

Timeline of Correspondence with The Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther & Cellardyke Community Council 2019-2023

Summary of communications compiled from Community Council (CC) emails to be read in conjunction with CC minutes over same period

21 MAY 2019 AT 10:39

Email headed 'Meeting at lifeboat station' from Andy Peddie, CC Chair, to all council members (0)
I have had an email from Roy Giles. The date and time which would suit them best is Monday 3rd June at 6.30 PM in the lifeboat station. They will give us an update on the plans for the new lifeboat station before they become public.

JUNE 2019 – CC MEMBERS INVITED ROY GILES TO ATTEND UPDATE ON PLANS FOR “PROPOSED SHED” PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. (3 OR 4 CC OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE) (0)

Application 19/01692/FULL Validated by Fife Council

9TH FEB 2020

Publication of weekly Update of Development Applications from Fife Council detailing submission of planning application
9/01692/FULL Erection of Lifeboat Station. Made public on planning portal

10TH FEB 2020

Community Council Monthly meeting held – no knowledge the application had been submitted so not discussed

13TH FEB 2020

Advertised by Fife Council and neighbour notifications sent with comment expiry date set for 02/03/20

21ST FEB 2020

Superseded Landscape Design Layout submitted by RNLI

26TH FEB 2020

Transport Management Plan submitted and published alongside revised car park layout design

1ST MARCH 2020

Lindsay Mckinstry (CC) submitted comment on plans to Fife Council (1)

We the Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther and District Community Council agree in principle to the proposal of the erection of a new lifeboat station at Anstruther. ...

The existing station is very popular with tourists and we expect the new flagship station will experience continued support. We must therefore draw attention to our concerns over the proposed reconfiguration of the parking area and seafront. The car park at present has marked bays for coach parking and we have many local tour operators frequent Anstruther throughout the year because they can stop and park for what is a relatively short visit.

Having to disembark passengers in a lay-by and then parking elsewhere, as the new plans propose will act as a deterrent to coaches and local business, who rely on tourist custom, may be affected. Safety for those alighting and boarding the coaches must be considered for UK and foreign coaches as well as pedestrian movement.

This is an exciting opportunity to incorporate improved landscaping and design of a well used seafront which is utilised by locals and visitors alike, allowing the seafront area to be enhanced.

We wish to extend our appreciation at being consulted early in the planning process. We agree a new station will continue the long standing relationship with the RNLI and Anstruther, bringing benefit in response times with the new Shannon class lifeboat.

5TH MARCH 2020

CC aware of revised materials and emailed local businesses (2)

Dear Local Business Owner

Application Ref: 19/01692/FULL

In light of a significant material change to revised plans submitted by the RNLI, which include the demolition of the existing lifeboat shed, we are keen to engage the views of the local community.

As a local business serving our community, we would be keen to hear your views on whether you support the new proposals or object, paying particular attention to the revised car park layout. Our Community Council hope to fairly represent and reflect the views of all our community and would appreciate your support with this. We wish to hear from anyone who has a view either way, support, object or neutral, every view is valid and will help up determine the feeling within the community regarding these revised plans.

Unfortunately comments are due to close today, however considering the new proposals have only been submitted within the past few days, we as a Community Council have asked for an extension and due to staff absence have not yet received any response from the planning department so please comment online regardless of the date in hope we can assume the extension has been granted.

We want the best for our town and this includes the needs of all our businesses who rely on both local and visiting trade so we urge you to have your say so we can gauge the overall public opinion.

5TH MARCH 2020

CC submitted objection comment (3)

Mrs Lindsay McKinstry

Commenter Type: Community Council

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: We the Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther and District Community Council, now Object to the revised plans on the basis that there has been insufficient time for members of the public to make comment against the updated plans which have significant material amendment and action the demolition of the existing lifeboat shed.

As a community council we have this application saved within local search parameters and as a tracked application, the normal email notification of updated applications was not received for this application. Indeed it was a call to our chairperson from the local press which highlighted there had been updated plans submitted. Prior public comments have been made in regard to the original plans where the existing station remains on the site plans and may be deemed invalid given the scope of amendment now being proposed.

