



The Royal Burgh of Pittenweem and District Community Council

Chair: K. Horsburgh,
Vice Chair: W. Hughes,
Contact Secretary: J. Taylor,
Minute Secretary: M. Wardlaw ,
Temp. Treasurer: D. Stutchfield.

Minutes of meeting held 12th January 2015 in Pittenweem New Town Hall.

Opening of Meeting:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7.00pm and welcomed all present.

Present:

Community Council: K. Horsburgh, W. Hughes, J. Taylor, M. Wardlaw, D. Stutchfield, J. Bowman, B. Ortmann, C. McCallum, H. Coggle.

Fife Council: Cllr D. MacGregor, Cllr J. Docherty.

Guests: None.

Members of the public: Mr A Innes as possible Committer Member.

Apologies: Cllr Riches.

KH had invited the police along but visit not confirmed.

Approval of previous minutes:

Proposed: W. Hughes **Seconded:** D. Stutchfield

KH discussed the distribution of the monthly minutes. It was agreed a copy would be sent to Elaine Paterson, headmistress of the primary school and a copy would still be sent to the library. **DS** would take over placing the minutes into the notice board.

It was then **Proposed:** K. Horsburgh and **Seconded:** M. Wardlaw to ask Alexander Innes if he wished to join the new Community Council Committee since we do not have a full committee at present. Mr Innes accepted the invitation. , **KH** then asked him to join the other members round the table.

Matters Arising:

KH had been in touch with Ian Barbour regarding the fence at Pan Braes, he came back today saying that it would be repaired and a J. Easson would be doing the work.

Nothing further to report regarding progress with the 'pay back' people, this will be carried forward to next months meeting. Everyone was asked to take note of any jobs that they thought would be suitable for the 'pay back' boys to do and report back at the next meeting. It was noted that last year they had cleared a lot of over-grown areas removing brambles, weeds etc. they have also painted seats and fences to date. It was suggested that they could be asked to help with smaller projects via **PIB**. The fact these boys have to be supervised at all times large scale projects would not be suitable for them to work on. **KH** has already a list of jobs to discussed with them.

We were looking to replace the play park equipment at West Braes but no funds are available at present. We have received £5000 pounds from **FC** which is lying in our bank account till further funds are released. We have been promised £5000 from Fiona Mitchell and £5000 from the common good fund but in the present climate funding is difficult so we will wait to hear from **FC**.

MW was asked to contact the owners of Pittenweem Inn regarding the lack of plants in their tubs outside the hotel. The reply was that Mr Murphy had no intentions of planting the tubs and **PIB** are welcome to do so but he would like to discuss with them first what their plans may be.

JT reported that the steps at Waggon Road had been repaired. It is possible that the undercutting might have been caused by the extra rainwater run-off due to the hedges having been removed by a fence erector and shrubbery having been cut back by **FC Parks** workers with discretion in what is to be cut back or cut down if it will save on costs.

It was mentioned by others that the minor road repairs in other areas of the town had been completed to a poor standard.

Secretary's Report:

KH has advised Bill Welsh about the positions filled within the new Community Council Committee and so 'junk mail' will soon follow from **FC** and other sources. **JT** will receive the bulk of these e-mails and will forward to councillors what he feels are relevant messages.

KH gave out declaration forms to everyone and asked for them to be returned to **JT** who will then return them to Bill Welsh at **FC**.

List of contact details to be put into the notice board.

It was decided unanimously after discussion that details of, name, address, e-mail and tel. no. could only be included in this list with the consent of members.

It was agreed that anyone wanting information i.e. press etc. should be directed to contact **KH**.

JT checked that the e-mail procedure already used on all community council business with the committee would continue. Reply to all is to be used at all times so that everyone is kept in the loop.

Treasurer's Report:

DS reported there was £6,260-94 in Bank account, interest for period being 71p.

£5,000 of this money is from **FC** for play park equipment. **KH** is going to speak to Fiona Mitchell to remind her that we are holding that £5000 and that it is ear-marked for the revamp of the West Braes Playpark.

DS reminded us that we still have £250.00 of the monies given to cover expenses like phone rental, stationery etc. to spend before the end of the tax year.

It was suggested this could go towards the installation of the new notice boards since we have to show **FC** that the money is ear-marked for a specific cause if not used.

