

Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Community Council

Minutes of the 28th Meeting of the Community Council held at 7.45 pm on the 29th June 2026 in Auchtermuchty Community Centre.

PRESENT: Maaïke COOK [Strathmiglo], Mark GIBSON [Auchtermuchty], Andy HEER [Auchtermuchty], Andrew MACNAUGHTON [Gateside], Alan MUIRHEAD [Auchtermuchty], Gordon SIMPSON [Dunshalt], Bill TORRANCE [Strathmiglo]

ATTENDING: Cllr. Donald LOTHIAN and one member of the public.

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

Apologies: Susan JACK [Gateside], Ian MACAULAY [Dunshalt],

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

3.0 **Police:** the monthly report is no longer to be circulated, the new policing model is now in operation.

3.1 Strathmiglo anti-social behaviour; it was reported that a number of households are being targeted by a small group of known individuals, this has been reported though little evidence of improvement.

3.2 Auchtermuchty anti-social behaviour; though the police are aware of the issue it is believed that those concerned had been moved into the area by Social Services without concern for the ability of the area to provide the support needed including police intervention. G. Simpson requested that Cllr. Lothian clarify first, the position of Fife Council departments including the information they have access to and what constraints are placed on them when relocating people, especially those who could be classified as persons of concern, and second what is the actual process Fife Council go through. Cllr. Lothian will endeavour to find answers.

4.0 **Minutes of Meeting:** the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 31st May were accepted as correct.

5.0 **Matters Arising: [not on the Agenda]**

5.1 Binn Wind Farm; the Chair gave some clarification on the discussion held, the CC cannot become a trust/SCIO but it could be a sensible idea to make use of the Auchtermuchty & Strathmiglo Trust to deal with the finances in collaboration with the CC.

6.0 **Other Business:**

6.1 BWTCF; communication was received as to the CC's opinions concerning monies made available for micro-grants. The suggestion was made that either all monies held by Foundation Scotland were made available to CCs for micro-grants or an increase in the amount was made – the comment was also made that this could be matched with a reduction in Foundation Scotland fees reflecting the workload being removed from them. The meeting was informed that Foundation Scotland are to continue taking applications directly – though with lower limits and a closing date of August – but monies to be made for micro-grants. was unknown. It was suggested that an additional CC member for the Board be found, possibly acting as a reserve.

6.2 Micro-grant applications; a new application has been made by Strathmiglo Community Association of £500 for technology to assist in the inclusion of members of the public particularly those with hearing impairment. It was hoped that this may serve as a pilot scheme that other associations could learn from. AGREED. This would make four applications so far in the 2025-26 period, Foundation Scotland will be informed as to how the drawdown funds have been allocated by the CC in the usual report made by the Secretary. If it can be shown that all [or a substantial amount] of the monies have been distributed we can submit a request for more.

6.2 Resilience Group [RG]; the Chair reported on a successful meeting, though small turnout, it had returned to the issue of the groups future focus. Preparation for specific incidents e.g. What to do if the phone/internet goes out, a particular problem with the withdrawal of the copper landline, possibly not the best of ideas given the state of the nation and threats to our digital infrastructure. It was proposed to ask the local associations for suggestions perhaps even for resources/equipment that

could be held. It was agreed that the RG would collate information gathered with the possible production of an insert/inclusion in Muchty Matters and the Strathmiglo Newsletter after cross matching with the Fife Council's emergency plans.

6.2 Community Action Plan [CAP]; the Health & Wellbeing sub-group met with a main focus on the Health Centre and the fact that useful information e.g. Pharmacy First and other alternatives to seeking an appointment with a doctor, was not being circulated successfully. An update/revamp of the Centre's website is thought to be planned with the possibility of a leaflet to be distributed in the area, production of which could be funded by an application for a grant from Foundation Scotland.

7.0 Fife Council:

7.1 Auchtermuchty

- 7.1.1 Flash flooding High Road; water from the Linen Lea development overwhelmed drains in the area with silt from the site. Road markings are obscured and it is thought culverts will be blocked. As the development's SUDS would not be in operation it is hoped that temporary measures could be put in place by the developers to prevent a repeat. The issue adds to the ponding problem at the west end of the High Road where works are still to be undertaken. The CC to request Fife Council inspect the drains for possible blockages and clear the road marking of mud. Also contact to be made with the developer over possible temporary measures.

7.2 Dunshalt

- 7.2.1 Traffic calming measures; though work is scheduled for 2027/28 traffic is still a current problem.

7.3 Gateside

- 7.3.1 Bobby Thomson; the Chair noted the sad passing of ex-community councillor Bobby Thomson of Gateside. She was a community councillor for many years, a staunch and vocal advocate for the residents of the village.
- 7.3.2 Flash flooding Station Road; it was reported that soil/silt had been washed from fields on to the road and that the road surfaced is thought to be damaged. An inspection of the area would be appreciated.

7.4 Strathmiglo

- 7.4.1 A912 traffic volume; B. Torrance asked if a traffic survey could be conducted on the A912 as it passes through Strathmiglo, particularly in the Sandygates area or is up to date information already available. The volume of traffic appears to have increased substantially in recent years and a growing problem for pedestrians attempting to cross. It was suggested that the build-out on Sandygates be formalised as pedestrian crossing with appropriate road markings – it was pointed out that this might not be the help it seems as unfortunately not all drivers take notice of pedestrian crossings. Cllr. Lothian to pursue.
- 7.4.2 Strathmiglo-Auchtermuchty footpath proposal; notification has been received that funding for the design stage of the footpath has been approved and it should be carried out this year.

8.0 Other Service Providers;

8.1 NHS Fife; it appears that NHS Fife's regular report has stopped being forwarded to Community Councils by the relevant Fife Council department. Cllr. Lothian is pursuing, it is hoped to have distribution restarted.

- 9.0 **Planning;** 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;** none

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

Monday 31st August, in Auchtermuchty Community Centre, at 7.30 pm.