5TH MARCH 2020 – NEIGHBOUR COMMENTS EXPIRE

9TH MARCH 2020

CC Meeting held – minute suggests formal complaint be submitted to Fife Council Planning Department (4)

Minutes of CC meeting 9.3.25

It was suggested a formal complaint be submitted to Fife Council regarding the Planning department's handling of this application. The planning portal does not show anywhere that most recent revised plans are not valid. This could potentially jeopardise this and any future consultation exercises as it is unclear to the public what they are meant to be commenting on.

All agreed the meeting held on the future of the RNLI existing shed has given us a clear mandate as to the wishes of the community and we will pursue accordingly.

Clir Holt suggested a way to move forward could involve a financial agreement between RNLI and Fife Council regarding the future of the old shed, in order to progress with application to build and lease new shed.

9TH MARCH 2020

PUBLIC MEETING HELD BY COMMUNITY COUNCIL, with reps from RNLI in attendance, Cllr Holt, Docherty & 40 members of the Public

*** minute states project already delayed by 5 years and further delays may jeopardise funding (5)**

Gail Sorley member of Visit East Neuk (group formed to promote tourism for the area and has many business owners as members) has previously been in contact with over 40 bus companies to request Anstruther/East Neuk is included in their itinerary. Feedback from operators concluded Anstruther is the desired village to visit by drivers due to the bus parking availability and wider streets and structure of the town, however if more bus parking was readily available more operators would consider stopping.

Feasibility of removing large boulders which surround the car park should be explored as this would undoubtedly create more space and all agreed they served no useful purpose.

RNLI are investing a significant sum in the town and is the only capital projects by the RNLI still going ahead in Scotland. The project has already been delayed by approx. 5 years and further delays may jeopardise funding.

Andy Concluded there is unequivocal support for the proposal to build new shed ... bus parking is essential to local businesses and must be preserved. It is hoped representatives from Community Council, Fife Council reps, RNLI and Councillor's could all work together to feedback community views and progress the project without too much delay.

Community Council are hosting a general consultation event on Saturday 21st March in Anstruther Town Hall to gather public opinion on all aspects of life in our community. All welcomed to attend at preferred time of either 12 noon or 1.30pm.

11TH MARCH 2020

Email to Keith Winters planning dept requesting meeting and future collaboration (6)

I have attached a minute of the meeting for your information which clearly reflects the strength of feeling within the community regarding the matter.

It is clear from the meeting there will be a significant number of objections (including our Community Council) to the new application (20/00459/CAC). Moving forward, our Community Council are very keen to work with officials from Fife Council to try to establish a way forward without unduly delaying the construction of the new Lifeboat Shed. We would like to arrange a meeting with the relevant Fife Council Officials, RNLI and their agents and our elected representatives. Would it be possible to work with your officials to find a diary date whereby a meeting could be organised?

Our Community Council are excited at the enthusiasm from the meeting, and we will endeavour to work closely with all parties to ensure the best outcome for our community.

We look forward to hearing from you.

NO RESPONSE EVER RECEIVED

23.03.20 : COVID-19 PANDEMIC – FULL LOCKDOWN OF UK

31ST MARCH 2020

Email to Andy Taylor Planning Dept (following up on no response from Keith Winters) highlighting areas of concern re process & traffic Management issues, alongside clear mandate from community to work towards saving old building (7)

There is a viable momentum from the community and the community council that discussions should be held with Fife Council, the RNLI and Councillors that would see a waterfront area emerge which benefits all and is an asset to the local and wider community and visiting tourists. From our prospective there is unequivocal support for the building of the new lifeboat shed and we support the continuation of this without hesitation. Ideally and surely a common sense approach could see more thought put into the landscaping and car parking, without rushing ahead with potential demolition of a building which could be another asset and source of income. I will include the minutes from the meeting as they make for an interesting read with some fantastic ideas that merit investigation before a final decision on the existing shed is taken.

