



The Royal Burgh of
Pittenweem and District
Community Council

Chair: M. Wardlaw, **Vice Chair:**??**Treasurer:** M. Wardlaw
Secretary: L. Lauder. **Co-Member:** Ruth Brown
Members: G. McClure, P. Mills, J. Wood, Duncan Lucas, David Gallacher.

Website: www.aboutpittenweem.org.uk

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**Minutes of Meeting held in the New Town Hall Pittenweem on
Thursday 10th March 2022 at 7pm**

Present: Margaret Wardlaw, Linda Lauder, David Gallacher, Duncan Lucas, and Peter Mills,

Councillors: Cllr. Linda Holt and Cllr. John Docherty

Apologies: Jim Wood, Cllr. Bill Porteous

Invited: David Stutchfield

Public Attending: None

Opening of Meeting: M.W welcomed everyone to the meeting. L.L reported Gary McClure had informed her that he was resigning from the PCC. M.W explained she was still to hear from Gary.

Proposal of Minutes: Proposed by Duncan Lucas Seconded by Peter Mills.

Councillor's Report: It was reported that the Council Tax was to rise by 3% depending on your Band rating. More money is to be spent on roads, but funding to F.C will get harder next year as there are to be cuts in budgets. Cllr. J.D stated that at a recent meeting, that a representative from the Roads Traffic Management Department said it will take up to six months for all traffic signs that have been reported damaged to be repaired.

Tolbooth Steeple: The Project Manager has reported cost of the steeple is now at £354,000 and is increasing.

MUPS: There has been no new update at the moment. There have been discussions between the Kilrenny/Anstruther/Cellardyke Community Council chair and the PCC Chair. It was recommended to hold a meeting in regards on going forward with the project, the councillors have been invited.

P.M reported a site visit had taken place with Allan Maclean to view how the branches from the MUP could link to the amenities in Pittenweem. Allan saw where the problems lay and would be unable to appoint a consultant until the new financial year i.e. after the 31st March 2022.

SUP: ENCAP are now applying for Phase Two to go ahead.

Community Consultation: The PCC worked together on the PAS work book, L.L is to email it to D.S who will then get in touch with Heather Whyte. M.W asked D.S regarding the extension on our funding, David replied that was not a problem. It was discussed that it would be wise to look into extra money from other funding that is available. P.M enquired what do we receive from PAS for the money that FC have given them, the reply was PAS would help show the PCC how to use the tools that are given but the committee would be doing all the hard work. PAS would then print the outcome from the survey. D.L had explained he had spoken to people regarding their views on Pittenweem, which turned out to be varied as young and old had different ideas. D.S replied that the views would be helpful. It was thought the skill sets from PAS will be required to combine the different views together.

Queen's Jubilee – Trees: R.B had presented a poster via email for the tree planting project which is to take place on Sunday 3rd April at the North end of the play park 10am – 4pm. Each child from the Primary school is to plant a tree in the park on the 31st March, the school has also been asked to think of a name for this area of woodland where the PCC has offered a prize for the winning name.

Queen's Jubilee Beacon: The beacon has been purchased but the gas cylinders are still to be bought. M.W has applied to F.C for Jubilee funding, a reply was received that funding for this event would not be available until the new financial year which is 1st April, there is no guarantee that we will receive some of it. It was reported that letters and messages were sent out to business and community groups to help make the weekend memorable, and that if they would like to hold an event within their group and if anyone was interested, they were asked to attend our next meeting which gave the dates.

Unfortunately, only one person attended. Another meeting will be arranged with the WBP.

Common Good Fund: It has been apparent to P.M that the fund capital value has gradually been reducing over the last four years. There has been no communication from FC as to why this might be happening. Abbreviated accounts are published annually to the North East Fife Area Committee in about November or December each year. Examination of these accounts did not allow an understanding of what was happening.

Questions were put to Donald Grant, Community Manager, and Eleanor Hodgson, the accountant for the Common Good Trusts. A request was also made to see copies of the original accounts to see what was happening. As it was apparently so complex, they requested over 6 weeks to provide answers. The request to see accounts was denied and the answers received were totally inadequate. They raised more questions than provided answers.

An extraordinary meeting of the PCC was held on February 28th to review the information. It looked as if £91,081 had been paid out of capital to cover the cost of restoration of the Tolbooth Steeple and £51,581 from capital to cover restoration of the Old Town Hall. Both of these buildings are A listed historic buildings that are Common Good Property. They have belonged to FC for many years, have had no maintenance whatever, leading to both being about to collapse and become a danger to the public. This provoked a need for emergency repair. As both had been neglected it was agreed by Janice Laird, Community Manager until 2021 and Alan Paterson, Property Services that the repair of the Tolbooth Steeple would be undertaken by FC with no charge made to the CGF. PCC also raised £20K from Historic Environment Scotland and the Fife Environment Trust to restore the Tolbooth clocks at the same time. It was agreed that £30K would be paid from the CGF revenue to cover the Old Town Hall costs.

