Minutes

The Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther & Cellardyke Community Council

Monday 14th December 2020 | Meeting called to order by Andy Peddie

# In Attendance

Andy P, Gillian MacL, Daryl W, Lorna J, Lindsay McK, Susan G, Gail S, Sean B, Ali McLLouise McE

Cllrs Holt, Cllr Porteous, Cllr Docherty

# Approval of Minutes & Matters Arising

Minutes from November meeting were approved by Lorna and seconded by Louise. There were no matters arising that were not elsewhere on the agenda.

# Questions/Emails from the Public

No members of the public were in attendance.

Daryl reported that a couple of emails had come in over last month. One regarding request for CC assistance to work with FC to lengthen the social distancing “Spaces for People” intervention along Shore Street. All agreed this has previously been discussed and we will not pursue further, Andy to respond to email. Second email was again requesting update on planning application for 33 East Green. Lindsay has been trying to contact planning department for further information, however to date without any success, Cllr P offered to intervene, LMcK to forward details to Bill.

Andy has received a call from resident concerned with planning application reference 20/02824/FULL. Several CC members have reviewed plans and no immediate concerns were raised by them, all to review and contact Lindsay with any concerns.

# Christmas Plans

Louise confirmed that last on 7th December Fife Council gave us green light to go ahead with the Santa Sleigh ride on Wednesday 16th December. Andy thanked Louise for her organisation of this event. Sleigh is borrowed from Cupar Rotary Club who will require a donation for its use. Andy towing sleigh, Gillian, Daryl and Louise to marshal, risk assessment to be signed by all tomorrow (Tuesday 15th) and submitted to insurance companies, Fife Council and Cupar Rotary Club. Sean Blake will take photographs of the event, Cllr P suggested sending these to the press.

Andy advised a group of community councillors recently erected the tree and street lighting with much assistance from the Lewis family, Andy wished to publicly thank them for their input again this year.

# RNLI/PAS

To date all meetings to preserve the RNLI shed have been well attended, however there is now concern that enough will not commit to be part of a steering group for any Community Asset Transfer and ultimately, we will not have enough people to be trustees. Andy has been emailing and calling all interested parties, however, still urges anyone interested to come forward. This is the start of the process and we would be more than happy to speak with any interested individuals who have time to commit towards saving this building for the benefit of the wider community. Cllr P stated Thornton’s Solicitors could be useful as part of their community programme further down the line. All Councillors are happy to be involved and possibly be trustees, but the programme must be driven by local people in the first instance.

Andy has written to all local trusts who are all keen to offer support to any new group/members, unfortunately due to their time commitments with other Trusts are not in position to take on new membership. Andy urged any Community Councillors who may wish to be Trustees to attend tomorrow nights Zoom meeting, Daryl to forward link to all.

PAS – Community Council has agreed to part of Sustainable Transport survey/project within the town and Daryl, Any and Lindsay are working alongside Sheena Watson and Caroline Berry of Fife Council to be Community Facilitators for this project. Training is taking place on Wednesday and consultation with groups and individuals within the area to commence early next year. This is an exciting opportunity to explore the overall transport issues within our area and explore possible solutions, and importantly receive financial assistance in doing so. DW stated that previously CC did look at alternative transport solutions within our area and as part of this project, those plans that were shelved previously due to lack of funding should be reviewed as part of this process, Chris L agreed to source the previous work undertaken.

Andy has also approached a consultant with a view to undertaking a professional feasibility study with regards the use of the RNLI building, costs involved etc. Funding is available from the Scottish Land Fund for these types of research and it is hoped this will be pursued in early New Year. AP will follow up.

# Common Good Fund Update

Cllr Holt has tirelessly pursued Fife Council on this subject matter, and Fife Council have now realized they have omitted the Old Slaughterhouse from our Community Council’s list of assets. They have agreed to re-instate, however are not prepared to refund the rental income received over the may years back to the fund. Albeit the rent is a peppercorn rent that needs urgent review. A new lease is being prepared by Fife Council, however they have not yet agreed to review the rent to current market value, Linda will continue to pursue this as the asset belongs to the Community and we should expect a reasonable return for the asset. Cllr P agreed that with our area owning over £1 million of assets, we should expect a better return that what we have received over the past couple of years with has amounted to approx. £27,000. Andy Peddie has thanked Kevin Lancaster (previous Community Councillor) for his continued commitment in chasing this important issue. All 3 local councillors have been asking for some years where all the assets we own are located, but to date as still trying to get affirmative answers from Fife Council.

# East Neuk App

A new app has been developed for the East Neuk by Visit East Neuk group who have received funding for this project. The aim is for businesses and the community to share information across the area for the benefit of visitors and residents alike. Community Council have some reservations as we currently charge our local businesses a small fee to feature on our anstruther.info webpage and social media page, albeit due to Covid this year it has not been as active at promoting business as it had planned. All agreed we need to continue to build on the good work already undertaken with our site and link in with the app.

Cllr Docherty is the Fife Council rep on Visit East Neuk board and reported the app will tie in with Visit Scotland and other Tourism agencies, more businesses involved will provide better benefits for all.

# Rewilding

Fife Council’s consultation is now live, this issue has been discussed at CC over past several months and all agree the proposals for our area appear sensible and we will be supportive of their proposals and hope to be proactive with other suggestions also, as per Ali’s presentation last month.