Yours sincerely

Lindsay McKinstry

Planning Representative

11TH MAY 2020

Email to planning from Cllr Holt re Community Council's continued concern re separation of new build v demolition (8)

Anstruther CC is very anxious about the following two applications:

(20/00459/CAC and 19/01692/FULL |

Could you let me know when you expect them to come to committee? Any pointers ... would be appreciated.

28TH MAY 2020

Recognition that traffic management will be an issue regardless and call for further investigative work to be undertaken (9)

At this morning's East Neuk and Landward Ward Meeting Janice Laird has said she will Approach Planning Aid Scotland to help both the CC and other interested groups in the future of the new station, the parking area, the old Lifeboat station and the shoreline to develop further the ideas and concepts that folk are talking about.

I reiterated my stance - yes to new Lifeboat Station but no to Fife Council's other plans in that Application.

A separate planning application would be required for the old station and it would be good if conversations could be had with RNLI directly.

Bill Porteous

East Neuk & Landward Fife Councillor

4TH JUNE 2020

Email again to Fife Council Planning regarding lack of community consultation (10)

4 June 2020 at 19:25

Evening All

Should I respond to advise that we were hoping for a meeting with Mr Winters regarding the matter as per our email from him (11th March) and we were anticipating there would be some community involvement before any decisions were taken?

Or actually Andy, do you want to contact him direct to follow up as you wrote to Mr Winters??

Daryl Wilson - Secretary

23RD AUG 2020

Cllr Porteous publicly raised the flawed planning process with local media and lays blame with Fife Council (11)

Many many months ago I brought forward this venture to readers of The Courier and clearly stated then - as many others have - I'm wholeheartedly in favour of the RNLI plans for a New Lifeboat Station.

However due to Fife Council Officers Not consulting with the public, businesses, local community groups or the Community Council The RNLI have been unwittingly dragged into a dispute not of their making.

The Planning Application coming forward is deeply flawed and hopefully before the FC Planning Committee Meeting this week it will be withdrawn completely.

This whole site is an iconic one which deserves detailed but quick consultation for everyone in Anstruther so that the complete site - apart from the New Lifeboat Station- is redeveloped as a first class location for the community - and does not ignore our children and grandchildren and generations thereafter.

The fault is entirely that of Fife Council's making - hopefully- at the last minute - we'll see some common sense coming out of Fife House Glenrothes.

Cllr Bill Porteous

26TH AUGUST 2020

NEF Planning Committee voted against the 3 local Councillors and community to approve demolition of building. Cllr Holt clearly stating that this decision has given the RNLI and Fife Council a mandate to press on ahead regardless of Community feelings and calls for long awaited parking strategy for Anstruther to be implemented (12)

"I am very disappointed that a majority of members on the NEF Planning committee chose to fly in the face of unanimous community feeling, Fife Council's Built Heritage Officer and the three local members to approve the demolition of the old RNLI lifeboat shed.

Their decision was based on the faith that the RNLI and Fife Council who own the site where the shed is located will work together and with the community to come up with alternative parking for Anstruther and a plan for the future of the old shed and that the RNLI will submit Section 42 variations to their planning consent for a new shed. There is nothing to stop Fife Council and the RNLI not bothering and pushing ahead with demolition in 12-18 months time when the new shed becomes operational.

Exploring options for the retention of the old shed should have happened long before these applications came to committee, and it is highly negligent of Fife Council to have ignored the need for an overall parking strategy for Anstruther for so long.

That need has now become critical ... It remains to be seen whether the RNLI will do the right thing by the community in Anstruther, and whether Fife Council will live up to its mantra to work with communities."

4TH SEP 2020

Email from Chair to member of public to explain RNLI have agreed to resubmit plans if approved by Transportation to separate Applications. Due to covid restrictions, cannot hold public meeting (13)

We feel FC transportation officials have forced the hand of RNLI in insisting that the old shed is demolished to make way for more car parking.

I watched the planning meeting, councillors would have rejected the application until the planning official made it clear that the new build would not be able to start as RNLI would not be able to fulfil conditions on parking.

I have spoken to RNLI who say they will resubmit plans to remove these conditions but only with the approval of FC transportation.

I have asked for a meeting with them asap.

Fife council will not allow us to organise a public meeting right now but we will as soon as we can.

