



**Chair: K. Horsburgh, Vice Chair: W. Hughes, Secretary: J. Taylor
Minute Secretary: M. Wardlaw, Treasurer: B. Ortmann.**

Website: www.aboutpittenweem.org.

Minutes of meeting held Monday 14th September 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, J. Taylor, M. Wardlaw, B. Ortmann, C. McCallum, H. Coggle, W. Hughes, A. Innes.

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

Apologies: J. Bowman and Cllr E. Riches

Members of the Public: Two

Approval of previous minutes:

Proposed: C. McCallum. **Seconded:** B. Ortmann

KH. Opened the meeting by giving an explanation for apologies, he then welcomed the two members of the public and suggested they went first with their queries before the main meeting commenced. The first point was the closure of the library and what we were doing about it and what could the residents of Pittenweem do. Since this was an item on the agenda it was agreed to cover it first. One lady was concerned with a report from Scotland's Chief statistician and the performance of pupils in primary four to seven has dropped between 2012-14. The Scottish Survey of Literacy found the overall performance had dropped from 83% to 78% in P4, 90% to 88% in P7 and 84% to 80% in S2. The equivalent level of performance in writing remained the same in P4 but fell by 4 points from 72% in P7 and 9 points in S2 from 64% to 55%. The survey also showed that less than half of S2 boys (47%) were doing well down from 58% in 2012. Girls in S2 standard fell from 70% to 63%. In

PAGE 2

deprived communities just 41% of S2 pupils were said to be performing well a drop of 11%. Mobile libraries are not the answer since they are unsuitable for the disabled to access. The library is also used by many to access computers. It was noted that Pittenweem and Colinsburgh are said to be the least used libraries within the East Neuk. When surveys have been conducted numbers were taken from only those who borrowed books, people using computers or other services were not included in the overall figures for library usage. Forms have been printed for the public to fill in with their objections. It has been suggested that the **C.C.** write to **F.C.** or a delegation going to **FC** to put over their views. The best person to write to would be David Ross from **FC**. Cllr.david.ross@fife.gov.uk. Both **Cllr MacGregor** and **Cllr Docherty** are fully supportive to our cause. Contacting the Courier/East Fife Mail are other suggestions put forward. It was put to all members of the **CC** to comment and it was agreed **KH** would submit an e-mail on behalf of Pittenweem **CC** and residents to **FC** and ask for the document E.Q.I.A. for Pittenweem and **Cllr J. Docherty** would look over the document with **KH**. Complaints can be submitted until the end of October. Cultural Trust does not want to close Fife Libraries it is **FC** owing to the financial difficulties they are experiencing.

The second query that came from the public members was 'what could they do to help with the refugees coming into the country. What guidance and help would be forth-coming from **FC**? It has been stated by **FC** that there would be 140 refugees integrated over the next four years. **Cllr MacGregor** suggested that they went onto Fife Direct and checked what **FC** had put onto their web-site regarding this issue, also there will be press releases from **FC**. There will be a meeting with **FC** on Thursday 17th Sept. to discuss the situation with councillors, It was suggested to check Fife Direct on the outcome of the meeting on 17th Sept. **KH** asked **DM** and **JD** if they would put forward that support had been offered tonight from members of the public. Meeting on 8th Sept. Cllr Hamilton, housing settlement officer said they would consider the proportion of refugees and a local task force would be drawn up to assist the settlement and joint resources. It was agreed to contact the two ladies after our next meeting with any update.

Matters Arising:

State of Old Town Hall:

It was reported that the overall state of the hall was in poor repair including at present the Fire Exits cannot be opened which is against the law. **KH** asked **JT** to write to Mr Ferguson following up a previous e-mail with the same complaint to get it repaired as soon as possible. Several doors are blocked with rubbish. It needs to be painted and an overall general tidy up. **JD** is going to contact Mr Ferguson as well about the poor state of repair.

Scottish Water: Everyone was sent a copy of the letter from chief executive of **SW**. It is stated that Pittenweem sewage does not go through the outfall. It was talked about moving the pumping station to Mid Shore to give easy access, it would do this but two thirds of water is sewage so they are really only moving the problem from one situation to another.

PAGE 3

A new pump has been installed and they have looked down the pipes with cameras. Water does come out the top when the pumps cannot cope, as yet no more proposals from them. Pipe burst last summer two thirds of the way out and there was a sewage spill. No more proposals expected till end of September.