A Zoom meeting was held last week, chaired by Cllr Vettraino, Ali reported the Fife Council officials did confirm this is the start of a new journey and will take some time for real changes to take effect. Cllr Holt stated FC have now realised rewilding is not a money saving exercise by just not cutting grass, and now have a more comprehensive understanding of the nature of proper rewilding and if done correctly could have great benefits. Communities across Fife have been very vocal and have rightly influenced Fife Council to revisit their initial thoughts.

Ali is to submit a response on behalf of our Community Council in support of the proposals. It has been noted by several community councillor’s the negativity demonstrated by Cllr Vettraino (Convenor) towards the East Neuk and environmental issues. Vice Chair Gillian has written a comprehensive letter to the Courier voicing our disdain for his offensive comments and attitude, unfortunately it has not been published. All local Councillors are continuing with their fight to increase opening hours at Pittenweem Recycling Centre, however Cllr V’s recent response to Cllr Holt made it very clear his interest was focused solely on collecting data from the current system, over the concerns by residents and Councillors that it does not meet the needs of residents.

# Muir Homes Development

DW declared interest as resides in area, however, has continued to pursue Customer Service since August on behalf of CC with no success until Cllr Holt intervened last week. Whilst their response was welcomed, it did not acknowledge the invite for a walkabout with local people and councillors. Alan (SLC) and Craig Syme (Construction Director) asked for evidence that residents had complained about certain communal issues e.g., village green, unsightly fencing, lack of feature walls etc. DW has some evidence she can send, however will reach out to residents via social media for wider feelings before submitting response. Cllr P re-iterated urgency of this as development to be completed Spring 2021.

# Secretary’s Report

Daryl advised St Andrew University Community Fund have been in touch following submission of our funding report. They wish to work with Community Council to highlight the work undertaken during the initial COVID response, all agreed this was a worthwhile cause and Daryl to pursue further.

The main streetlight/lamppost located opposite The Ship has been reported as defective to FC electrician.

The Harbour Festival Committee invited a representative to their meeting to be held on 21st January 4-5pm, anyone interested contact Daryl for details.

Daryl advised there has been one further confirmed sighting of suspected dog poisoning (confirmed in so much as Andy and Daryl have spoken with two unconnected individuals who witnessed and removed the evidence from the location at the Monument, Cellardyke), further to the tragic incident at Kilrenny previously reported to Police. Understand there is genuine concern locally and within other villages and urge members of the public to get in touch, take photos, samples etc. so we can follow up with police as continuation of previous incident if deemed appropriate.

Social media posts highlighting vandalism to cars along Cellardyke, should CC be able to help in anyway we are happy to be contacted.

# Treasurer’s Report

Bank statement end of October: £71,035.31

Paid in: £80 from floral collecting tins

£37 from floral collecting tins

£873.58 - FC extra floral grant

£50 from floral collecting tins

£66 from church for poppy wreaths

Poppy collection £800.63

# Councillor’s Report

All Councillors to continue to pursue the real issue of the inaccessibility of Pittenweem Recycling Centre. Cllr V insistent same levels of waste are being removed from site as per pre-lockdown, however all agreed this statistic sounds unlikely as so many people have not been attending due to current structure. Drivers from REFSOL have also reported the containers they are removing are never full.

Cllr Holt reported there is a budget with surplus cash to spend on fixing pavements and pathways across Fife, presently our area has no work planned. Agreed to Daryl posting on social media to establish if any pavements in need of attention, urgent as deadline is 31st December.

# Representation from other groups

FLORAL – Andy has relocated the posts from Old Police station temporarily whilst work is underway on new Funeral Home.

MLT – Hostel has very few bookings for December. Yann is remaining positive and doing maintenance jobs in preparation for hopefully a better year in 2021.

Anne Butler had a successful art exhibition in the studios at the beginning of December. The open area is available to rent for £30 per day.

SLC – Update on existing proposals: -

Installing new play equipment at Dreelside is going back out to tender. Progress was delayed earlier in the year due to the sad loss of Alan Bisset.

Kilrenny Information Boards are not to go ahead at present.

Work on installing new benches and picnic table with disabled access in Bankie Park at the Ladywalk end is progressing.

Grass at edges of steps and path at War memorial in Cellardyke has been cut back by FC. Further repairs to both sets of steps and path are being made following a proposal from the CRA.

Silverdykes development is now complete and all the houses have been sold. The 3rd tranche of the section 75 funding is expected in January.

Some landscaping work in the development is still to be completed in the spring.

MULTI USE PATH – Early 2021 should see detailed plans being drawn up for the route from Spindrift to Metaflake and Metaflake to Coop, Lead Officer Alan is working hard to progress with the project and 2021 looks to be exciting year ahead for this project. Ali has also attended recent PATH group meeting which has funding to look at path from Colinsburgh to Anstruther.

# AOCB

Lorna queried the omission of Planning issues from Agenda, Daryl and Andy apologised for overlooking subject matter as an agenda item and agreed to ensure it is reinstated at next meeting.

Lindsay reported CC submitted objection to application at Cauldcots, however application now withdrawn whilst applicant seeks legal advice on change of use before re-submission.

Daryl reminded L that all comments passed to planning be forwarded to her for inclusion on website.