We have 18months to save the shed and I am still optimistic that we can do it.

Thanks for taking an interest. We will be calling on the community for help when required, with your permission

I'll ask Daryl our secretary to keep your email address so that we can contact you then.

Best Wishes

Andy Peddie

Chair

19TH SEP 2020

Meeting already held with CC, Ken Gourlay, Janice Laird and Roy Giles to discuss parking – Planning Aid Scotland to assist with Throughout community consultation on traffic management within Anstruther. (14)

Yes I want new RNLi Lifeboat Station but I also want us to retain this lovely outdoors asset for Fifers and others. With a willingness on every parties part to positively look at this Site for the next two or more generations we CAN get the best of all worlds with imagination.

Clir Bill Porteous

18.9.20

reply from Martin Dibley

19.9.20

The challenge is working out where visitors, who we rely on for our local economy, will park once this reduced capacity car park is full. Firstly they will follow the road round and end up in Burnside terrace and we all know when parking there it very quickly blocks the road and causes real issues for buses etc.

...

Furthermore, if motorists drive along the shore and cannot park they naturally drive past harbourlee, up burnside terrace and then what? ... This may be controversial but consideration should be given to reversing the one way in East Green (this gives motorists a chance to turn left back into town rather than go up Burnside and disappear to St Andrews!

rant over !!

Same day reply from Andy Peddie:

At the moment the overwhelming view of the town including businesses is that the old RNLi shed should be preserved. That is going to compromise parking to some extent.

With that in mind the Community Council are working with Fife Council to fund a transport survey by PAS which hopefully cover sustainable transport, traffic flow, signage, and parking. Once this has been done we can decide as a community how to proceed.

We have already had one meeting with Fife Council with another planned, rest assured everyone is working very hard to find the best solutions for our town.

21ST OCT 2020

Public appeal for volunteers to join group to “save boat shed from demolition” (15)

ANSTRUTHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

AD WITH POSTER TO APPEAL FOR LOCAL VOLUNTEERS:

WE SEEK INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE KEEN TO GIVE UP THEIR TIME TO COMMIT TO THIS CAUSE AND FORM A COMMITTEE. THIS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT WE AS A COMMUNITY COUNCIL ALONE CAN UNDERTAKE, WE INTEND ONLY TO ASSIST AND PROVIDE GUIDANCE UNTIL SUCH TIMES A CONSTITUTED GROUP IS FORMED AND STANDS ALONE.

3RD NOV 2020

Community Council held public meeting to determine future of existing boat shed.
18 months timescale provided. Comprehensive transportation survey to be undertaken. (16)

The Royal Burgh of Kilrenny, Anstruther & Cellardyke Community Council Meeting

re: RNLI Shed held on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 at 7pm

CC Members: Daryl Wilson, Gillian MacLaren, Andy Peddie, Ali McLeod, Louise McEwan

FC Staff: Janice Laird

Members of the public: David Tod, Ian Goodyear, Joan Paton, Jill Saunderson, Susan Coates, Elizabeth Riches, Simon Hayhow, Shaun Suttie, Shona Muirhead, Michael Bruce, Alex Gardner, Alistair Ramsay, Roy Giles, Roger Grundy, Kate Anstruther, Martin Dibley, Louise McEwan, Carole MacLaren, Ally Sampson, Clir Holt

Despite demolition, there remains approx. 18 months to save shed.

...

Community Council have to date spoken with all local organisations who run property in the town, whilst all keen to help, none in position to take on the running of the property.

Janice explained Community Asset transfer process (CAT) is part of the Community Empower Act Section 5, process to support communities who may want to take over an asset. It is a grilling process but lots of support is available from within the council and other outside agencies.

Crail Community Partnership have successfully taken over Crail Community hall and 3 areas of land and Earlsferry Town Hall Ltd have taken over Earlsferry Town Hall.

Key factor is the reason for taking over the asset - many groups begin with premise of saving building, however this does need a clear idea of purpose to follow through the process.

AP explained the CC cannot be the group due to constitutional and time restraints. Office bearers will assist and offer support but will not be the group who leads this.

