Minutes

The Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther & Cellardyke Community Council

Monday 14th November 22, 7:30pm at The Burgh Chambers| Meeting called to order by Andy Peddie

# In Attendance

Andy Peddie, Gillian MacLaren, Daryl Wilson, Lorna Jones, Lindsay McKinstry, Ellis Jaffray, Susan Gay, Neil Anderson, Margaret Hellicar, Cllr Fiona Corps, Cllr Alycia Hayes

Five members of public present

Apologies – Cllr Sean Dillon

# Welcome & Declaration of Interest

Andy thanks Cllr Hayes for chairing the AGM and welcomed all to the November meeting, including Mr Toby Anstruther and Mrs Julia Priestley who were in attendance to present on behalf of the Dreel Burn Project.

No declarations of interest were made.

# Approval of Minutes & Matters Arising

Minutes approved by Margaret and seconded Susan.

Susan asked about the progress of Dreelside Park - update given from Daryl – all groundwork complete, park remains fenced off for grass to knit and settle then fencing will soon be removed and park open to the public. No formal opening was planned; Julia offered use of the hall if required for the opening event - DW to follow up with Shirley.

# Questions from the public

KL - Has the £500 donation from the public been passed to the Common Good Fund yet? Lorna advised she is struggling to pay it in as FC won't take cheques, Cllr Holt previously looked into how to pay this into the CGF but had no success. Cllr Hayes offered to negotiate with FC to try and resolve – KL reiterated the money has to go into CGF Capital Account.

KL - Any update on the concerns re multi use path which were raised at last meeting? - Carl certainly emailed FC officials to raise the points and Cllr Hayes read response to email concerns, and will forward response to member of the public

MD – What is the situation with Post Office Van? - All appears to be going ok at present- concern re potential locations voiced to MSP - any further applicants would be vetted.

# Input re: Dreelside Burn Project

Toby and Julia advised that the original idea for the project was a result of a pollution incident in 2019 which threatened the duck race. Organisers then realised the work that needs to be undertaken to improve the Dreelside Burn – and they are now calling members of the community to action to join to achieve this.

The burn is 11.2 km in length, connects landward with the sea in Anstruther. Burn has seen many changes and it could be in a better condition. The small gradual changes throughout the years include;

* invasive species creating issues - symptomatic issue and they are working with Forth Rivers Trust to plan how to tackle it.
* Pollution - point source - effused pollution. Nitrates. phosphates very high at recent water testing.
* Fife council have been helpful and FCCT v helpful with site at Pittenweem recycling Point re giant hogweed
* Physical barriers within the burn
* Rubbish - low level - small bridge near to recycling centre is a known dumping point
* Not only practical change required but also a cultural change for community to value the Dreelside Burn
* Water Use - looking to work with experts on this
* Food - remembering good soil, heavy rain - sea brown - affects fishing grounds

Project aims to tackle some of the issues as above with support of FC, Forth Rivers Trust, landowners, Community Councils across the area. Litter pick took place at the weekend past - visuals handed around the group.it is a long-term project - needs to be undertaken with all groups over long period of time.

The website has useful information and all event information to come. Website includes – an investigative report, story map that can be added to by other similar groups - long term management plan - stakeholder engagement has commenced. Landowners have now all been contacted by letter, follow-up is required. Waid to be involved, APS been contacted Fish in the classroom project - grow brown trout opportunity - Fundraising will be required - initially to extend investigation report - work to remove physical barriers - tree planting areas, water monitoring on monthly basis to achieve baseline survey of data. Opportunity to link with St Andrews University - research students? Recommendation to put together a bathing water application for Castle Street beach with community council - ties in with previous work undertaken on broken sewer. Ali McLeod to work on this with Julia.

26th Nov 10:30am there will be a water monitoring session led by Forth Rivers Trust, followed by a drop-in session 12-2pm at Dreel Halls

# RNLI / Transport Update

Andy advised Myles McGregor Transport Consultant to be delayed with the report due to recent personal issues, however it was commissioned in July, and it is vital to get this asap. Andy to follow up.

DW and AP met Fife Council officials earlier today re loss of car parking spaces and how this ties in with RNLI and a potential Community Asset Transfer – does the retention of the building outweigh loss of car parking places?

Once traffic consultation is completed, we could submit an initial CAT interest/proposal form to Donald Grant who has agreed to review and if he feels it has potential then we will need to establish a Trust relatively quickly - volunteers are available.

