



**Chair: M. Wardlaw, Vice Chair: A. Butters, Treasurer: A. Butters:**

**Contact Secretary: J. Taylor.**

**Committee: S. Wilkinson, L. Lauder, M. Butters, P. Mills, G. McClure. J. Wood.**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 in Pittenweem**

**New Town Hall**

**Present:**

**Community Council:** Margaret Wardlaw, Jim Taylor, Peter Mills, Anne Butters, Martin Butters, Susan Wilkinson, Linda Lauder.

**Fife Councillors:** Cllr John Docherty, Cllr Bill Porteous.

**Apologies:** Gary McClure, and Jim Wood.

**Invited Guest:** Andrew Peddie, Chair of Anstruther & Kilrenny CC.

**Opening of Meeting**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7pm, welcomed all present and asked that all mobiles and electronic devices be turned off.

Cllr Linda Holt's absence was commented on, no one had heard from her to say she wasn't coming. PM had spoken with her the previous evening but tonight's meeting was not mentioned.

MW checked that everyone had received and read their copy of last month's minutes and asked for a Proposer and Seconder.

Proposer: S. Wilkinson. Seconder: A. Butters.

MW reported that, following an email from Andrew Peddie asking if he could attend our next meeting, she had invited him to come along tonight at 7-15pm. A discussion followed on who Andrew Peddie was and whom he was representing. MW suggested we move to the Councillors Report whilst we waited for him to arrive.

**Councillors Report:**

**Cllr JD** mentioned that Stephin Gethins was looking into getting ATM machines in the area. A discussion followed into where machines had been and where one might be sited.

Cllr JD then commented on the Fisherman's Memorial placed at the east end of West Shore Pittenweem. On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July Ian Bowman, now of Cellardyke, unveiled a statue of a mother and child looking out to sea. Cllr JD said that he had written a poem called 'The Memorial', to commemorate the occasion and was invited to read it out. A copy is to be given to MW to send to all.

**Cllr BP** started to talk about the Fife Coastal Trust when MW stopped him and brought up his apology re the previous meeting. She reported the mail sent only to her had been discussed at an earlier meeting and a **majority** of the committee attending then felt an apology to all at tonight's meeting was what was required. Cllr BP said he was happy to do that although it was not what he thought was originally asked for. MW thanked him following him extending his apology to all present.

**Cllr BP** continued his talk on the Fife Coastal Trust, in which both Cllr LH and himself are members, and suggested to the committee that it would be advantageous to invite a member from the Trust to come along to give a talk on what they do and how we may be able to help them and vice versa.

**Andrew Peddie** arrived and the agenda was put on hold whilst he was welcomed and introduced to the committee. MW then asked him to explain why he had asked to attend our meeting.

Andrew said he had been involved with the Anstruther Cycle group until he had to "resign" owing to a conflict of interest.

He thought there had been an agreement on the route between Anstruther and Pittenweem and wondered what had gone wrong that nothing was progressing, so basically he was here to find out first hand why we are objecting to letting it go ahead. As a keen cyclist himself he would like to see this project take off.

### **Cycle or Multi User Path.**

PM took over, explaining he is involved in the MUP but fairly new to PCC. To date what has come to light was that the Anstruther group had gone ahead and made plans without first consulting PCC. They told us they had applied for funding and everything was in hand, that the owners of grounds needed for the pathway had all been spoken to and that it was going ahead. The path would run from the Spindrifft in Anstruther coming along the roadside to Pittenweem and stop at the speed limit signs just before the first house on Milton Road.