Positive support for repurposing existing boatshed from all attending, with ideas for a range of potential uses provided by (among others) Roy Giles and Alex Gardner:

"Anstruther Pleasure Cruises and Isle of May Boat trips - interested in parts of building for commercial operations - Changing room for passengers oil skins, drying room, operation presently from back of trailer and great benefit to business - interested in being tenants. Have small information centre from small hut so keen to relocate to shop unit. Very willing to play a part if felt appropriate.

Kate Anstruther AIA trustee - no interest in occupying building in anyway. AIA is absolute t constituted to do this type of thing and have experience of ownership and management of town hall (Dreel Hall). AIA very supportive, can offer advice, experience but not in resource position to take this on as they are. Would need a group of enthusiastic, energetic people to take forward if AIA were to be the vehicle to move it forward. It is not for fainthearted and cannot understate the level of work and commitment, time and energy required to achieve this. Having said that, on a positive note, the AIA are a vehicle that could be used to do this if people came forward.

Carol MacLaren - Resident of Cellardyke with general interest. Happy to help if needed.

Louise McEwan - CC member and also works for ENCT in office - here to offer support to the project and hopes to try maintain and get the building in use to the local groups who have expressed an interest.

Michael Bruce - Full time Coxswain/mechanic of Lifeboat station.

Past 30 years has seen building change, vested interest in the building. Also, chairman of James and Mary Walker Restoration Project - would love to see the boat put back into the shed that it was built for, designed, and paid for. It is the only place that would suit the boat and it is fitting it goes there.

Understands there are many interests for the building and will be supportive. Harbour does lack facilities, showers, laundry, galley for boat users. Other visiting harbours have great facilities and Anstruther is very poor in comparison so would be very supportive of this. Unfortunately have no additional time to commit to steering group but would like to see it go ahead.

Clir Linda Holt - Feels outraged it can be knocked down for car parking and determined it should be saved. Anstruther is a place with amazing number of community halls but from tonight clear need a facility clearly connected to the sea, seems tailor made to meet that need that no other community building can satisfy.

Niche use for the building. Argued very strongly at planning committee that it should not be demolished, it can be stopped if a good plan is in place and as a councillor happy to be involved and support it.

Andy Peddie - stated all Clirs fought hard, however the way it was presented to committee made it almost impossible for the new RNLI build to go ahead without the authority to demolish the current shed.

25TH NOV 2020

RNLI Save boatshed public meeting held. (17)

FC's Janice Laird reminded all the importance of setting up an overarching group to oversee any successful Community Asset Transfer.

Martin asked if minutes could be published on website. DW sought clarification from all members that there were no confidentiality reasons and agreed to publish minutes online.

Janice reminded the group of the timescales involved with community asset transfer and the need to set up correctly and ensure the right mix of groups use the asset to make best use of grants, reductions etc.

DEC 2020

Community Council produced tender brief for "Feasibility study for retention and future use of existing RNLI Shed) (18)

MARCH 2021

Community Council consulted on Transportation survey and invited all to attend on zoom. Meetings to be held on 29th March & 19th April with FC representatives involved.(18)

6TH AUG 2021

Email from RNLI inviting representatives to Future Station Appeal Launch on 21st August (19)

We would love to welcome you to our current Anstruther Lifeboat Station on 21st August to celebrate 30 years of the Mersey and to find out more about our future station. On the day, you'll hear from crew members past and present, listen to their memories of the Mersey, and find out more about what getting the Shannon class lifeboat will mean.

Erin Feeney

Community Manager |

East Scotland | RNLI

31ST AUG 2021

SKS Scotland feasibility study underway and site visit to RNLI undertaken. RNLI very supportive (20)

quick thoughts are as follows - intended to be off the top of our heads and not comprehensive or complete...

