



The Royal Burgh of Pittenweem and District Community Council

Chair: K Brereton, Vice Chair: B Whittome, Secretary: K Horsburgh, Treasurer: D Stutchfield

Website: www.aboutpittenweem.org.uk

Minutes of meeting held on 13th January in Pittenweem Town Hall

1. Opening of Meeting :

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 7.00pm and welcomed all present.

Present:

Community Council: B Hughes, J K Querido, D Stutchfield, J Taylor, M Wardlaw, B Whittome

Fife Council: Cllr D MacGregor

Members of the public: Mrs Karen Patrick

Apologies: Cllrs Riches and Docherty, K Brereton, K Horsburgh, H MacGregor

2. Guest speakers:

Sgt Jim Peacock (Police Scotland), Alec Tarvit and Harry Fields from Scottish Hydro Smart Services division.

Sgt Peacock, issues discussed: i.Speeding - ongoing talks with Transportation Dept., ii. Crime - 1x car vandalism in the past month, so far no suspect. iii. It was agreed that Police Scotland will pass on information about local crime, which can be posted on our notice board. iv. Caravan in NTH car park - this caravan has been evicted from several other places and has ended up here. Police will try and have it moved shortly. v. Cars parked on double yellow lines in Marygate - Police are 'powerless'(?), can only act if vehicles cause an obstruction, offence has recently been decriminalised.

The brief of the two Scottish Hydro representatives was to give advice, to engage the community about energy awareness and supply information about what is on offer to 'vulnerable categories' in the community e.g. free CH boiler replacements, loft and cavity wall insulation. Their current budget stretches to April and applications must be received before 31/3. The second part of their presentation was concerning Gas-safety, in particular the risks of CO poisoning and the proper location of CO detectors. Information leaflets were handed out with a free phone number: 0800 975 2440 for advice and visit.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Proposed: Jim Taylor

Seconded: Margaret Wardlaw

4. Matters Arising and outstanding actions:

- Bench painting: List of potential jobs updated and circulated to Councillors. Meeting to review with Ruth Crighton arranged for 27/1.
- Blocked Gulley Drains: Clearing of any remaining blocked drains (eg Queen Elizabeth Road) is anticipated shortly and the Community Council will monitor this.

- Play Park Equipment Funding: The outcome of our request for a further £5,000.00 from the Common Good Fund is anticipated shortly. Refer to Common Good Fund update. All documentation (Community Council Accounts) is now with the Common Good Fund people to submit for approval.
- Pittenweem in Bloom: Still work in progress - KH has spoken with Cllr JD and has requested a date to meet with Helen Cogle, who is to be invited to the February PCC meeting.
- Street Sign for James Street: Missing sign replacement still outstanding, Cllr DM to chase (again).
- Notice Board repair work update: JT, nothing has happened yet.
- Wind Generator: According to Cllr DM, Fife Council are considering a new business model for wind turbine installations. The location for a suitable site near Pittenweem recycling centre would seem to have been 'dropped of the list' of potential locations. DS wondered if it might be worth our while to go for a joint venture with Fife Council. DS to make enquiries. We will keep this topic on our agenda and look to consult with any/all parties, including Fife Council, if and as matters progress.
- Pittenweem Allotments: no further progress.
- Grit bins: Still no sign of any grit bin(s) in Waggon Road.

5. **Pittenweem Arts Festival Liaison Group:**

As there hasn't been a recent meeting of this group, there is nothing to report.

6. **Councillors' report:**

- Cllr DM confirmed that the PCC objections to the CCC flue planning proposal had arrived too late to be considered officially at the relevant meeting, however Cllr DM was present at the Fife Council meeting and read out the PCC reasons for rejection. The objections were deemed invalid and were rejected. If we still consider the fumes to be suspect, the Dept. of Environmental Services should be contacted to investigate.
- Cllr JD advised that severe weather warnings are now being covered online and also advised of the following emergency numbers:
Emergency Faults and Repairs 03451 550011 (roof slates/flooding/electrical issues)
Essential Social Work 03451 550099 (housing/care/social work issues). These contact numbers should be made available on the PCC notice board
- DS noted that Fife Councils support for the 95 Bus evening service has been dropped.

For objections please contact Gary Mois at Fife Council.

7. **Planning Issues:**

- JT updated as follows: No new local matters have been advised from the Crystal Server this month
- Letter of objection regarding the flue installation at the Coastline Community Church: Letter submitted but missed deadline for inclusion on web site. Also circulated to our three local councillors pointing out areas of concern to what was being said by Development Services. Representation will also be made under separate cover regarding the lack of communication and community interaction regarding this whole planning application process (see under 6 above)

8. **Treasurer's report:**

DS updated as follows:

- Bank Balance is £1248.65 after all outstanding cheques are paid. The PCC annual grant has been applied for. The surplus for this financial year (ending 31/03/2014) is £ 298.00

9. **Secretary's report:**

See matters arising. KH updated as follows via e-mail:

- Resurfacing South Loan simultaneously with Marygate:
Cllr DM has forwarded correspondence that it's the next repairs in line that get funding allocated to it and this might (won't be) Pittenweem.