Pittenweem in Bloom: HC reported that they had been awarded the Silver Gilt Trophy for Pittenweem, points awarded was 155 out of 200. Abbeywall Road was discussed and they are having a meeting on 22nd Sept. to discuss suitable plants for this area. A letter of congratulations is to be sent To P.I.B. on their recent achievement.

Road Repairs: KH asked Cllr MacGregor to chase roads dept. regarding repairs and white lines. Contact Ross Walker – full programme later part of the year budget permitting.

High Street Electrics: Planning has gone through. Will check if monies banked from F. Mitchell can be used for the hubs.

Toilet Block: at West Braes still on course, painting done. They are closed at present and will be throughout the winter. FC to be asked if they could be opened for daytime hours since people have been urinating in the shelter and someone has been sleeping rough. This is not acceptable in what is a very much tourist area. Cllr MacGregor was going to see what he could do to help with this matter. Cllr Docherty suggested contacting the Fife Coastal Path. Sculptures have been removed and the walls repainted at the shelter.

Common Good Fund: No update from Mr McArdle, Cllr Docherty is going to follow up for us on this matter. The reinstatement of contaminated ground at West Shore, sea wall repairs, and repair of fence that runs adjacent to toilet block could all be done at the same time. Heather Cunningham wants people to talk to each other and work together on this project. I believe the job entails removing the contaminated soil from the site of where the old gas works was, put in a membrane then re-top it with new soil.

Notice Boards: All three are up and looking good. Key holders are Ken Horsburgh and Margaret Wardlaw. MW has come across some old photographs at NTH so will sort them out and place in notice board. £200 was donated by The Fund Raising Committee to C.C. for the installation of the notice boards. Jan-Karel Quesdo helped renovate the map with the help of Jan Fisher. C.C. would like to say thank you to them both for the way the map was restored. The old notice boards were too far gone to do anything with so they were put to the refuse centre.

Bins: Bins at Larachmhor have moved back further up the Wynd.

Garden Scheme: it was noted that no figures have yet been received this year.

Fishermen's memorial: no further meetings have taken place.

Defib. Signs: new signs have still not been put in place.

Police: no one attended this meeting. It was discussed about an attempted break-in twice at the Old Telephone Exchange in Session Lane. A vehicle parked in Water Wynd and also the obstructions at the bottom of Water Wynd during the festival which meant cars could not get in or out of the Wynd. These items were all reported to the police. KH is going to put in a request for someone to come along to our October meeting.

PAGE 4

Road Markings: These will be done when budgets allow. The lines at the corner at the Old Corner Bar and also at Lounge about are completely wiped out, it is also bad going down Abbeywall Road. It was noted that roadside and hedge cuttings are down to twice a year this year and will be reduced to once a year from next year.

Crest and Road Signs: nothing to report.

Harbour Wall: progressing well, being updated on web site.

Payback Boys: Complaints have been made by locals on the mess the boys have left behind them when completing some of the jobs. This has been reported back to their supervisor so hopefully that should suffice for the future. The fence at the park has had its second coat of paint and the bollards in the car park have been done. To date £1550 has been spent on materials. Brian Ortmann is doing a sterling job ordering and handing out the materials. A big thank you from the C.C. members There are still some benches to be finished and small bits of railings and fences to be completed. Railings at Mid Shore will be painted green since we have a surplus of this colour.

Maw Dubbs/Ninian Fields: nothing to report.

Pittenweem Arts Festival: it was noted that £9,858 was collected from car park this year.

Eastneuk and Landward: nothing to report.

Planning Notifications received since July 13th Meeting:

Note: Application submissions re 64 High Street (old coal yard) at top of West Wynd have been approved. Having three properties there will probably make traffic problem worse.