** The building is sound and has a number of spaces suitable for multiple uses. Therefore, I'm inclined in the first instance to see what could fit where rather than thing about any major redevelopments.*

** That said, if the Sailing Club were to request some internal layout revisions to allow them to offer ideal clubhouse or visitor facilities, then I'd be inclined to look favourably on that... it would be long term low risk business.*

** The outdoor area at the rear of the building should be easily (I would imagine) lettable to a new or existing hospitality business. One of the things I've noticed about Anstruther is that there are few good places to sit once you buy your fish supper.*

** I like the idea of keeping the restored RNLI boat in the shed, partly because it fits nicely with the history of the building, partly because I think it would be a strong addition to the Anstruther visitor offer, and partly because I think there is unlikely to ever be an alternative location for the restored boat. If it is not located in that building, then it is not going to be on show. Obviously we'd need to work out the opportunity cost of that idea.*

** Overall, I think that the opportunities this presents to pull together a few things into one co-located resource are quite positive.*

** The main problem I anticipate is - as we have discussed - whether there is sufficient will and capacity in the community to take the idea forward.*

30TH SEP 2021

PAS "Sustaining Choices Transport Action Plan" completed. (21)

19TH JAN 2022

SKS Scotland held up with consultation as awaiting meeting with RNLI who expressed interest in using shed with their proposal (22)

"Just wondering if you had any update from the RNLI, I have been hanging fire on further work on this until they had some back with clarity about their proposals, I went to see Roy Giles, It was a positive meeting, although there was little that I did not already know.

5TH MARCH 2022

Further transport study to be undertaken at instigation of FC using an "expert" transport professional. CC secured funding and Myles McGregor appointed to carry out further "professional" study from an transportation angle (23)

Martin Dibley email to Daryl Wilson, 5.3.2022

The person who did the feasibility study on the Lifeboat shed was supposed to complete it in December, did he ever do it? There was also a discussion about a group to look into the parking etc in Anstruther, is there any progress on this?

Daryl's reply same day

Colin Duff is the person. Yes he was delayed due to the RNLI deciding they may wish to use shed so he held off to include them. As for the group ... after speaking to Fife Council ... it was established a further study should be undertaken by a transport specialist - this would hold huge weight with the council so Andy in process of seeking funds for this.

5TH APRIL 2022

CC Chairperson requests meeting with planners to assist RNLI move forward with their plans and talks of dialogue with FC on the Issue "grinding to a halt" – willingness to assist and offer solutions to support RNLI (24) Response attached (25),

It is this email Which instigated the meeting which Gillian attended that is being classed as the "Community Council walkabout consultation" – comments from FC at 2pm Thursday 'drop in' which Bill Bruce took up with Roy Giles, saying it was wrong for her name to cast up so casually in reference to the validity of classing an informal gathering as a 'public consultation' and without her being able to respond more directly by attending any of the sessions due to private concerns with family.

Friday 4/4/25 - Gillian Crozier Maclaren's response on hearing this account

If the CC 'walkabout' they refer to is what they're basing park & ride provision on I'm pretty disappointed that they feel that is sufficient.

At request of RNLI, CC contacted Fife Council to try and speed up arranging of a site visit to move things forward.

From what I can remember I met Michael, someone from RNLI (not local crew) and I think two from FC. We looked at how little available parking there is at St Andrews Rd car park (and likely talked about the mix of ownership there, abandoned vehicles etc), looked at the area behind coop for park and ride provision and FC checking passing space on the farm track, visual splays and need for road widening.

We walked down to Waid and mentioned bays adjacent to old Waid being a place for tour buses to park after dropping off down the shore and waiting to go back to collect and there was some talk about whether park and ride bus would swing in there on way to/from area behind co-op as additional stop.

Waid parking at sports hall always very busy but conversation around how that is obviously quieter during school holidays.

I can only imagine that any comment about that area having more spaces during holidays is where they have construed my alleged comment that school holidays is only time park and ride would be needed for our business.

April- October is our season and August/September far busier than July so can't imagine I'd ever stipulate Scottish school holidays as preferred time of operation. If I recall there was no information about operational times e.g 10-4, 9-5 etc.

Bear in mind that any discussion was also based on thinking only part of East Basin would be closed to parking and not full closure so that would (in my mind) invalidate any discussions as the terms are totally different now.

