Minutes

The Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther & Cellardyke Community Council

**Monday 9th November 2020** | Meeting called to order by Andy Peddie

# In Attendance

Present: Andy Peddie, Gillian MacLaren, Susan Gay, Daryl Wilson, Lorna Jones, Neil Anderson, Lindsay McKinstray, Ali McLeod, Cllr Porteous, Cllr Docherty

Members of Public: Roger Grundy,

Apologies: Sean Blake, Kelly Scott, Gail Sorley, Cllr Holt

# AGM

Cllr Docherty welcomed all to the AGM. Andy Peddie read the following Chairperson’s report:

It is hard to believe that last Autumn Corona was a beer we enjoyed, Covid and Furlough were words we had barely heard of. Our big challenge at the end of the year was working with SFM to organise the town’s biggest ever Christmas parade. The plans were ambitious and working with others can be challenging at times, but the result was a very successful evening. We also managed to put up the biggest display of Christmas lights for many years.

I managed a trip to Aus/NZ early in the year and within a few weeks of my return we were in the midst of the COVID pandemic and lockdown. I think you can judge any community by how it responds to crisis and our community excelled itself during this one. I have said before I am very proud of how you the community council stepped up to the plate very quickly and led that response ensuring that those who required help in our community received it.

Things in our community are a bit more normal, we had a very positive meeting last week regarding the RNLI shed and we are hoping at a minimum to put up our Christmas tree and lights to bring a bit of Christmas cheer to our town.

One thing that is beginning to concern me is the attitude of some FC officials who either don’t understand the concerns of the community or just don’t care.

I would like to thank my fellow office bearers, Daryl Gillian and Lorna who have worked tirelessly to ensure a timely response as issues have arisen.

Lorna Jones issued copy of accounts to all in advance and invited questions. Brief summary of monies held below:

2019 – 20 accounts

Bankie Park Group £4,476.50

Team Anster £2,540.89

Anstruther.info £970.00

St Andrews Rd £2.500.00

Cycle Path group £48,073.06

CC money – ring fenced

Telescope £500

Floral £3,540.28

Christmas £2,563.50

Chairperson Andy Peddie nominated by GMcL, seconded by AMcL, and accepted by AP

AP proposed other office bearers are all elected en mass as currently stands, seconded by Neil and all accepted.

# Approval of Minutes & Matters Arising

October minutes approved by GMcL, seconded by LJ

Spaces for People Lead Consultant Jane Findlay confirmed further to CC request on 12 Oct that no further measures to be introduced in Anstruther area.

Toilets – Cleaning schedule introduced, new signage in place and facilities are clean. However, recurring issue with one in/out signage. DW has been closely monitoring situation and liaisons with Tariq are ongoing to resolve the matter.

Rewilding – Fife Council have decided to postpone this consultation due to their inability to consult properly with members of the public in these COVID-19 times. DW has written to Scott Clelland to thank his team for acknowledging lack of consultation and withdrawal and commitment from us to work alongside his dept in future. CC have suggested a clear definition of Fife Council’s interpretation of “rewilding” is made available before any future consultation commences.

Open Reach Fibre Installation – complaints from member of public re standard of workmanship/wiring along James Street, Cellardyke. Cllr Docherty will follow up, DW will circulate photos.

Anstruther information boards – DW has applied to Janice Laird for this project to be included in the Parking Trial Allocation monies for 2020/21

# Questions/Emails from Public

No forthcoming questions

# Christmas Plans

DW met Ian Gillies FC electrician re permission for the lights, all good, will require PAT testing of lights. Louise Lewis agreed to ask electrician if he willing to volunteer time again, GMcL will pursue PAT testing. Re: funding, further to investigation CC could apply to CGF, agreed we can fund the cost of the equipment from current funds/

DW has spoken with Waterfront who intend to donate tree again this year and suggested date for erection is Sat 28th November. AP will book the cherry picker.

Louise has spoken to Cupar and they yet to set out route plan, if they had an available date then they would offer us use of the sleigh, will leave with Louise to follow up.

SG noticed Facebook post from local lady who was interested in organizing a horse/cart for Santa in the area, she has been in touch with Louise, they can liaise together.

# RNLI/Transportation/PAS

Anstruther has been chosen as one of the locations for the PAS Sustaining Choices programme. (confirmed 30th Oct), programme involves canvassing views in the town on transportation, signage issues, volunteers may be required to undertake this task and AP calls on CC members to assist.

RNLI meeting was held on 3rd November, good turnout, and lots of enthusiasm. Mostly groups with 2 commercial enterprises keen. Approx. £15-20K costs to run the shed, significant amount that would need to be funded by groups involved, but enthusiasm, willingness of all involved sees this as v positive.

