Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the Community Council held at 7.30 pm on the 27th of January 2025 via Zoom conferencing facility.

PRESENT: Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Maaike COOK [Strathmiglo], Susan JACK [Gateside], Andrew MACNAUGHTON [Gateside] Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt], Mark GIBSON [Auchtermuchty], Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt].

ATTENDING: Cllr. Gary HOLT, Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN, Neal JAMIESON [Ediston Homes], Annette SCOTT [ACA]

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

Apologies: Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo], Cllr. David MACDIARMID, PC's HADDOW and LOWE.

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

3.0 **Police**: Monthly report received.
It is still unclear who is responsible for insurance in regard to the Speedwatch campaign. Cllr Lothian had contacted the local Police Imspector concerning the matter but to date had received no response.

4.0 **Minutes of Meeting:** The minutes of the Zoom meeting held on 25th November 2024 were accepted.

5.0 **Matters Arising:**

5.1 Planning Application: Millflat/Leckiebank;

The CC has taken a closer look at the details from the 15 units Comments received:

Landscaping: **Overgrowing:Hedges**
Proposed: Hedge-row on Leckiebank side to be removed totally. Hedge row on Mill Flat side to be removed partly. Green-space to be maintained quarterly by a company, and paid for by the owners. There are no legal requirements to maintain hedges/green spaces by the new owners **but t**here is an **obligation-condition** in the title-deeds that the new owners are responsible for maintenance. Ediston will maintain the grounds (via a Factor) until the last house is sold.
There was concern expressed as to whether or not the views of the residents of Millflat had been sought regarding removal of the hedge. The risk that sewers could be damaged when the hedge is being removed was also raised.

Scottish water stated that they had no issues regarding flooding. People living at Mill flat/Leckie Bank are aware of local flooding issues and there are also concerns over the knock-on effect causing flooding in the Low Road Park.

. Proposed: Rainwater will come down the road. Surface water drainage (Suds) will be built to protect from run off on to High Road and to control the flow of water in to the sewage system.. This is heavily vetted by Scottish water. The suds (underground tanks) and the greenery around these suds will be maintained by Scottish water on completion.
There are private waterpipes running through the grounds of the building plot. Ediston is aware and has spoken to those affected and agreed with residents that if the existing pipes cannot be maintained they will be connected to the new mains.

Road Lay out design The PPP application showed 2 entrances, with the roads not linked. Ediston homes were happy witht that but Fife Council requested the roads to be linked. Fear is that the linked roads will become 'shortcut and race track'

Construction method:
All working will be within 'Social hours' Monday-Friday.
Heavy machinery getting to site: Shortest route and straightest line is via High Road which is very

narrow and restricted, Ediston Are aware of this. This is of great concern for the local residents, due to parking and damage to their cars/properties. Local Traffic Management may be needed. Sub-contracters will be used, but all are preferred suppliers and all will be informed by Ediston of work and transport rules and requirements to be followed.
Ediston Homes **guarantees** no anti-social driving will be accepted.

5.2 Other matters arising: Still not clear who pays Insurance for speedwatch, Police or Fife Council? Cllr. Lothian chasing this up, questions have been asked but answers not received until now. On the 6th of March 19.00 there will be a Police meeting. Community Safety team is invited.

6.0 **Other Business;**

6.1 BWTF Micro grants Applications;. 2 applications for micro grants : £200 for Dunshalt Hall and £500 forAuchtermuchty X-mas lights. The BWTF sub-committee had examined and were happy with both applications and approval was now needed by the Full CC to enable payment of the grants.
The Dunshalt Application was approved The Auchtermuchty Application for X-mas lights was put on hold until more information could be obtained regarding the group and also confirmed feasibility of the proposal to obtain mains power via a connection to street lampposts.
There is a meeting of Auchtermuchty Community Association on Monday 3rd February at which the applicant is expected to be present. The CC Chair and Secretary will both attend this meeting at which it is hoped answers to both above concerns can be obtained.

6.2 Flood resilience group: Where to put 'Leaky barriers' discussion to be had with Fife Council, Maura Gibson

7.0 **Fife Council:**

7.1 **Auchtermuchty**

7.1.1 A male resident has recently been moved into Clements Courts flats, where 3 women already live. This man is creating a lot of trouble with anti-social behaviour, threats, kicking doors, threats of stabbing with a knife, drugs using/selling issues etc,. Police are aware that cars and strangers arriving in a 'steady stream'. The women are terrified, afraid to go out, the fear level is very high. The person is well known (from past and present!!) to Kingdom Housing and Police, re-homing is needed urgently. How can this man be given a home between 3 women? Mark to send e-mail to Gary Holt with all details. He shall take this up with Community Safety Group. Diary is to be kept with all issues. A curfew has been issued. Saturday 25/01/2025 Police was called due to stabbing threats. Solution needed urgently.
7.1.2 Concern was expressed over the recent failure of the Health Center telephone system and the lack of a back-up system. This would appeaar to be a problem not only at Auchtermuchty Health Centre but more widely across Fife.

7.2 **Dunshalt**

7.2.1. 6th of March, Community Safety meeting is set up to discuss Road Safety issues.
7.2.2. Shop closed on 25/1/2025. Future of the building is not clear, the Committee will have a meeting about this.

7.3 **Gateside;**

7.3.1. Final push for Park Funding is continuing. Confident target will be reached.
7.3.2. Remedial work to be done for Hall-flooding with local landowner support.
7.3.3. Toasty Tuesday is still going on.

7.4 **Strathmiglo;**

7.4.1. Group of 8 – 9 youths causing big trouble, Vandalism, anti-social behaviour etc. targetting specific addresses, School, private properties etc. Police are aware, some names are

well known to Police, all happenings are reported to Police. This group is 'hard to catch'. Police have been at some addresses to speak with and warn parents.

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 After storm and power-cut, People from Burnside were put in Hotels. North of Newburgh road in Auchtermuchty power was slowly restored. Call 105 (Scottish Power) when there is a power-cut. By supplying phone number, updates will be given. Elderly, registered with SP, will be given preferential treatment in restoring power. Fife Council refer to Community centers on their website and SP give advise to check their website when there is a power-cut, not easy when there is no power and PC's and phones, private WiFi etc. don't work! Is it an idea to place generators at each Community center to have in case of emergencies. A word of Gratitude and Appreciation towards SP Network engineers, who went out in dangerous and adverse weather circumstances, to restore power.

11.2. Update BTWF
Susan Jack has become Director of the BTWF, meaning a Community Councillor needs to step up and become a member of the 'Grants-panel' to decide about approving or declining grants. Experience with comparable tasks is preferential for this Panel. Income for the BTWF will still be small the coming 18 years. A 'job- description' will be send to Alan, to distribute to all.

11.3 On the 26th of January First responders group Auchtermuchty and Dunshalt, managed to revive a person after a cardiac event. 1 person saved! WELL DONE First Responders.

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

Monday 24th of February, Online via Zoom meeting