Minutes

The Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther & Cellardyke Community Council

Monday 13th June 2022| Meeting called to order by A Peddie

# In Attendance

Present: Daryl Wilson, Andy Peddie, Gillian MacLaren, Lorna Jones, Louise McEwan, Neil Anderson, Ellis Jaffray, Susan Gay, Ali McLeod, Margaret Hellicar, Cllr Alycia Hayes, Cllr Fiona Corps

Guest Speakers: Gillian Duncan. Rachael Loughlan

Apologies: Cllr Sean Dillon, Lindsay McKinstray

4 members of public present

# Approval of Minutes & Matters Arising / Declaration of Interests

Member of the public raised his objection to the May minute as per his email objection, which was circulated to all community councillors, alongside the response from Chairperson who did not uphold the objection. Noted member of public disagrees with minute.

# Questions from members of the public

Question from member of public requesting time slot for the New “Keep Bankie Green” campaign group to present their views on Anstruther Skate Park location choices. AP explained that once the ASP have the consultation results, they will share with community – it may be that there is a meeting on its own for this, or part of a meeting with CC, either way there will be opportunity for all to express their views. They also expressed difficulty accessing agenda online - maybe technical difficulties and suggested they refresh cookies as is showing correct at website end. DW will investigate further.

MOP commenting on new traffic reduction measures in place on Crail Road - confusing duplicate signage - DW to write to FC with concerns.

MOP asked if Cycle Route has a name? Visitors to Anstruther may be uninformed regarding the route - AMcL stated there was a full signage package, it maybe it is not all implemented yet. Could public suggestions be included? AMcL will feedback to subgroup.

No declarations of interest were expressed.

# Input from East Neuk First Responders

Gillian Duncan East Neuk First Responders was welcomed, and she gave the following information to all present.

Wish to make Community aware of some issues the team are currently experiencing. All back to normal with event cover, defibs, CPR training etc. Concerns are response times of ambulances and availability of ambulances. Due to very strict confidence clauses, limited in amount of information that can be shared, but it is common knowledge to state that on a number of occasions recently a large number if not all of Fife Ambulances were tied up queuing at hospitals therefore not available to attend emergencies.

 Despite this the Scottish Ambulance Service are still not recognising the extensive nationally accredited qualifications held by the East Neuk First Responders and therefore they are not calling on their service when it could potentially be lifesaving. Members of the public are consistently giving feedback to the First Responders, e.g., last month a 90-year-old broke femur on street and waited over 40 minutes on an ambulance - no call was made to First Responders by Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS). Group has tried for years with support of MSP and MP to encourage the Scottish Ambulance Service to extend the category of calls they are sent to, in particular those that are immediately life threatening. To date the Scottish Ambulance Service, continue to refuse any calls to FR for pediatric cases even cardiac arrest. Naloxone: ENFR are trained and carry the anti-overdose drug, however they are not allowed to administer it whilst responding on behalf of the ambulance service. Scottish Ambulance Service cannot provide a valid reason for not allowing our first responders to administer this life saving injection. The First Responders team are feeling very despondent towards the Scottish Ambulance Service management. In contrast the ambulance crews are fully supportive and acknowledge the good work on offer.

No training is on offer from the SAS for new Community First Responders (CFR) - there are currently only 4 active CFRs in the East Neuk area, and knowing the demand for the service, it is very worrying. A freedom of information request has been submitted and Datix/investigations requested for number of incidents whereby Community First Responders are logged on and not dispatched this would appear to be due to lack of staff in the ambulance control Centre with no dispatcher covering the First Responder desk. Currently waiting on the response to requests and Willie Rennie to approach the Health Secretary, First Responders and would urge Community Councils to raise concern with Scottish Ambulance Service, Health Secretary etc.