One proposal was for a lobster hatchery, AP will meet up with individual to seek further information, very interesting proposal that has been undertaken in North Berwick, would need a community benefit. Cllr P re-iterated success of North Berwick initiative. CC providing sustenance to the group until up and running. Cllr P main concern is tight time schedule. Next meeting scheduled for 25th November, small subgroup also meeting later this week.

DW asked if she can email all concerned with instruction to email highlighted plans back to CC in advance of next meeting.

AP thanked Roger Grundy for creating the drawings. RG indicated the importance of retaining the original building.

# Harbour Issues

DW reported the Red Pier Lighthouse was repainted white by Fife Council. CC wrote to Harbours to clarify why this was changed, referencing nautical maps, historical importance of red lead colour and fact it is located within an area of conservation. Response from Fife Council received 5th November with commitment to repaint to original colour in Spring 2021 and will incorporate job into next year’s maintenance programme.

Further to last meeting re harbour waste, the large harbour users refuse bins have been removed from the pier. DW wrote to relevant department and Fife Council harbours confirm this is a temporary measure as part of the process to clear up the waste on the pier (including household white goods). Potential long-term solutions could be a more secure bin system, and another is to revisit the security access to the pier itself. If anyone has a fob for pier that should no longer be entitled (e.g. does not pay harbour fees), please return to the harbourmasters office.

Dr Haynes, Fife Council Harbours also requests that users of the harbour (whether leisure or commercial) direct their concerns in first instance to harbour master or himself (e.g. not community council) so they can deal with them as the responsible harbour authority. AP suggested a response was required to this as CC also have authority and obligation to act on behalf of harbour users if requested by them to do so – AP will follow up. Cllr D suggests the Councillors are copied into the response to Dr Hayes.

# ENCC Forum

Gillian summarized meeting, DW initially requested recycling centre added to agenda of ENCC as it is an ongoing issue for all in the East Neuk. Cllr Vettraino attended and stated the new system working well and Council getting lots of praise for effectiveness. GMcL requested figures for number of households in our area who rely on recycle centres as have no access to household bins. Also comment on high percentage of elderly and no of households with jeeps/larger vehicles or commercial vehicles only. Cllr V responded by stating our community should be pulling together and helping the elderly and those without vehicles. GMcL has written to all other cc’s since forum, to establish if we need to jointly move this issue forward. Crail and Pittenweem CC both concerned and wish to support a joint initiative moving forward.

System is not convenient, onerous and for the people on our community it is not working.

Cllr D has raised NEF has highest no of over 85-year old’s in Scotland and access is an issue. Also asked for them to change the days of the openings. Cllr V stated at the Forum Fife Council have managed to reduce Cupar and Pittenweem hours so staff can be split over 2 sites. We need to press on with opposing this cost cutting system.

Cllr P has written to Council to state dissatisfaction with current system. Has personally experienced difficulties with booking. Sees no covid related reasons for having the booking system.

DW stated member of public who attended ENCC has encountered further difficulties using trailer in accessing centre, then encountered further difficulties trying to dispose of metal. AP noted increased fly tipping. FC reasoning is vans take longer to unload; solution would be too book longer slots for larger vehicles. This cost cutting system is not serving our community and we need to pursue – GMcL to lead.

# Muir Homes Development

DW advised she has spoken with personnel on site and can confirm the main road will be resurfaced next week and will take approx. 3 days. There will be a traffic management system in place. Once completed, Muirs will retain responsibility for roads and lighting within the estate for approx. one year before Fife Council will adopt it. Any defects in this time should be directed to Linda James, Customer services at Muirs in the first instance.

Still no response from CC email to Muirs requesting an update, ongoing since August.

Planning Enforcement officer advised all breaches of planning to be reported online via unauthorized building works form. Recent feedback from residents who have complained, suggest Muirs plans given to customers showing hard landscaping, walls etc. differs to that which FC approved. E.g. no requirement by planning department to have walls at either end of village green, no requirement for gate at new flats, despite this being on plans produced by Muirs and distributed to customers.

Cllr P copy in someone high up from Fife Council expressing concern about lack of communication with community.

# Common Good Fund Register of Assets

LMcE has had meeting with KL and has requested copy of accounts so she can begin to compile database.

# Secretary’s Report

Suspected dog poisoning at Kilrenny Common – CC shared information posts on social media and erected signage at the common area to advise people to be vigilant and report anything suspicious to 101. DW liaising with community police and has passed details of other dog owners whose dogs have endured gastro problems recently further to waking at the common area. Cllr D have we contacted SSPCA? Idea to do this should there be further issues.

