



Minutes of the Royal Burgh of Pittenweem Community Council

Meeting Held Monday 14th May 2018 in the New Town Hall

Apologies: Cllr John Docherty, Cllr Bill Porteous, John Bowman

Present: Jim Taylor, Brian Ortmann, Ken Horsburgh, Alex Innes, Billy Hughes, Margaret Wardlaw, Cllr Linda Holt

In Attendance: Janice Laird FCC, Hazel Mills Library, Ken Brereton

Adoption of the Minutes of the March 2018 meeting:

Proposed: Ken Horsburgh Seconded: Brian Ortmann

Resignation: We received a letter from Christine MacCallum intimating her resignation from PCC. It was agreed we would write to her, thanking her for the contribution she has made during her time on PCC.

Pittenweem Library and Information Centre: We were given a brief presentation from Hazel Mills in which she outlined the Achievements to Date, Specific Services and Future Plans. Currently they have 210 members and are now getting visits from the Primary School. An additional service for those unable to visit the library they can offer a delivery service. As part of the Visitor Information aspect of their remit they are now working on a professionally produced brochure. The cost is likely to be in the region of £250 for 4000 leaflets. They are looking for funding towards this cost and as well as local businesses are hoping for a contribution from PCC. In principal we agreed to help once we had more information. Cllr Holt indicated there were several possible sources of funding and agreed to send them the information. **Cllr LH**

One major concern is the ongoing difficulty in getting Fife Council to carry out repairs to the building as per the agreement. Janice Laird from FC agreed to take this up on their behalf. Improved signage was also highlighted and once again Janice Laird undertook to forward the contact person in Transportation.

Ken Brereton: Highlighted particular concerns about the number of holiday houses in the village. The negative impact this has on the village, the difficulties faced by local young couples in acquiring property in terms

of affordability, local businesses, and the Primary School etc is well documented. He was also aware that in many cases owners of second properties often register them as businesses and thereby avoid paying council tax. It is believed this method of tax avoidance currently costs five Council in the region of £600,000 per annum. Janice Laird responding by confirming that, whilst FC is aware of the issues and would like to be able to resolve it there is no legislation at present which would enable them to act. It was noted that Cllr Bill Porteous has already raised this topic and we would hope that he can give us an update at the next meeting of PCC.

Janice Laird: Following the recent Liaison Meeting with PAF, at which PCC decided not to attend and at which a statement from PCC outlining our reasons for non-attendance was circulated, at the request of Cllr Linda Holt an invitation was extended to Janice to attend our meeting. Janice reported that she had recently met with the board of PAF and suggested to them a strategy which they might consider as a means of normalising relations with PCC for the benefits of all concerned.

The recent application from PAF for the Use of Public Parks and Open Spaces had been commented on by PCC and several concerns raised. Janice wanted in particular to clarify how Common Good Assets are administered and the processes involved. Ken Horsburgh raised concerns with her both about the fixed assets and moveable assets on the Common Goods Register, as there are notable omissions as currently listed. He agreed to list all the above and send to Janice Laird. **KH**

Matters Arising:

Abbeywall Road: In response to a complaint from residents in the area a meeting has been arranged for the 17th May. The issue concerns speeding vehicles on this particular street. The residents will meet with Stewart Goodfellow from FC, Cllr Linda Holt and representatives from PCC to discuss.

When Stewart is in the village along with Cllr Holt we will highlight the situation and express our concerns about the wall on Abbeywall Road, the recent repairs to South Loan, as well as Parking Issues on South Loan and the West End of High Street. This also give us the opportunity to discuss the proliferation of signs which appear during the Arts Festival and the confusion they cause to visiting motorists.

West Braes Project: It was noted that application had been made to FC.

A Nation's Tribute: As many are aware this year represents 100 years from the end of World War 1, there is an initiative to organise an event to commemorate this as well as paying tribute to the millions who either died or returned home wounded during the conflict. It was agreed that the village should participate. Ken Horsburgh agreed to put together thoughts on how we can achieve this. **KH**

Playparks: We have still had no update from Cllr Bill Porteous. We will keep this as an agenda item until we have been fully appraised as to the current situation.

Arts Festival: Already discussed as part of Janice Lairds presentation.

Local Councillor's Report: Cllr Holt had attended the Liaison Meeting of PAF and reported back accordingly.

The East Neuk Forum appears to be coming back to life and she has suggested that an open invitation be made to all community councillor to attend so that there might be a relevant presentation at each meeting. The next meeting is on the 7th June in the Council Chambers Anstruther at 7pm.

Schedule for PCC Meetings: Our normal meeting date of the second Monday in the month clashes with Anstruther, we are aware that attendance by local councillors is compromised as a result. We agreed that to avoid this situation we will change to the third Monday as from now.

Secretary's Report:

There was nothing of note to report during the last month.

Treasurer's Report:

The monthly bank statement shows a balance of £1560.97 on the 17th April 2018. Our grant from FC for this year is £577.24.

Planning:

There were twenty-six notifications, and eleven approved. The programme to dredge the harbour has been given approval.

New Town Hall Committee: The AGM is scheduled for 31st May after which the new charity status will be approved. On the same night there will be a meeting of the Members and changes to the committee structure. Since the Community Council is not included as members in the new charity it no longer needs to name representatives to attend meetings.

AOCB: No issues were raised.

Next Meeting: Monday 18th June 2018