DS reminded us that he had only accepted the invitation to carry on the job of treasurer for a month or until we had elected a new treasurer able to sign cheques. **KH** approached **MW** to do secretary/treasurer for a couple of months but she declined. **JT** suggested Brian Ortmann be asked if he would be willing to take up the post of treasurer. Brian agreed to take up the position if other members were OK with that.

Proposed: K. Horsburgh **Seconded:** J. Taylor

DS said he would get all the paper work ready to hand over to **BO**.

KH has already been to the Royal Bank of Scotland and put the setting up of the new bank accounts and mandates into motion. Once signatures were completed the bank account would be ready to use.

MW had agreed to speak to Jack Low to see if he would be willing to Audit the end of year accounts for the Community Council. He is quite willing to do this for us and payment will be agreed at a later date. He already is auditor for the Fund Raising committee's accounts.

Planning Report

JT reported there had been no new applications this month but there had been 4 updates;

Update Tue, 23 Dec 2014 - Flue Application ref. 21 Session Street - public consultation period closed

Public & Environmental Protection Team report – 18/12/2014 - no problems with application

Update Wed, 7 Jan 2015 - Ext Stair at rear of Adamson's Bakery - public consultation period closed

Only one neighbour complaint

Update Wed, 7 Jan 2015 - Traquair's 5 Market Place alterations. – Had a verbal OK from Historic Scotland but was awaiting written confirmation. **Written response has been received - can now proceed.**

Update Thu, 8 Jan 2015 - 9 Charles Street Single storey extension to rear of dwellinghouse.

No neighbour complaint **Application Permitted - no conditions - effective date 9/01/2014**

The flue at 21 Session Street has still to come before the planning committee, **JT** pointed out that there seems to be some confusion as to where the flue location is in the latest update. The **CC** had objected to the retrospective planning for the flue in its present position, but passed it in the updated one shown on the plans. The report going before the committee shows it in the present refused position.

JT asked the councillors to make sure that the current siting position and not the current planning application siting is looked into at the meeting since there appears to be confusion in the reports by various departments.

KH reported on the continuation of the saga on planning for the installation of electrics in the High Street. It has now come to light that we may need three separate applications, one for each bollard.

The person dealing with it is to send a map so **KH** can mark it with a red line joining up the bollards.

Hopefully this will suffice. Contacting the services needed for this application has been very difficult and the councillors have been informed of this.

Following up on the discussion regarding the height of the fence the **CCC** erected between the school playing field and the church property, and the fact a gate had been installed within this fence, **MW** reported on her meeting with the school headmistress.:

The headmistress said she had been unaware that there was a gate in the boundary fence and was adamant that there should be no gate access between the two properties. She is to take it up with **FC** and her superiors. She promised to keep us updated on any information she receives.

Cllr. JD said he would look into the fence, the flue position and also the fact that window location of adjacent buildings are not shown on plans, and report back at our next meeting.

Fund Raising Committee:

MW reported that there had been a mistake made with the figures given in December and the figures this month are £2918.51 in the bank and £111.07 as P/Cash.

Although they are disbanding, they want to keep the bank account open since they still have the christmas lights to install and then decide on what to do with the balance of monies. **MW** has spoken and checked with **RB Grant** that the order for the lights is still going ahead, and they said they would keep it on file.

The total monies raised from Santa Claus for donating to Rachel House was £136.30p.

Councillors Report

There has been no councillors meeting since our last **CC** meeting.

Cllr DM reported that there would be the budget meeting in February and there will be a lot of discussion regarding future changes, one being the possible change to the school week although they don't tell us what they are actually planning. Obviously they won't change over night since there is a future election looming and decisions like this have to be discussed. There is an enormous black hole coming and the future doesn't look too rosy for any of us. There is also the possibility of parking charge changes at council parks and Railway stations, and charges levied at parking areas that are not affected with parking charges at the moment. Organisations and the general public will have to work closer together.

Cllr. JD reported he was a member of the Health and Social Integration Board, and that they were hoping to have a meeting later on in the month to get an answer to the amalgamation of Fife Social Work Dept and The Carers appointment Council plus Community Carers etc and how they would work together.

If there was to be any changes made to health, social work etc within an area, they would contact the **CC** in that area, and might ask for a named person to be a contact.