Another issue for the East Neuk - FR offered to assist with mobile elderly care service for Fife Council who agreed to this last year. £3K equipment was bought and additional insurance sought to carry out this Fife council Mecs Assistance work. 10 members of team are trained to relevant advanced manual handling training and were all ready to go in Oct 2021, FC H&SCP then halted the involvement until legal departments were fully consulted, to frustration in December receive further email that FC H&SCP were in crisis and still required help. However, the Fife Council legal department have now decided that there may be a GDPR issue. This is in despite of FCH&SCP writing to the potential recipients advising them of the FR involvement. All service users agreed to sharing information and procedures in place to ensure data protection would not be breached - however FC Legal department still not happy for them to proceed. Meanwhile regularly hear of elderly lying on the floor for lengthy periods (in excess of 4 hours), very frustrating. This proposed joint working is not without precedent. Trossachs Search and Rescue work with Stirling Council, have helped and assisted for some time so EN First Responders continue to push for full involvement knowing the hurdle of GDPR issues can be overcome.

Recent case of cardiac arrest, CPR ongoing and member of public called the first responders direct. This incident is currently under investigation as to why they were not called.

# Rachael Loughlan

Jaye Hutchison (owner of Aeble) and Rachael both have arts event backgrounds and would love to open a venue in East Neuk (preferably Anstruther), small cinema, art exhibition space. film, live music, like DCA on smaller scale. Thriving art scene in the area and this would be a hub for the arts with community engagement. Engaging children, families, and visitors alike.

Both have young families and are new to the area and recognise opportunity for further arts engagement under one roof. Exciting arts events, film, theatre, live music on international scale. Caithness, Somerset, Montrose Playhouse all thriving venues that have worked in small communities. Very much a seed of an idea at present and seeks feedback on partnerships, visions, setting up steering group etc. Community Council are first port of call to share initial ideas. They will conduct market research, consult if there is a need, what would they want in venue like this. Small cinema space. multi arts larger space (live music, exhibit), cafe bar, education room - outreach work with schools. Drama clubs for kids, youth theatres - all methods of engaging local community.

CC asked how it would be funded? Not for profit group, clearly, they want to work as a paid job but not a private business venture. Regarding space - initial thought was RNLI building but they may be too late to the table for this venue. Masonic lodge on High Street currently empty - all feedback on venues welcomed by Rachael and Jaye.

Ali McL stated there are already existing venues locally e.g., Dreel Halls, East Neuk Trust who actively manage community buildings and some offer crossover with their ideas. Rachael keen to partner/liaise with existing providers.

All suggested it would be beneficial to make links been established groups as a starting point and suggested Wonderlab, Harbour Lights, Play Art Create, ADAMS, Guizards, Bowhouse, Byre Theatre, Dreel Halls.

# Planning/Licensing Matters

Lindsay provided information in her absence –

Submitted all 3 comments last month as discussed.

Would it be prudent to come up with a statement about CC decision making being by all member opinions and that no one person makes any decisions?

As Fife Council planning portal requires a fife.gov account to make comment Lindsay is the CC nominated planning spokesperson and therefore writes on behalf of all community councillors after decisions have been fully discussed and agreed by the entire group of community councillors.

All agreed to would be beneficial to share this information on social media etc to ensure individuals are not personally held liable by members of the public for joint group decisions.

# Multi Use Path

Pittenweem Community Council have intimated they wish to prioritise the core path rather than working on both simultaneously. Million pound of funding at risk, whole project could be at risk due to inability of communities to resolve this long-standing issue.

It is the belief of our Community Council that within one year we could have a safe route along the A917 and the core path further developed within a few years thereafter. There is now also an issue with Fife Council staff member who is employed to support all multi use paths, and their capacity to manage the route. He has whole of Fife to cover and Anstruther-Pittenweem route taking disproportionate route of his time and we acknowledge the tremendous amount of his time that the ongoing dispute has taken.

We discussed the consultation process and how this unfortunately did not share facts with the general public about progress previously made, funders stipulations etc. – e.g. Fife Council will not maintain the Core Path, the land for the path at the A917 has previously been secured and the process was at Sustrans level 4 which means it could effectively be built quite easily and quickly, now due to the reluctance to pursue this route, all the previous years of work will need to be redone and land on alternative side of road secured – this will not be an easy task as the owner/landlord of land has already stipulated he will not agree to it.