5TH APRIL 2022 TEMPORARY CAR PARKING DURING RNLI BUILD

Email from Andy Peddie 5 April 2022 at 20:30 (24)
To George Macdonald and Chris Smith, Fife Council
Cc : Stuart Hannell, RNLI

The RNLI have fully bought into the need and cost of providing temporary parking and a shuttle bus service during construction, but the dialogue with FC seems to have ground to a halt. I fully accept Fife Council are not to blame for all the delays, however, my information is that this issue has already delayed the building project and further delays could jeopardise the project completely. This would be a disaster for our town and embarrassing for FC.

Would it be possible for you and I to meet on site George along with Roy Giles from RNLI? ... There may also be other possible solutions acceptable to all parties which we could discuss on site. I am fairly flexible on time and would really appreciate it you could find the time to meet and give some potential dates which would work for you. It would be really great if we can all work together to find the best way forward.

6TH APRIL 2022

Email reply from Chris Smith (25)
6 April 2022 at 10.31

spoke 'to key contacts I suspect we should be in a position very very soon to agree potential date options for a site visit and thus get this part of the scheme moving forward again'

11TH MAY 2022

SKS Scotland "Feasibility Study" now complete (26)

12TH MAY 2022

RNLI official email (one and only) detailing potential park and ride times and seeking local knowledge. (27)
Note * the email was intended for RNLI and local coxswain forwarded to CC Vice chair for an input – national RNLI did not liaise directly with cc

Email to CC on Thursday, May 12, 2022, 3:05 pm, Michael Bruce, RNLI coxswain Mechanic
Just looking for some feedback regarding the proposed park & ride times.

We are conscious it's a charity and we don't want to spend money just for the sake of providing a service.
Thanks as always for the support you give us.

13TH MAY 2022

CC Chairperson replied to local coxswain and RNLI senior management with response and plea to be kept up to date (28)

Reply from Andy Peddie, CC Chair on Friday, May 13, 2022, 2:53 pm

There has never been a shuttle service like this in our town before so it will be a learning curve for us all. If you can retain some flexibility so that we can tweak it according to demand.

If you can keep us up to date with who will be providing the service and proposed timings we will let you know if there are any issues arising from this end once the service starts.

We are also keen for you to avoid any unnecessary expenditure.

15TH MAY 22- FEASIBILITY STUDY PUBLISHED (29)

1ST JUNE 22 – MCGREGOR TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS LTD BEGAN "PROFESSIONAL TRANSPORT STUDY" (30)

23RD JUNE 2022

Email enquiry re 'coached from Tom Couper (local business owner The Wee Couper theweecouper@gmail.com) at 10:20

I believe that the car park at the Lifeboats will be closed for 18 months for work on the new lifeboat. Will the tour bus car park be closed as well as this will affect all businesses in the town?

Reply from Daryl Wilson, 18:15

Your right, the car park will be closed. However a condition of their planning was to ensure appropriate alternative parking is in place for the duration with a park and ride service.

I understand this to be located behind the coop with a shuttle bus and also provision for the tour buses on the entrance road to Waid.

We have had no direct involvement as yet, however will be involved to ensure clear signage etc as we know how imperative the parking issue is.

Reply by Tom Couper, 18:21

I feel there's a good chance the tour operators may bypass Anstruther and go right to St Andrews.

Would it be an option to get in touch with the tour operators and make them aware of the situation and maybe ask Fife Council to allocate spaces in tge folly car park for tour buses?

Reply from Daryl Wilson, 18:36

I'll certainly raise this , I'm not sure of when it's due to start yet etc? Covid has delayed things a lot and we are currently employing a professional transport consultant to oversee the whole parking situation in the town, traffic flow, pinch points etc so we have professional evidence to go alongside our community consultation to present to Fife Council

24TH JUNE 2022

RNLI Scott Fraser keen to get involved in retention of existing lifeboat shed (31)

"Roy Giles shared the recently published feasibility report with me and I am keen to work closely with relevant stakeholders to better understand potential timings and requirements moving forwards and keep everyone up to speed with things from this side."