Cllr. JD also mentioned being involved with N.H.S. and as a Councillor in the White Ribbon Project – it started in North America with para-medics setting up an action group to work with women being beaten up by male partners - they have already contacted 4th year school pupils at Glenrothes, Dunfermline and Kirkcaldy and some youngsters have since reported to teachers about abuse in their homes They are hoping to visit Madras and Waid Academy.

Cllr. JD will keep us updated on this subject as and when anything happens.

Arts Festival Liaison Group:

We need 2 reps to attend their group meetings. We might look to have an arts festival member sit on our committee since it is affecting so many different areas within the village.

Eastneuk Landword Forum:

Cllr.JD reported that a presentation was being set up to take place regarding charity support learning for people with learning difficulties and their carers. Hopefully it is on its way for the East Neuk group but a locality has still to be identified.

Common Good Fund

KH reported that the wall at the west end breakwater known as the "Little Roadie" is in need of repair. The wall will need quite a lot of work done to it and Andrew Ferguson has agreed to get someone to repair it. He has been approached about one of the church bells being broken. Has spoken to Andrew Ferguson and Michael McCardle regarding a replacement bell.

We need £4,410 to replace the notice boards in the Market Square. Grant request for funding is being heard and hopefully with the councillors support we will get some funding.

David Birrell and Jim Hughes have been told there is £5,000 in a trust fund being held for Pittenweem.

Andrew Ferguson had asked councillors if this trust could go to the P.T.H.O. [Pittenweem Town Hall Organisation]

Cllr D. McG suggested it comes under PCC control, & then put to the N.T.H.C. [New Town Hall Committee].

KH reports a lot of errors have been identified within the Common Good Accounts, properties that were sold ten years ago as an example still appearing on lists, and no monies shown for some mentioned as sold. KH has asked FC for things to be sorted out, asked where monies have been invested , and basically to produce proper accounts to show what has happened to all the monies collected in from sales or investments. Investigations and questions are ongoing by **CC**.

HC reported that PIB had filled in a form to claim for a grant from the Common Good Fund back on the 20th of June last year but they had received no monies for that grant. N. Murray had been handling all forms for requesting funding. **KH** told **HC** there was money there and to fill in the claim form as soon as possible. **JT** to look into this and organise signing of the claim and declaration forms. **MW** agreed to have a meeting with **HC** to discuss setting up a sub-committee.

A.O.C.B.

DS Pict will continue to run events this year starting with a Boot Sale on 14th February. 9am till 1pm.

Arts Festival will be holding a coffee morning at 10am on 14th Jan at the Festival Office in the High Street.

KH commented on the state of roads at West Braes and Sandycraig Road, the excuse for non-repair is that the Gas board were meant to be upgrading piping, to date there has been no word of this happening.

A resurfacing budget is in place to repair Queen Elizabeth Rd Sandycraig Rd. and West Braes , but no dates to hand. David Brown to be contacted about yellow lines that have not yet been done in University Ave.

BO reported that during the festival he often cannot get out his driveway in the Backgate owing to cars parked across from the opening to his garage. The repainting of the yellow lines needs to be looked at .

It also has to be noted about cars speeding as the swing into the Backgate from James Street.

JT commented on the problem of crossing from beside Bowman's Fishshed to the Scout Hall.

It is dangerous enough for adults but especially so for children and the elderly.

Ciir.JD is going to take this matter up with local police.

AI commented on irresponsible parking in Market Place and East end of Marygate. Car owners have taken no heed to the double yellow lines in Marygate.

DS explained the parking time limit proposed for the Market Place and how it might be policed, this will be looked at.

MW updated on the Mosaic that was to be situated on the wall at the Primary School. Money was donated to the school from the **P.C.C.F.R.C.** to help fund this project. Karen Edwards had initially agreed to construct the mosaic last year but has since opted out because of the delay owing to safety reasons relating to the materials making up the school inner walls. It is now to be mounted outside the school building, and will be done by a Mosaic Artist Sue Kershaw. She is to travel up from England late April to work with the children in small groups to complete the mosaic, she will then take it away to grout and finish. There will be an opening ceremony to commemorate the hundred years and the installing of the Mosaic. Dates for this will be announced when known.

Close of Meeting: 8-20pm **Next Meeting:** Monday 9th February at 7pm

Margaret Wardlaw