It is hoped the two communities can have another try at reaching an agreement.

# Anstruther Post Office Closure

A meeting was held with Community Council, elected local Councillors and MSP W Rennie to discuss matter – W Rennie advised the Post Office were hopeful the service would not need to close, they had a potential buyer and plan in place. However, CC spoke with current Post Mistress after said meeting and she was unaware of any development re purchase of her business. It is not clear at this stage what the situation is, CC will contact W Rennie and give Post Office Ltd another few days to respond to the initial email which was sent voicing our initial concerns re potential closure.

# Local Place Plans

All members were emailed recent information from Fife Council encouraging all Community Councils to undertake a Local Place Plan. Advised pre-covid we had initial meetings set up to undertake this, however it has not been revisited.

Local Place Plan consults with community on their wants and needs and involve as many members of the community as possible on whole range of subjects. There is potentially finance available for this and could be a consideration for the future.

Ali McLeod commented on the success of the Crail Charette, it was great tool for bringing community together and having shared vision. Andy proposes we complete the work on RNLI building, then revisit this subject.

MOP suggested we could engage SKS again as they have already carried out significant work in area and funding could pay for them to lead the project.

Cllr Hayes advised it could be a simple suggestion of a3 sheet of suggestions or something as professional as a private contractor. Recognition that whilst all think it is a very worthwhile venture, it is also worth recognising the extensive level of commitment it would take. The AIA intimated they would support any consultation and would commit to assisting.

# RNLI – Transport Issues

Next step is to employ professional transport consultant. Funding of £5K has been secured from LCPB and Multi use Path to engage Myles McGregor. Wednesday 15th June there will be drones in operation across the area and all licenses etc. in place for its legal and safe operation. Purpose is to help us work with Fife Council to remove the existing planning condition attached to the building. Now also seeking Trustees to move this forward. Social media post to be published re drone awareness.

# Secretary’s Report

Application from AHF for £3k from Common Good Fund circulated to all members and all who responded agreed an award of £1500 was appropriate, taking into consideration the annual budget - this information was passed to Fife Council however, no further communication was received so unaware if this award was made? Discussion re guidelines for applications, how discussions are made etc.

Dreelside Play area has an anticipated start date of w/c 29th August according to mains contractor, however delays are being experienced due to contractors staffing (covid) and material delays so FC will keep us updated should any delays be likely

Surveys shared on social media for ASP and Making Bus Journeys Better in Fife

Police report circulated to all community councillors via email.

Silverydkes Play Area - contacted Muir Homes after several emails from residents. Spoke with Gemma who is clear that it is the responsibility of Muir Homes to maintain the greenspace surrounding the play area. Until such times it is in a good manageable condition, it will not pass over to the factor.

Information passed to Dreel Halls/AIA with regards previous works undertaken with Environmental Health Team re broken sewer at Castle Street Beach and the hogweed around Dreelside area.

Cllr Hayes advised Colin Davidson from FC confirmed the Council are looking at the ongoing issue of giant hogweed, however he then also stated that whilst acknowledging the problem, he had no knowledge of who or how the solution would be paid for? On 10th May hogweed was tended too at the Pittenweem Recycling Point. Julia (Dev Worker at Dreel Halls/AIA) currently working on Dreel restoration project which involves addressing the hogweed issue and she will provide a further update to cc formally at a later meeting.

Waid Community Cafe - further emails sent to FC re prolonged closure due to maintenance of machinery. Now confirmed cafe to reopen on wed 15 June, 9;30-4:30pm term time only. Asked elected Councillors if they can follow up with Fife Council re summer opening times of the library. It is very disappointing that Community Council still await responses to emails sent to Fife Council officials from as far back as March on the subject matter and there is a real feeling of disappointment in the level of accountability the Fife Council senior officials have demonstrated throughout this process. All acknowledged it is not acceptable for members of the public to demonstrate their anger towards frontline Fife Council staff who work within the facility. All decisions are taken at a higher level and Senior Fife Council staff should be briefing the community to avoid confrontations with front line staff.