There was a recent issue with RNLI lease, FC difficulties with demolition and building of new shed - now separated on planning, lease and new lease issued. This follows an online meeting held between RNLI, Fife Council officials and Community Council.

Martin Dibley advised a current planning application shows East Basin Car Par with no bus parking. Essential there is bus parking for tourists. All agreed that bus parking is vital and Fife Council officials have also acknowledged this to us. Hopefully the transport consultation is going to produce ways in which to make better use of existing space, to include redesigning of existing car park e.g., removal of boulders, and MD suggested the relocation of the war memorial.

# Planning/Licensing Matters

The original application for the old Waid building was previously approved, a revised application been submitted with changes - Farm Road Site reduce from 5-4 apartments, same footprint, as apartments larger - on Waid access site - ground layout has enlarged - difficult to readily see changes.

East Green - Site at back of 33 East Green - July 22 application was submitted for one property, garage, fixing of retaining wall – at the time CC discussed and felt one property was better than previous suggestions, and as no neighbours had emailed or contacted us with any concerns, we did not submit a comment prior to the closing date. Now it has come to light that neighbour notification has failed somewhere - it would seem no neighbours overlooking the site were informed, and according to planning portal, neighbours who lived on opposite side of street from site were informed.  It also appears some residents on the list that should have received Neighbour notification did not. Cllr Hayes advised that Chris Smith from planning looking into issue and will update us with any investigation outcome.

Cllr Fiona C stated site visits are still not being undertaken by Fife Council planning department and this is not likely to change. They currently work from google maps - no plan to revert to site meetings - Cllr Hayes feels motion needs presented to Council as a site visit is necessary to get a correct view, feel etc. of any area proposing planning changes.

Skinfast Haven site - planning application submitted for erection of dwelling house.

Lindsay Berwick Place application was heard at Northeast Fife Planning Committee last week and was refused - it related to loss of greenspace.

Clarks Garage - Planning has not been approved - it appears building work has begun. FC are aware of lane closure and approved of that according to public notices.

# Waid Community Library & Cafe

Daryl advised that further to a recent meeting within the café area, some concerns were highlighted, and subsequently further correspondence sent to Fife Council detailing concerns. Namely, lack of communication from Fife Council, broken self-serve machines, conflicting opening/closing times, dates advertised wrongly, children unable to lunch with parents, noise levels – all contributing to a sense that the community are feeling unwanted in the space. This alongside the school using a portion of what was that library footprint as a classroom. Fife Council replied to state they remain committed to its place in the community. A meeting is to be held with Fife Council officials, Waid Rector and Community Council to discuss further.

Daryl mentioned the fact Waid Academy also feel a great loss as they now do not have their own library as per the old building. This was used greatly by pupils and especially for studying etc. This point has not until now really been heard. All agreed a frank and honest discussion is needed to determine how the space fits in with the school.

# Christmas Arrangements

Gillian reminded all that our Santa suit was gifted to the community when Santa sadly passed away three years ago – the family have requested it to now be returned, may need to source new suit.

Santa – Louise confirmed Santa is happy to return to Anstruther - spoke to some parents in Community space at Waid and a Sunday evening appeared to be a positive night for hosting the parade as many families are indoors with few kids’ clubs etc. on a Sunday. Agreed date as Sunday 11th December - 4pm - Secretary to apply for parades license and risk assessments to be undertaken.

Lights – Daryl and Andy met with the electrician alongside Chris from Waterfront who has again agreed to donate the Christmas tree. New lighting has been purchased for the lampposts and the electrician agreed to carry out all remedial works necessary to ensure all power ports are operational, and to change the power box on the small pier to ensure it is safety compliant.

# Anstruther.info Update

Daryl advised that she is struggling to progress with the task of altering website to our desired goal, whereby it is a one stop port of call for all community groups to post minutes, events etc. Consultant tasked with providing quotation and remit has failed to deliver and now trying to carry out work ourselves. Carl has been given access rights to update the Multi Use Path part and Louise offered to assist Daryl with the technical knowledge that may be required to introduce password protected sections of each tab.

# Secretary’s Report

Community Council invited and organised representatives of the services to attend the local church service for Remembrance Sunday. Road closures and events licence applied for and granted this month. Good turnout from many services and we express our thanks to them for their support. Cheque required for Church refreshments.

