PC's Parker and Fisher
- 3.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: none
- 4.0 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE BEARERS:

Chair	- George Aitken; proposed and seconded. Agreed
Vice-Chair	- Jane Kerr; proposed and seconded. Agreed
Secretary	- Maïke Cook; proposed.
	- Alan Muirhead; proposed and seconded. Agreed
Treasurer	- Bill Torrance; proposed and seconded. Agreed

[Bill Torrance will continue as an ex-officio minute secretary]

In the absence of the elected Chair, the Vice-Chair took over from Cllr. Heer and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

- 5.0 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:

- 5.1 Millflat planning application; members of the public had attended the meeting with the desire to discuss the progress of this application. The Secretary told the meeting of the objection submitted by the previous Community Council following the September meeting. The meeting was informed that Fife Council's Transportation Report linked to the proposed development had been published that afternoon, a summary of which was presented by a member of the public who gave the opinion that the refusal of consent would lead to refusal for the planning application. The question of what the Community Council could further do was discussed and the meeting was told that the Community Council had exhausted its options for the present. A summary of action taken by local residents raising the number of objections submitted. The Secretary suggested that an ad hoc group be formed locally to pursue the issue. Bill Torrance suggested that it would be more appropriate for the issue to be dealt with by the Auchtermuchty Community Association, as the Community Council has historically dealt with issues that effect the whole of the constituency, with the Community Council providing what support it could. There was discussion concerning the purpose/role of the Community Council citing the "Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Fife March 2011" - "take such action in the interests of that community that appears to it to be expedient and practicable"

“Community Councils are encouraged to promote community participation and a sense of community spirit within its community.”

Contact has been established, by local residents, with the Planning Officer dealing with the application.

Fife Councillors briefly outlined the process of application and how it may be dealt with, usually dependent on the number of objections. The decision of Councillors is ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ at the planning Committee and can overrule Officers recommendations.

It is likely that the application will not go to Committee until early 2019. Papers are sent out the week before and any lobbying of Councillors on the Committee would be best done once the Councillors have received the papers.

Also discussed were out-dated maps/plans that provide a false impression of the situation that could effect the application.

How the developer will react to the refusal of a Road Construction Consent could be critical.

5.2 Grit bins; the question of their removal was raised. It was agreed that a more efficient system of placement needs formed.

5.3 Fallen tree; the question of responsibility for the tree was raised - it is the landowners. It has been reported to Fife Council.

6.0 Date and venue of second meeting of the Community Council.

Monday 26th November 2018, 7.30pm, Auchtermuchty Community Centre.