This is not an ideal point for the path into Pittenweem and no plans for further passage have been made. Our members had always thought that using the core path past Milton Farm and then the old railway track to skirt Pittenweem would give a safer access and allow the MUP to then continue on towards St Monans. It was made clear to Andrew that the Anstruther group had tried to push us into accepting their plan but the new committee wanted to be consulted and listened to. This is an expensive project therefore we need to know it will work, be beneficial to the people and safe to use by the members of our community. We

also need to know that the pathway will be properly maintained throughout without it becoming another burden left for the community to sort out. Andrew agreed that the Pittenweem community should have a say in determining what is to happen, and went on to say the plan was that a cycleway would eventually be constructed to run from Dundee to Kirkcaldy round the coast, but the only bit up and running to date is from St Andrews to Guardbridge and Anstruther to Kilrenny. A lot of time and effort, and £4000 legal fees had been put into the Anstruther to Pittenweem section and he would hate to see that all wasted.

Andrew was asked if he knew the Anstruther group had been told, “they should not have gone ahead making assumptions that this route was agreed on”. He replied saying the group **had** done a community survey and it was felt it that it would be welcomed. He was reminded that the surveys took place in Anstruther at the Co-op, Waid and the Fisheries Museum, with a very small percentage of people taking part. Andrew replied saying the Pittenweem group Pict **were** involved. He was then asked if he was still with the group when it was suggested that cyclists would be able reach St Abbs Crescent by widening the pavement. We recently received an e-mail reminding us of this, so did he know if it was to be done by narrowing the road or by taking part of the front gardens of the houses there? He said he might have been with the group at the time but could see that neither was practical.

PM said we are trying to push forward, Pittenweem CC has asked for a feasibility study to be undertaken to examine where best the pathway through or around Pittenweem should be sited. We had just set up a meeting to seek funding from Sustrans prior to our FC contact having to resign owing to bad health. Hopefully the new FC contact will sort out what is needed and progress will be made.

Once possible routes have been determined a public consultation is planned to allow people to express their support and any preference for routes.

It was said another group are exploring possible routes beyond Pittenweem to Elie and Largo. It is hoped that Fife Council will improve on coordinating all the initiatives concerning the MUP.

Andrew thanked us for our time and it was agreed that we would keep in touch.

MW thanked Andrew for coming along tonight.

After Andrew left it was asked, “ What did you make of that?” It was clear Andrew was not happy, obviously he had not been made aware of the Anstruther group’s attitude to Pittenweem’s questions and suggestions. A discussion followed on information fed to use via Gerald on survey figures. Possibly 25% of those taking part might have be from Pittenweem and out of that possibly 3-4 cyclists would have been picked up.

PM said it was mentioned at a previous meeting that Anstruther had applied for and received funding. He had got in touch with Sustrans and they had said that

Anstruther, to date, had not applied for any funding for this project, yet tonight we learn £4,000 has been spent on it.

It was agreed that we need a lot more information before we can hold a community discussion. It is going to be a long haul project.

PM concluded by reporting Scott Christie has replaced Ian Smith so a meeting has been arranged at Bankhead Central in Glenrothes on November 6<sup>th</sup> for SW, David Stutchfield and himself to meet Scott to take things forward.

**St Andrews OOHS:**

PM reported that the Fife Health and Social Care Partnership are continuing to be evasive as to their commitment to retain an OOHS service at the St Andrews Community Hospital. The planned service to start in November 2019 will operate considerably reduced hours and will probably not be staffed by doctors for periods of time. Attempts to communicate with the Partnership have been difficult and a new Participation Request initiated by Bulmullo CC was turned down outright. A meeting has been arranged for October 29<sup>th</sup> at Fife House. The St Andrews OOHS group remain very active in raising public awareness of this issue and may request an external review if progress is not made.

**Abbeywall Rd:** this was Cllr LH so no report.

**School Crossing:** Cllr JD said, “as reported last time, FC are looking at comments from other areas.

**Tolbooth Tower:** again Cllr Holt so no report

**Play Parks:** JT reported A. Bissett has still to issue the supply and installation tender for the roundabout and will get back to us.