12 OCT 2022

Chair of CC emails Fife Council estates to try assist RNLI sign lease for new lifeboat shed (32)

Email to Gillian Clark FC

We have been approached by RNLI to try and help break the logjam which seems to have occurred between RNLI and Fife Council over the issuing of a lease for the new lifeboat shed in Anstruther.

The Community Council wholeheartedly support the development the new lifeboat and shed for our community.

...

The funding for this project is hanging by a thread and any unnecessary delays could result in the loss of the new boat.

I understand the problem does not lie with you but elsewhere in FC, can you please let me know where the hold-up lies at the moment and the relevant contact details so that we can help push things along.

15TH NOV 2022

Email from Lindsay CC Planning rep clarifying further confusion on further revised planning materials pertaining to car park (33)

Planning Application 22/03508

15 November 2022 at 08:49

After checking the application mentioned by Martin, I see it is new and not an updated application as I had thought.

They have used the drawing design layout for the car park which we are aware of from previous applications to do with station but this application does not pertain to anything carpark as part of the application, hence my confusion and thinking I had perhaps missed a carpark application. Therefore due to discussion I did not clarify what I intended to say regarding the application.

*With other prior station applications we have not commented in order to not slow the process of new RNLI lifeboat shed progressing.
Hopefully this alleviates any confusion.*

17TH NOV 2022

Email from RNLI to Fife Council stating their frustrations at delays in signing of lease and re-iterating their intention to demolish The existing building. Statement makes it clear that delays lie with Fife Council only as they are not taking the potential CAT into Account. (34)

Email from Andy Peddie,CC

To: various at Fife Council including Ken Gourlay (then Executive Director Enterprise and Environment)
22 October 2022 at 15:49

*I know we missed a chance to meet last week and that you both have time away over the next 4 weeks.
I feel the lease situation for the new shed is critical, probably one of the biggest issues we have had to deal with in many years.*

Is there an opportunity for some of us to have a teams chat this week? I think Amanda has arranged one for middle of November but I think we have to try and sort this one out before then.

(a series of email replies follow on 24 and 27 October indicating 'conflicting times' for arrangement of Teams meeting due to various FC personnel being on leave. A meeting does take place but it's unclear from the email trail when it finally happened)

RE: Lifeboatshed lease

Email from Roy Giles,RNLI

To: Ken Gourlay, Fife Council

17 November 2022 at 16:32

Thanks for the meeting at the end of October from which I left with some confidence that the lease would be progressed as a matter of urgency. Unfortunately the RNLI has received notification at this time that the Fife Council department has received the go ahead to progress the lease however a 2 week holiday will prevent it even being looked at until the middle of December and we should expect a draft towards the end of January with the prospects of a confirmed lease sometime after that.

This has resulted in the RNLI having to terminate the tender process due to lack of confidence as to if/when a lease will be forthcoming. It was our intention to award the contract prior to the end of the year to take advantage of material prices prior to the advertised new year price increases. This may seem like big business to Fife Council but we are a charity with no public funding and with every penny a prisoner.

I am not sure that you are directly aware but at the planning committee meeting the RNLI were granted planning permission to build the new station and a separate application to demolish the old building to make way for parking space.

The latter was granted despite reservations from the elected members so as to not hold back the development of the new station. The legal advice to the committee was that in the intervening period the Anstruther community could look at ways to apply for a community asset transfer provided an amendment to the planning permission was granted. As we discussed this process is nothing to do with the RNLI and we are, at this time, planning to knock down the old station and build parking area and public amenity space.

It would appear that the Fife Council department responsible for issuing the lease has not received or ignored the planning committees wish that issues over the old station would not impede the process to build the new station. Their resulting delay has held back the process by at least 3 months.

Please be aware that I very much appreciate your intervention following our last meeting and would very much ask for your continued support in finding a way that the process from now on can be expedited to prevent more delays due to holidays and unnecessary allowances for administration.

DATA FOR INCLUDING IN THE TIMELINE TO SUMMARISE THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S INVOLVEMENT, COVERING THE YEARS 2023-2025, IS BEING COMPILED AND VERIFIED FOR INCLUSION IN THIS DOCUMENT, TO BE UPDATED BEFORE THE END OF APRIL 2025