Emails received

Tony MacKay, Economist re increased value of fish landings in Anstruther district – copy available upon request

14th October from Fife Council Harbours regarding an anonymous complaint to FC via webpage to complain that the Union Jack is flying in Anstruther. A further email from a local resident also came direct to Community Council inbox – responded to explain it is volunteers who are responsible for the flagpole and simply they have not had the time due to holiday/work commitments to replace. Complainer hoped for Saltire – discussion held re flying of Burgh coat of arms, all agreed to order replacement and fly once again. Andy to follow up.

John Kinninmonth asking is any updates re proposed market in Anstruther and if CC aware of any businesses who would object. Responded to state approx. 40 local people attended the meeting included some traders and all were supportive, and reassurance given by proposed organiser that market would not duplicate what existing businesses had to offer.

Fife Council advising public toilet closure on Friday 4th November to install new pay as you enter access door. Replied to ask if work could be delayed due to the essential requirement of toilets in the town due to the Fireworks display on said date – agreed and work was completed the following week. A new pay as you enter entry door is now installed.

Email circulated to all members re Fife Local Development Plan 2 Consultation

Emails Sent:

To Fife Council Harbours re Seaweed issue at Cellardyke Harbour. Further to the removal of rancid seaweed on wk beg 24 Oct- we sent a complaint that a huge volume was not removed and put back into the sea as contractors were only paid to lift x amount of tonnage, defeating purpose of clearing beach and evidencing the problem with flies. Response to state cost in terms of transportation and landfill tax has prohibited the removal of all seaweed. Fife Council have actively been trying to find a solution – including dispersal along the coast (although not likely due to SEPA regulations) and inviting companies that use seaweed in compost to utilise – however due to need to pre-process the material to remove litter there is both a transportation and a processing fee involved. They continue to review the situation and monitor the volume whilst also trying to find solutions. Offer to meet with CC and residents to discuss further

To Fife Council Customer & Online Services regarding ongoing concerns re Waid Community Campus library and café, including accountability, broken equipment, communication, Education’s use of some of the Community footprint. Email acknowledged and to await further feedback once Fife Council officer has full facts.

To Fife Council re Emergency Roadworks and implications/inconvenience caused due to lack of clear signage, placed in appropriate locations. Also wrote to elected local councillors to voice the community frustrations. To date no response from Fife Council.

# Treasurer’s Report

Bank statement end of October: £96,331.03

Money in: £156.60 PO donation-Christmas Lights, £1,000 from Kist for flowers, £1,605 from

M Smith for flowers, £26.02 Bank Interest, £48 floral tins

Money out: £320 to Tom Swankie, £19.50 to ENCT for hall hire, £240.00 to Tom Swankie

Cheque for £537.00 sent to EN First Responders at the beginning of October.

# Councillor’s Report

Cllr Corps advised the road at Dumbarnie is now closed - signage is in place. Concern re impact on local has been relayed to FC. Machinery too wide to use a convoy system, hence full closure. Fife Council have categorised the road as a local road - if it were to be a main road it could be worked upon 24/7, thus reducing the timescale of full closure, however – again due to financial limitations this has not happened.

The seaweed issue is also of concern. Remembrance Service well attended.

Recycling Bins – to date Harbourlea residents have had no recycling bins, this has now been rectified with the first delivery of bins for residents.

Cllr Hayes - Scottish Gov extended child payment introduced for u16' £20 per week – full details on Scot.gov webpage

On 7th Nov they were official informed by Fife Council that Steven Grimmond is retiring as of next summer - June 2023

As of today - brown bin collection moved to winter schedule

# Representation from other groups

SKATEPARK STAKEHOLDER GROUP – first meeting held, minutes now online - skatepark group sent off with lots of work to do prior to the next meeting to be held on 1st December. Minutes published under skatepark tab on anstruther.info webpage.

FLORAL - Lindsay sourced further hanging baskets for the town from our neighbours in Pittenweem - £10 per basket, duly purchased and in storage at Pathhead. Suggesting we add Kilrenny to the schedule for baskets for next year. Cheque required for Pittenweem Community council.

Please sign up to Coop fund with Floral Fund as your cause. Mon 21st meeting with Coop staff re promotion of the cause. Requests for replacement bulbs from several people.

MLT - Outside painting of the ML building has been carried out. Painting of the interior of the building to start soon.

Jim Hogsflesh is leaving his studio this week after eight years. Trustees are really pleased to

have found a new tenant to move in almost immediately.

# AOCB

Poppy Appeal - Lorna has undertaken this mammoth task again this year - monies awaiting to be banked

Dreelside Woods - Ali advised CAT to be submitted in Dec

Meadow has been cut, FCCT and raked by volunteers - lots of volunteer input