Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minutes of the 10th Meeting of the Community Council held at 7.30 pm on the 30th of September 2024 in Auchtermuchty Community Centre.

PRESENT: Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Maaike COOK [Strathmiglo], Susan JACK [Gateside], Andrew MACNAUGHTON [Gateside]

ATTENDING: Douglas Fraser [Glenfarg CC]

1.0 **Welcome and Apologies**: The Chair welcomed all those attending.

Apologies: Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt], Mark GIBSON [Auchtermuchty], Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], Cllr. Gary HOLT, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Cllr. David MACDIARMID, PC's HADDOW and LOWE.

2.0 **Declarations of interest:** these will be made when appropriate.

3.0 **Police**: it was noted that the latest police report had been circulated.

3.1 Officers attendance; it was noted that one of the many demands on officers time has again prevented their appearance at the meeting.

4.0 **Minutes of Meeting:** the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26th of August were accepted.

5.0 **Matters Arising:** none.

6.0 **Other Business;**

6.1 Glenfarg Community Transport Group; A registered Charity with 5 trustees. Douglas Fraser from Glenfarg attended to explain how the GCTG has come to exist and its plans for the future. All started in 2019, the Transport Forum Kinross was formed discussing the lack of Public Transport in the area. Stagecoach withdrew line 65, talking had to stop, action had to be taken. Earnside Coaches started to take over the school run. They approached Perth & Kinross Council for a bus, training was given, first route was for the outskirts and lining up with coffee morning. Matters got worse when Earnside stopped. A £100 microgrant and donations kept the first route going. After having received explanation from P & K Council as to what was needed to take over the line 65 route, training and approval were given, fundraising started for new busses and in April 2021 everything was in place. They bought second-hand buses, using volunteer-drivers 6 days per week. Starting with approx 100 passengers, the numbers started to rise. They took over the Kinross – Tillicoultry route, as well as bus routes 23 and 55 being subsidised by P & K Council. The rural countryside routes are 'not suitable' for the big companies. This resulted in an official Hourly service Bus from Perth to Kinross via Glenfarg and Tillicoultry, (07.00 – 19.00 daily) even 'collecting' 9 students from Strathmiglo. Now there are 7 busses (3 busses leased), 8 contracted busdrivers, 20 volunteer drivers, official ticket machines, Government paying (partly) the consessions. When volunteer drivers have to replace a contracted driver, the volunteer will be paid official wages. The number of passengers risen to 5200, the GCTG has come to its limits, it can not expand anymore. Douglas is wondering if there can be a cooperation between the CC's in Fife to set up similar bus services along the rural routes in Fife, to link to the GCTG in future. It will cost time, money, strength, willpower and an awfull lot of effort. GCTG is willing to support and help. The Fife CC's should have to come together to put pressure in FC. To start a questionaire should be send out to all communities, to see what transport wishes there are for young and old.

6.2 Cycle Tavern; an Auchtermuchty Community Group wants to buy the Cycle Tavern. The owner has put it up for sale after planning permission to convert to 2 houses was applied for and passed. All equipment is still there but the license is stopped. If there was sufficient interest it might work but with a New Licence all volunteers need to be trained to comply with the new rules and regulations. The building needs a lot of work and is not disability friendly.

6.3 Binn Wind Turbine Fund; Report issue with the £1.500 microgrant in 2023 is still unresolved, Susan had discusssed and agreed with Foundation Scotland but nothing was officially noted or shared. An £800 microgrant is parked until the issue is resolved. (Since the meeting the issue has now been resolved**).**
Meeting with Community Benefits Company: at this moment there are 3 Greencat directors, 2 should be coming from the local Communities, people need to be put forward. Susan will be put forward as Director, Andy to write to Gavin at Greencat.

6.4 Flood Resillience Group; meeting 'on site' in Falkland is planned

6.4.1. Donald Lothian had successful meeting with group of people. FC will look at collapsed drain at the Auchtermuchty Fire Station .

6.4.2 Gateside flooding at hall: still to be solved, the quotes for drains are too high. Loads of water coming from all sides, water can rise 4 feet in 10 minutes

7.0 **Fife Council:**

7.1 **Auchtermuchty**

7.1.1 Damage to the seat of a Bench in Low Road Park. Other benches within the park could do with some TLC. Fife Council Ground Maintenance will be contacted.

7.1.2. Average speed cameras might be a solution to speeding on Low Road.

7.3 **Dunshalt**

7.3.1.Work is nearing completion on the new playpark in Dunshalt, with an opening event planned for early November.

7.3.2 During the summer a team of volunteers redecorated Dunshalt Hall, resealed the floor, replaced window blinds and replaced historic photographs with information panels. The next task is to replace the south facing part of the hall roof, which thanks to a National Lottery grant should commence this week.

7.3.3.Having failed to meet the criteria for additional speed curbing measures through Dunshalt, we're awaiting the repainting of speed restriction signs on Main Street, with no timeline available.

7.3.4 Road markings; it was reported that a planned 'refresh' of road markings and signage is to be undertaken, though attempts to have the pavement 'build-outs' extended has been unsuccessful.

7.4 **Gateside;**

7.4.1. Gateside Gallop was succesful.

7.4.2. Questions about the School-sale, is this sold inc. parking spaces, as that might cause problems as the the parking spaces are used for access to the park. Andy to email education services..

7.5 **Strathmiglo;**

7.5.1 Two big bales near the Castle thrown into the burn by local kids, restricting the waterflow. The Farmer has been warned, he was not aware of this vandalism.

7.5.2. Cars parking on the corner Cash-Feus – Kirkwynd parking too close to the corner, restricting the view, causing dangerous situations

8.0 **OSP:** the Secretary forwards all relevant information that he receives.

9.0 **Planning**

9.1 Latest lists; the Secretary has circulated a list of the latest applications in the CC's area.

10.0 **Correspondence:** the secretary has forwarded on to members all relevant correspondence received.

11.0 **AOCB;**

11.1 Auchtermuchty Community Trust will hold an AGM, in this meeting the name change and the Contitution to be adapted to involve all 4 communities. Andrew and Andy will go and check the Constitution

11.2 James Frettwell (Johnny Cash Path) was referred to Graham Scott for information about the Village Hall.

11.3 November – March Meetings will be held via Zoom. Chair to book/reserve.

12.0 **Date and venue of next meeting:**

Monday 28th October in Strathmiglo Public Hall, at 7.30 pm.