**Gritting Routes:** FC now to grit Abbey Wall road down as far as the Gyles.

**Short term Lets:** Report received from the Regina survey, a bit mixed up but it did cover all points mentioned.

**James St Shop:** nothing new to report.

**Old Town Hall & Library:** JT asked if there was a specific reason why we were following this up, or could we now drop it from the agenda. The project is waiting for listed building planning consent to go ahead.

**Cemetery Gates:** nothing to report.

**Traffic Management:** nothing yet reported on South Loan yellow lines.

**Common Good:** a meeting was held back to discuss the register of assets held and a reply sent back listing our comments.

**Vacant Land:** Cllr JD has passed on our thoughts to FC regarding land we felt could be used to built a new nursing home.

**Police Report:** Nothing forwarded this month.

**Planning:** There were 16 notifications since last meeting, 3 are new, 1 an amendment, 1 reported work completed and 3 permitted. The other 8 are “closed to comment” (about to be decided) No neighbour comments to date on “plastic” windows at 65 Abbey Wall Rd.

The New Town hall has been given permission to start work.

**Treasurers report:** There is £718.20 in account.

**Secretary’s Report:** JT issued **CC** members with a list of all communications received from FC in the last month. Only some need to be mentioned tonight.

**Larachmhor:** We received one mailed neighbours objection and many comments from others. Sticking to the requested hours and no alcohol or hot drinks on stairs were comments discussed. A Cllr confirmed that all points put to the board are discussed before a licence is granted.

It was suggested that the CC put in a group objection. JT to do so.

**Data Protection:** We received a mail from FC reminding us that the **CC** is subject to data protection rules. A discussion followed and it was confirmed that we recently paid the annual legal fee of £40.

**Training for Community Councils:** There are now books on line.

**Encourage Participation:** council-subsidised transport - any comments.

**Right to Buy Abandoned or Neglected Land** - Definition of “neglected” was clarified.

**The Tolbooth: Cllr LH** has been reminded that she was to apply to the Heritage Group for help on our behalf. The results from surveys were to be available second week in October.

### **Chairs Report**

**Remembrance Sunday:** a wreath is ordered for the Remembrance Day Service on 10<sup>th</sup> November at 11am. PM agreed to lay the wreath.

**Fife Voluntary Action:** We have an invitation to a “Funders open day and workshops”. Two people from each group can attend. Will send out details to all.

**East Neuk Forum:** Invitation to a meeting 29<sup>th</sup> Oct. at 7pm.

**Lady Wynd:** the new sign is a disgrace to whoever put it up!

### **AOCB:**

**AB** complained that the time taken to get through to FC to report problems with Council Housing is ridiculous; it took 45 minutes to get through to put in a complaint. It kept saying to go on line it where it would be faster.

Complaints about the taxi company in St Abbs who is blocking the road at times, a lorry could not get through recently and the taxi driver ignored the lorry driver’s request to move his vehicle to allow him through.

There were complaints about an overgrown allotment. Cllr BP said he would look into and report back.

JT said parking at both side of the road on Lady Wynd has caused problems of access. Double yellow lines are needed on the pavement side to stop this.

SW said she cannot put PDF documents on Facebook, she can post Word docs, pictures and posters. Discussion on difficulties of operating site followed.

**Meeting closed at 21:00, next meeting on 14.11.2019.**

### **Abbreviations:**

**AB**-Anne Butters, **GM**-Gary McClure, **JT**- Jim Taylor, **MB**-Martin Butters, **LL**- Linda Lauder, **MW**- Margaret Wardlaw, **PM** - Peter Mills, **SW**-Susan Wilkinson, **Cllr JD**- Cllr John Docherty, **Cllr LH**- Cllr Linda Holt, **Cllr BP**-Cllr Bill Porteous, **JL** - Janice Laird, **FC**- Fife Council, **PCC**- Community Council, **PCCFRC**- Community Council Fund Raising Committee, **IS**- Ian Smith, **OOHS** – Out of hours service; **PCES** - Primary Care Emergency Service. **PAF** – Pittenweem Arts Festival,