Covid Breaches – Cllr D reported all licensing issues been reported to licensing officers and are currently being investigated.

Remembrance Event – Due to changes in Covid guidance there was no act of remembrance held in the Cemetery. CC were represented at the local Church Remembrance Service and Andy and Lorna laid wreaths on our behalf at both Anstruther and Cellardyke War Memorials. AP commended the Church for the careful emotional service, Waid pupils read from Bible. Cllr P pleased with local response.

27 LBP – Response from Planning department appears to contradict the original planning conditions. LMcK to follow up

St Andrews University Report – DW will end this to Uni this month.

# Treasurer’s Report

Bank statement end of October: £69,928.73

Paid out: £51.83 to Fife Voluntary Action for examining accounts

£132.40 to Lady Haig’s Poppy Factory

£60.00 to Tom Swankie

Paid in £440.21 for food from Covid lockdown

£884.77 from CRA for floral

£906.88 - FC grant

Collected in £96.14 from floral tins from shops whilst delivering the Poppy tins.

# Councillor’s Report

Cllr P – Buckie House corner road has been fixed following road closure last weekend. General issue for East Neuk that FC not upholding tenancy agreements living in Fife Council houses, e.g. untidy gardens. Process and procedure are far too slow and allowing problems to continue. He has also asked again when the Mayview flats are to be demolished, still no answer.

Cllr D – Scottish Gov are to introduce free bus travel to under 18-year old. FC direct contact number 03451 555555 has changed so no operator is not available, can only be used with extension number.

# East Neuk & Landward Community Policing

Police changed way of communication with all community councils, from hereon in the monthly report will be emailed to all community Councillors and should any questions be arising then it will be on agenda.

# Grass Cutting (additional item)

Ali McL has organised a presentation about grass cutting/rewilding that can be used at future meeting. Changing Grass Management in our Community – seek to consult with our community regarding future changes to grass management. Driven by FC’s response to the Climate and Ecological Emergency. Site selection – slopes, verges close to road, peripheral areas in amenity grassland, site boundaries, areas amongst trees alongside open green space. Definition of grass management and identification of areas to be considered.

Will add areas to include Cellardyke and Kilrenny. Could be used as part of PAS consultation? AP thanked AMcL for his input and effort with this issue. Cllr P acknowledged not only this good for environment and community it could also save FC money. SG – seeks clarification on rewilding and concept of cutting, lifted etc. and how this costs less money. AMcL suggests the collection of grass cuttings is the way forward as it provides higher biodiversity, less cutting, less is growing. Opportunities for nutrient loving plans to grow. Cutting grass and removing nutrients so the growth does not grow as much. E.g. cutting before it seeds, so let it grow till full of nutrients then cut away. Once done a few times, it drastically reduces the volume of cutting required. Will see more diversity as a result.

Will investigate potential for consultation with PAS, can AMcL follow up with Roger Honeyman re tree planting in Queens Gardens, all agreed.

# Representation from other groups

FLORAL – LMcK received email from £873.58 will be received following closure of the Flowers in Perpetuity Non-Settlement Fund (Fife Council run group). Kate Anstruther had applied for the Coop fund on behalf of Community Floral but unsuccessful this year. GMcL requested further knowledge of local groups that could house a volunteer who is seeking placement from a charitable organisation, Cllr P will assist.

DW asked about £2.5K floral display on St Andrews Road, funding in the budget but FC have never requested these funds, funds can now be used elsewhere.

MURRAY LIBRARY TRUST – Hostel struggling due to Covid restrictions. Studios all in use and occupied and following latest covid guidance.

SLC – Meeting held on 22nd Oct via Zoom – Glenn willing to continue as Chairperson of committee, however, need CC approval – all CC agreed. SG finding it difficult to get to meetings, space available if anyone else interested in volunteering to attend. Accessible table and chairs to be located in Bankie Park (near access path), mirage swing and slide out to contract for Cellardyke Park. Landscaping issues hard to pursue presently until outcome of FC maintenance is known. Final tranche of money will be forthcoming from Muirs when final house missive but have had no contact from Muirs re timescale of this. Silverdykes residents’ concerns voiced. Skate park was mooted on social media, was investigated thoroughly a few years ago. Application may be forthcoming.

MULTI USE PATH – AMcL stated there has been further clarification re land ownership around Metaflake. Fc still pursuing land ownership.

# AOCB

PLANNING APPLICATION – New application for retrospective planning from public use to private space for address at Lindsay Berwick Place. View taken by Community Councillors that comment should be submitted to planning department – LMcK will pursue.

# Date of Next Meeting

Monday 14th December 7:30pm