1. Ref. No: 15/00555/FULL | 41 High Street shop (Class 1) to cafe (Class 3) incorporating outdoor seating area | Status: Application Permitted with Conditions.
2. Ref. No: 15/01926/FULL 13/07/2015 | Mr & Mrs S. Harvey, Upper Floor 63 Abbey Wall Road Installation of replacement windows | Application Permitted - no conditions.
3. Ref. No: 15/01208/FULL 17/07/2015 | Pittenweem Community Council, installation of 3 permanent power supply sockets | Application Permitted - with conditions.
4. Ref. No: 15/01548/FULL & LBC | Single storey extension to rear of dwellinghouse at 8 Kirkgate | Status: Pending Decision | then Application Permitted 27/07/15 with Conditions : new timbers to match existing.
5. Ref. No: 15/02134/FULL | Erection of garden shed at 24 High Street | Status: Application Permitted - no conditions.
6. Ref. 15/02441/FULL & LBC Dr Julian Davis 3 James Street | External alterations to dwellinghouse namely replacing of a crumbling sandstone lintel [presently covered by white painted harl] at rear of house with a concrete one, and installation of replacement windows two at front, one at rear. | 7th Sept 2015 Application Permitted - no conditions.
7. Ref. No: 15/02688/FULL Received date: Wed 22 Jul 2015 | Single storey extension to side of dwellinghouse at 54 University Avenue | Status: Pending Consideration | then | on 3rd. Sept 2015 Permitted - no conditions.
8. Ref. No: 15/01679/FULL | Erection of single storey steel framed log storage building at Grangemuir Woodland Park | 27th Aug 2015 Application Permitted - no conditions.

PAGE 5

Scottish Building Warrant Notifications received since July 13th Meeting:

1. Ref. No: 15/01839/EXT | Two Storey Extension to Side of Dwellinghouse and Dormer Ext. to Rear at 3 South Loan Status: Invalid | Case – to be resubmitted as 1.5 storey.
2. Ref. No: 15/01839/EXT | Resubmission date: Fri 24 Jul 2015 | One and a half storey extension to side of house, dormer extension to rear, and installation of solar panels on roof at 3 South Loan | Status: Pending Consideration.
3. Ref. No: 14/02326/ERC | Received date: Mon 01 Sep 2014 | Extension to dwelling to form conservatory at 2 Braehead Road | Status: work completed.
4. Ref. No: 15/00967/ALT | Received date: Tue 28 Apr 2015 | Alterations to dwellinghouse at 15 Bruce's Wynd | Status: Building Work Started.
5. Ref. No: 15/02076/EXT | Extension to dwellinghouse at 64 High Street | Invalid - resubmit
6. Ref. No: 15/02076/EXT | Resubmission date: Wed 02 Sep 2015 | Extension to dwellinghouse at 64 High Street | Pending Consideration.
7. Ref. No: 15/02090/EXT | Received date: Tue 18 Aug 2015 | Extension to dwellinghouse to form sun lounge at 17 Sandycraig Road | Status: Pending Consideration.
8. Ref. No: 15/01111/ALT | Received date: Tue 12 May 2015 | Alterations to dwellinghouse at 24 High Street | Status: Approved.
9. Ref. No: 15/02280/EXT | Received date: Mon 07 Sep 2015 | Extension to dwellinghouse to form new vestibule, sunroom & toilet at 54 University Avenue | Pending Consideration
10. Ref. No: 14/00927/ALTA01 | Received date: Fri 28 Aug 2015 | Amendment to original layout at 27 High Street | Status: Approved.

Football Club Complaint: A letter of complaint was submitted by Iain Wilson regarding dog-fouling of the football pitch. The pitch has to be cleaned before a football match nowadays and this is totally unacceptable, something needs to be done. JT is going to write to Environmental Services regarding this complaint.

Website: nothing to report.

Tolbooth Tours: seems to have died a death, nothing to report.

A.O.C.B.: MW reported the surface around the swings/chute area in play park at back of school has been badly damaged with quite deep holes being made, quite dangerous to young children, needs attention urgently. MW also noted that the gates at the play area cannot now be closed. It appears that the hinges are possibly not robust enough and need replacing. Suggestion was that we should approach 'Jock' who installed the fence regarding this matter.

Signs are needed for Waggon Road, West Wynd and James Street.

Time Finished: 9-30pm Next Meeting: Monday 12th October at 7pm.

Abbreviations:

KH-Ken Horsburgh, **JT**- Jim Taylor, **BO**- Brian Ortmann, **AI**- Alex Innes, **CM**- Christine McCallum, **HC**- Helen Coggle, **WH**- Billy Hughes, **JB**- John Bowman, **MW**- Margaret Wardlaw, **FC**- Fife Council, **CC**- Community Council, **CCFRC**- Community Council Fund Raising Committee, **PIB**- Pittenweem in Bloom, **SW**- Scottish Water, **NTH**-New Town Hall, **DM**-Cllr Donald MacGregor, **JD**-Cllr John Docherty.