# Treasurer’s Report

This report covers April and May.

Bank statement end of May: £95,779.85

Money in: £1,000 from Arnold Clark for Jubilee Picnic, £2,478 from FC for traffic

consultation, £2,000 from FC for Jubilee Picnic

Money out: £1,250 to RNLI, £25 to Midget Squid, £66.30 to ENCT for hall hire, £17.60 to

GC for Cycle Group travel expenses, £430.50 to MLT for Cycle Group meeting

room hire, £11,880 to SKS Community Interest Co Ltd for RNLI report

Accounts for 2021-22 have been sent to FVA for examination.

All floral tins collected in recently. A total of £327.20 was in them.

# Councillor’s Report

Cllr Corps wished to share the information re Waid Cafe Re-opening and the Anstruther Post Office impending closure. Both items already discussed in meeting.

Cllr Hayes advised Fife Council are currently having meetings to elect convenors for committees before these can be set up and routine business commenced.

# Representation from other groups

FLORAL – Lindsay provided the following report in her absence

Amount raised over £600 according to local volunteer who is coordinating fundraising efforts.

A few more volunteers on board.  Discussing with Kate Shearer renewing compost and plants at East Forth Street but have advised of project with Men’s Shed and will await new planter.

Carl having same issue with FC not strimming grass around boat on Pittenweem Road as it sits beyond 30mph sign, this is a Health & Safety issue FC use a machine to mow a 1 m strip.  This has been an issue in previous years.  If FC won't budge on this and I would imagine they will not, could the grass around the boat be removed and replaced with something to negate the need for mowing.  Just trying to think of options and open to any further suggestions

(Cllr Hayes advised the area has now been cut, however Cllr Corps stated it will be an ongoing problem due to the strict H&S measures in place.)

Thanks to James Mackenzie & team of FC the Beacon Court beds have been planted with annuals which means we don't have to plant them this year.  He has also tidied up around coop boat and replaced some of the bedding plants put in by coop staff which unfortunately have died.

MLT - Jo MacFarlane is no longer the tenant in studios1/2. The new tenant is Dr Laura Nuttall who

is a chiropractor.

# AOCB

Round Table request for funding from CC with fireworks display. Common Good Fund? Kist. Should cc give? Lyn Williams - tourist officer - should we ask FC? Whole event could cost £5000. All agreed CC could afford to offer £500 and suggest alternative funding streams to the Round Table.

Picnic in the Park - Well attended event, great feedback, good weather - good community vibe. Well done to Louise, Susan, and Margaret for their input. Observed lack of refuse bins at lower end of park beside picnic tables.

Anti-social behaviour occurring beside Ladywalk/East Neuk Centre, overgrown bushes require cutback. Residents complained at recent behaviour - DW to write to Community Police and encourage local residents to continue to report all incidents.

Latest update on ongoing issue with Wee Chippy and local resident – due to complaint to Police Standards a charge of theft has been brought against the business owner with regards the removal of rotten seaweed from Tollbooth Wynd, this has implications for business owner and licensing. New staff now dealing with case at Kingdom Housing, CC will make contact again.

Information Boards - Margaret investigated costs with Border Graphics, costs quite expensive. Lynn Williams, Tourist Officer met with Margaret and Martin, keen to get boards done for several communities and do it in house but to still apply for funds from Fisheries trust. No requirement for match funding.

Men’s Shed have pallets and have started work on planters for Cellardyke area.

Trees been stripped of bark at Bankie Park (along Main Road)

All agreed to miss July meeting in line with Fife Council meetings due to summer holidays, and reconvene in August, with any pressing matters meantime to be shared initially via email.

Next meeting 8 August 2022