Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 19th meeting of the Community Council, held at 7.30 p.m. on 29th March 2021 via Zoom conferencing online facility

PRESENT: Maaike COOK [Strathmiglo], Susan JACK [Gateside], Ian MCCAULAY [Dunshalt], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo],

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed Community Councillors, Fife Councillors.

Apologies: Shona DRYBURGH [Auchtermuchty], Jane KERR [Strathmiglo], Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, PC's Haddow and Lowe.

2.0 Police: the Secretary will pass on any points raised by members.

3.0 Declarations of Interest: it was agreed to make these when appropriate.

4.0 Minutes of Meeting: the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd February were accepted as correct with one correction;

4.1 5.5 The reply to the Chair was from Jeremy Harris not Stephen Carter.

5.0 Matters arising:

5.1 **5.1 Dryside parking**; Fife Council intends to implement a temporary Rural Clearway and Prohibition of verge parking on the U098 [Dryside] and U097 [Station Road] [Cllr. Heer forwarded a map of area], it is believed that this will be for 18 months [to be confirmed in writing] though the start date has yet to be announced.

5.2 **5.2 KGV Park, Strathmiglo**; the temporary fence enclosing the area has been removed, members are disappointed that there has been no progress other than this.

5.3 **5.4 B936 20mph limit**; implementation is awaited, Cllr. Heer will pursue as there is concern over the time being taken to respond to emails, make decisions etc.

5.4 **5.5 Fife Coast & Countryside Trust;** changes to the Ranger Service are going ahead. There appears to be an aim to make it a more centralised structure rather than have 'rangers' allocated areas. It is hoped that more time will be spent 'in the field'. The Chair is corresponding in a personal capacity but will forward communications, a major concern is the need for a 'response' phone number that will allow landowners\residents contact with staff to have issues dealt with quickly.

6.0 Other business:

6.1 **Co-op development, Auchtermuchty**; it was noted that the development is to go ahead and plans submitted. The desired pedestrian barrier at the shop entrance appears on the plans but no mention is made of pedestrian access/approach to the site and the crossing of the Low Road. It was suggested that a light controlled crossing be installed - perhaps replacing the 'zebra' crossing by the old police station - this would be best done while ground works for the building was going on. Several suggestions as to how to progress the issue: approach Roads Department as a safety issue [Chair will email Derek Rowe], the Auchtermuchty Community Association could take the matter forward [as a local group their involvement would be beneficial], Cllr. Heer will make contact with the local Speedwatch group.

7.0 Fife Council:

7.1 Gateside;

7.1.1 Road surfacing; complete.

7.1.2 School Car Park; fence fixed.

7.1.3 Station Road; the verge situation is improving but will be monitored.

7.1.4 Playpark; a group is forming to pursue the issue, a request will be made to Fife Council to maintain the condition of the existing fixtures [Cllr. Heer informed the meeting that a maintenance list exists and Gateside is on it]

7.1.5 Memorial Hall; this will be open for the election day with covid safety procedures in place.

7.2 Strathmiglo;

7.2.1 Road conditions; B. Torrance reported a large number of problems - with photos - online, he has an acknowledgement of receipt but not indication as to when an inspection/work will be undertaken.

7.2.2 Protruding wires; at the A91/A912 junction bared wires protruding from the ground in the grass verge were dealt with very promptly once reported.

7.2.3 Strathmiglo Hall car park; the Hall Committee made it known that they would not want the car park attached to be officially publicised. They have no issue with use by people using it to access local walking routes but would prefer the situation to be left as it is.

7.3 Auchtermuchty;

7.3.1 Defibrillator; re. the intention to change the colour of the old phonebook used to house the defibrillator, the Secretary contacted Mathew Price [Fife Conservation] and put him in touch with the local group.The need for a planning application will be checked and the Community Council will apply for the group [to take advantage of the 50% discount available to Community Councils] and be refunded by one of the Auchtermuchty organisations. It was thought that the final choice of colour for the phone box could be put out to local consultation.

7.3.2 Schools Headteacher; the joint head teacher position is to go ahead.

7.5 Dunshalt;

7.5.1 Ladybank Road trees; problem trees have been tackled and ditch clearing took place but it is thought that the ditch banks are unstable. It was noted that the Flood Forum has details of a product that may be of use. On a related issue it was noted that the Flood Forum includes local residents, not connected to the Community Council, proving to be a source of useful information.

8.0 Other Service Providers;

8.1 Flood Forum; Ian McCaulay will keep the Community Council informed as to the discussions taking place and the information available.

8.2 Covid 19 + vaccination in NEF; information is being forwarded on by the Secretary as he receives it.

8.3 SEStrans survey; the South East Scotland Transport Partnership is conducting a consultation exercise concerning a new Regional Transport Strategy via 'surveymonkey'. Only one can be submitted by the Community Council, anyone wishing to do this should contact the Secretary, though other members can contribute as members of the public.

8.4 Rural Broadband; the Secretary has details of grants available for those outside 'normal' areas.

9.0 Planning; The Secretary gave a brief summary of those applications in our area. Members were reminded that they could be added to a Fife Council mailing list to receive weekly updates directly through development.central@fife.gov.uk.

Of note; the Co-op Development has been approved.

10.0 Correspondence; The Secretary forwards on to members all relevant correspondence received.

11.0 Any Other Competent Business;

11.1 Treasurer; the Treasurer will be making up the annual accounts and requires invoices for the cost of the Zoom facility being used instead of hall rental, also the issue of altering signatories on Community Council cheques. The Chair will contact the Treasurer concerning both matters.

11.2 Community Council membership; the Chair reminded members that this is an ongoing issue particularly for Auchtermuchty, Dunshalt and Gateside.

12.0 Date and venue of next meeting;

Monday 26th April at 7.30pm via Zoom.