As FC were being uncooperative in addressing these important questions it was decided to ask for the original accounts through a FOI request. Once these have been examined it is planned to request a meeting with FC to explore what is happening. The two councillors present knew of these reassurances from the past and were very supportive of this action. They requested to be present at this meeting.

Pittenweem Arts Festival: Simon Learoy has been invited to the next PCC meeting.

WBP – Mural: It is hoped the crest of the Royal Burgh of Pittenweem is to be painted on the shelter at the West Braes, it was reported that to use the crest permission would be needed from the Lord Lieutenant.

Recycle Centre: Nothing new to report

Police Report: Fife Coastal Path Safety Panels have been launched along the Coastal path starting at Shell Bay and stretching to Kingsbarns, there are 38 markers in total. Should people find themselves in an emergency they can give their nearest post number to the emergency services to give an accurate location. All post locations. This should significantly reduce the response times when every minute counts. There were 24 calls to the police, consisting of various types including assist members of the public, concern for person, vandalism, drugs misuse and road traffic matters. 4 crimes recorded in this period.

Cove Wynd: The new light fitting has now been completed.

Bus Shelter: The broken Perspex windows at Milton Place bus shelter have not been replaced. Cllr JD is to chase this up.

Notice Board: There is no new update to report.

Road Works: Routine Row, Pittenweem from boundary of properties 7/9 to jct. Kirkgate, from 23th March 2022 at 08.00hrs to 31st March 2022 at 23.59hrs, or until earlier completion of the works. To allow Scottish Water works to be carried out in safety.

Twinning: There is no new update

Parking: There is no new update

Electric Points: There is no new update

Park & Open Spaces: LL reported concerns were sent to the PCC via their social media page that there are a lot of dogs fouling in the play park and owners are

failing to pick it up and disposing of it properly, especially in the school playing grass area where the children play, Cllr. J.D is to follow this up.

Planning Report:

- Ref. No: 21/03846/FULL - Single storey extension to front of dwelling house - Application Permitted with Conditions.
- Ref. No: 21/00385/BW/A - Amend to Remove Velux and Reposition Boiler Status: Pending Consideration - Case Type: Scottish Building Warrant.
- Ref. No: 21/03784/LBC 04/03/2022 - Listed building consent for external alterations including roofing and installation of replacement windows - Application Permitted with Conditions. Reference Decision Date Decision
- Ref. No: 21/03783/FULL 10/03/2022 External alterations including roofing and installation of replacement windows and alterations to outbuilding. - Application Permitted with Conditions.

Secretary's Report: L.L asked was something happening within FC as CCs have been asked to:

- Change to a generic email for the secretary's address
 - Changed the CC elections to next year
 - Want CC's to log in to FC website for planning application for their area.
- The Councillors reported they weren't aware of anything.

An email was received to inform the PCC that the lid on the commercial paper recycling bin at the back of the NTH has been replaced.

An email received from Cllr Vettrano to inform us that he will seek to have the fence repaired at the above area. He also reported that the council has recently established better communication between the staff who service the recycling points and those who clear up illegally dumped items out with the bins and the crews reporting back any damage to the bins or area. Surely this should already be happening and not left to the public to report it.

Anyone who has views on the boundary commission consultation should reply before it closes on 23rd March 2022. The Consultation can be found at

www.bcs2023review.co . Further comments can be submitted at www.bcs2023review.com

Cllr. Bill Porteous sent an email to Allan Maclean regarding update on bike racks.

Eva Martinez reported TRO21_54 South Loan and Backgate, Pittenweem was to be published on FC website on the 2nd March.

Treasurer's Report: there is £283.04 in the current account and in the fundraising there £3185.29 having taken £250 for mulch for tree planting.

Chair's Report: M.W had reported throughout the meeting.

A.O.B: No other business to report.

ABBREVIATIONS:

PCC –Pittenweem Community Council. MW - Margaret Wardlaw, LL – Linda Lauder, PM Peter Mills, JW - Jim Wood, DL – Duncan Lucas RB – Ruth Brown, DG – David Gallacher. DS – David Stutchfield

Cllr LH - Councillor Linda Holt, Cllr JD - Councillor John Docherty, Cllr BP - Councillor William Porteous.

FC – Fife Council, MUP - Multi Use Path, NTH - New Town Hall. PAS – Planning Aid Scotland, WBP – West Braes Project, CGF – Common Good Fund, FOI – Freedom of Information