10. **Pittenweem Community Fund Raising Committee:**

MW updated as follows:

- MW to check progress with KH regarding the Pittenweem lights
- Participation and bookings for the planned 2014 Events are looking very healthy: Farmers Market and Craft fair are fully booked, spaces for the Car boot sale are filling up. Scout Hall venue has been booked for 3 film shows.

11. **Common Good Fund:**

- The meeting wished to have their appreciation minuted, for all the hard work which is being carried out by KH and KB in the process of bringing the re-assessment of PCC assets to a hopefully satisfactory conclusion.

12. **AOCB:**

- Concerns made re parking on double yellow lines at east end of Marygate: KH has been involved in correspondence with Sgt Anderson about this. The police are adopting a 'softly softly' approach and wish to undertake a mail drop. If it's not resolved and depending on what's said tonight, KH wishes to contact the police again more forcefully. (see Sgt JP's report at the start, above).
- State of street lighting (slow progress):
Ken B has been in communication with Fife Council (Angus Broadhurst) and the delays appear to be down to cost. Apparently the cost to replace a decorative lamp is £750 vs a standard one which would be £150 and they feel it's hard to justify. (one would have thought this would have been considered when they were initially installed!)
- Concerns about the state of pavements in Queen Elizabeth Road, West Braes and Sandycraig Road were raised and Cllr DM will advise Fife Council. No progress reported. Mrs K Patrick reported on her fall in University Terrace caused by potholes in the road and pavement. She was advised to report her fall to Fife Council Transportation Dept. directly.
- Replacement tree for the High Street: KB has chased Iain Barbour at Fife Council and it's now been passed to the Roads Department to replace the Cherry Tree.
- High Street Power Point (since meeting KB has asked KH and MW to take this forward)
KH to speak to with Margaret about progress. E-mails have been exchanged so KH knows what is involved.
- KH advised there are grants available to restore/repair war memorials from the War Memorial Trust. In light of this year's significance it was felt appropriate to consider undertaking a clean-up exercise. As a first step KH to get a quote to clean up our Burgh war Memorial.
KH has spoken with J Y Thompson of Leven and expects a quote shortly. In speaking with them it appears we are not alone in our actions as some other local Community Councils are doing the same. KH will update on further progress once available.
The quotation will only be for the cleaning of the stonework so some further thought might be required as regards to groundwork and metal railing surrounding it. (Primary School involvement as discussed previously?)
- KH to prepare a proposal for a new Blue Plaque and circulate this for consideration at the Feb Meeting: It was felt by the councillors present that the 'Blue plaque sub-committee should convene and report on the criteria to be used for candidates first.

- KH has been approached by the New Town Hall Committee to complain about the caravan situated at the New Cemetery Car Park. It appears to be getting used to 'process the packaging of wheelks (see Sgt JP's report at the start of the meeting).
- DS: i. The women from the Pittenweem Arts Festival Community Craft project have raised and donated sufficient funds to the East Neuk First Responders to provide finance for a second defibrillator in Pittenweem - where do we want it to be placed? The ensuing discussion concluded that it would be best placed at harbour level. ii. With the harbour pier extension repair being imminent, would it be possible to create a small slipway in the old harbour, so that the Pittenweem Rowing Club can launch their skiff on home waters? DS to contact Murray Scott at Fife council direct. iii. If the Larachmohr were to close, should the PCC object to a potential Change of use application if this came to pass? (food for thought). iv. Another offer has been received from someone who wishes to donate a bench to the Burgh.
- Karen Patrick: the PCC is cordially invited to send a regular representative to the local Primary School Parent Council meetings.
- JT: reported unlit traffic signs in Ladywind, Marygate more unlit traffic signs at the junction of South Loan and the High Street were reported by BW. Cllr DM to action.
- JKQ: reported a failed street light , light no.8 in University Avenue. Cllr DM to action.
- BW: Criteria for eligibility for the 'Citizen of the Year' award were discussed. It was agreed that the nominees and nominators must have resided in Pittenweem for at least 12 months. Nominees must be over 16 years of age and must have the potential to be an inspiration to all by example in the widest sense of the word. JKQ and BW to finalize application form. Nominations can be made during February. The award ceremony will take place on the 14th of April. Proposal forms will be available from Pittenweem pharmacy as from February 3rd 2014.

Close of meeting:

- In the absence of any other competent business, the meeting was closed at 20.37 pm
The date of the next meeting was set for 11th February 2014.

Jan-Karel Querido
Locum Secretary