Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minute of the 22nd meeting of the Community Council held at 7.45 p.m. on 28th June 2021 via Zoom conferencing online facility

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

ATTENDING: Cllr. Andy HEER, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Andrew MCCAFFERTY, Josh FEAKINS and 3 other members of the public.

1.0 WELCOME & APOLOGIES: The Chair welcomed Community Councillors, Fife Councillors and members of the public.

Apologies: Shona DRYBURGH [Auchtermuchty], Bobby THOMSON [Gateside], PC's Haddow and Lowe.

2.0 Police: the Secretary will pass on any points raised by members. As previously reported police reports will now cover all NE Fife and be issued every three months.

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 3rd May were accepted as correct.

5.0 Matters arising:

5.1 5.4 **Co-op development**; Chair will email Fife Council [Derek Crowe] concerning the installation of a pedestrian crossing at the development.

6.0 Other business:

6.1 **Millflat development;** the Chair summarised the emails received, topics included; private water supplies and effects on them, road access to site and parking within site, eco-credentials of houses to be built and the wish they be of a 'Passiv Haus' standard [definition can be found online], what would happen if the development were sold on to another party, the general impact of the development on the surrounding area.

Andrew McCafferty explained that there had been changes to the initial 'Indicative Layout' shown to the Community Council and explained that this would be the version submitted. The changes included details to the change of the private water supplies - new pipes would be laid then a new connection made keeping interruptions to supply to a minimum, 'returns' on the wall at the entrance would use the stone from the existing wall minimising its visual impact, parking spaces formed near the entrance to the High Road entrance were to be used to ameliorate parking issues at the entrance. Reports on ecology, drainage, heritage and transportation have been compiled. At present the application would be for Planning in Principle and there would be an expectation that Fife Council would set conditions for the development, e.g. number of parking spaces, eco requirements etc, that would be covered in the more detailed planning to follow. Any possible purchaser of the development would have to meet the same conditions.

The Chair again thanked Andrew McCafferty and Josh Feakins for their attendance and willingness to enter into discussion concerning the development. Residents will now have to await Fife's decision of the Principle and the details found in a full application

7.0 Fife Council:

7.1 **Dunshalt;** none

7.2 **Gateside;**

7.2.1 Playpark; this is progressing, fund raising and initial meetings are taking place

7.2.2 Dryside grass cutting; it is a mystery as to who has cut the grass verge on the Dryside Fife Council have stated it was not them. The Chair will make inquiries.

7.3 **Strathmiglo**;

7.3.1 Community Association; a well attended face to face [well spaced] meeting was held and events are being planned and a summer newsletter compiled.

7.3.2 Litter; this has become a major issue in the grass areas of the village. It is hoped that Youth Workers operating on Friday evenings may be a positive influence or it will have to become a Police issue.

7.3.3 Main sewage pipe; it was noted that attempts were being made to access an inspection hatch on the main sewer and residents wondered why. Local councillors are not given notice of routine inspection work so could not help.

7.3.4 KGV Park; the storage container has been given a beginning of July delivery date.

7.4 **Auchtermuchty**

7.4.1 Parking; residents are obviously not expecting a further visit from traffic officers as it appears they have returned to parking inconsiderately at junctions and on double yellow lines. Cllr. Heer has requested the repainting of the yellow lines.

7.4.2 Recycling area; there have been complaints concerning its untidy state thought to be due in part to the arrangements at the recycling centres. Cllr. Heer informed the meeting that despite attempts by members Fife Council has decided to keep the present booking system with its maximum 3 visits per week per household until at least September. Threats and abuse of staff was one of the reasons given. The Chair felt that there were two parts that need separated, households looking to recycle and traders looking to dispose of commercial waste and that these should be dealt with individually. There appears to be a reluctance to bring prosecutions for fly tipping and fines levied are often less that the cost of legitimate disposal. There needs to be a change in the law at a government level.

8.0 Other Service Providers; all information received is forwarded on by the Secretary.

9.0 Planning; The Secretary gave a brief summary of the application 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.

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

11.0 Any Other Competent Business;

11.1 Possible venue for meetings; the members were informed that Auchtermuchty church hall is now available for hire for meetings of up to 25 under current restrictions.

11.2 Auchtermuchty Community Trust; there are a number of gazebos available for local groups to borrow, they may be available to communities other than those in Auchtermuchty.

11.3 Doctor's Surgery; comments have been received concerning the current phone-in system and the fact that it does not operate a queue. This makes getting through very difficult, indeed something of a lottery. Meetings have been held where the phone system was raised but it appears that a queueing facility is considered prohibitively expensive - the Surgery Facebook page has an explanation. The Community Council will write to the Surgery asking them to reconsider or look for possible alternatives.

12.0 Date and venue of next meeting; it was agreed to look to reuse community halls once covid restrictions are lifted, though possibility of continuing the use of Zoom video conferencing in the winter months was suggested. A decision will be made at the end of July when more information is available.

Monday 30th August at 7.30pm, details to be sent out.