



The Royal Burgh of
Pittenweem and District
Community Council

Chair: M. Wardlaw, Vice Chair: D, Lucas Treasurer: M. Wardlaw
Secretary: L. Lauder. Co-Member: D, Stutchfield
Members: E. Boyd P. Mills, J. Wood, S. Moreland

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PCC MEETING ON THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2023 IN THE NEW TOWN HALL AT 7pm

PRESENT: Margaret Wardlaw, Duncan Lucas, Linda Lauder, Peter Mills, Jim Wood and David Stutchfield.

COUNCILLORS; Cllr Alycia Hayes, Cllr Sean Dillon

APOLOGIES: Cllr Fiona Corps, Evelyn Boyd, and Stewart Moreland.

PUBLIC ATTENDING: 1 person

INVITED GUESTS: William Kennaway, Crispin Hayes and Sonja Potjewijd

MW welcomed everyone to the meeting, she explained that William Kennaway would be on first then Crispin and Sonja. Visitors and the public would then be asked to leave the hall since there was private business for PCC to discuss.

COMMON GOOD FUND APPLICATION: Mr Bill Kennaway, Chairman and Mrs Jane Forbes, Secretary of the East Neuk of Fife Preservation Society had submitted a request looking for seed funding (£1448) from the Pittenweem Common Good Fund for planning of three interpretation boards concerning the Priory complex in Pittenweem. The total cost might exceed £10K and subsequent fund raising would involve a range of charities. The historic importance of the Priory has been more clearly recognised recently and it has been suggested that both residents and visitors would welcome more information. This application fits in very well with the community's restoration of Priory buildings (Tolbooth, Old Town Hall etc.) and the support that the Church of Scotland has been receiving concerning the threat of closure of the Parish Church. The PCC unanimously supported this application and thought that the acknowledged support of the PCC would assist with subsequent fund raising.

ENCAP SUP/PITTENWEEM TO ELIE – Crispin Hayes and Sonja Potjewijd attended the PCC meeting by invitation to bring Council up to date regarding the ENCAP plans for the MUP from Pittenweem to Elie. Crispin reported significant progress and tabled a map showing

the course in Pittenweem. Most landowners were supportive of the development but there are a couple of sticking points.

These are:

- a. Land owned by Inch Farm around the proposed Campion Home affordable housing project. There is agreement that the MUP will pass through the development along Station Court on to Charles Street.
- b. A short section of the MUP just east of the junction of the A917/B942 to Colinsburgh which belongs to Easter Grangemuir.

It is anticipated that the land agreements will be 40-year leases rather than purchase. The possible use of small areas of contraflow for cyclists in Pittenweem (High Street and Marygate) will be explored by an external traffic consultant.

The PCC is exploring a proposal to have a joint 'Pittenweem Sustainability Festival' consultation for the multiuser path and for energy conservation on March 23rd in the Pittenweem Church Hall. A meeting to finalise arrangements has been booked for 13th February 2023.

LL asked the member of the public in attendance was there anything she would like to ask regarding the Mayview route? It was news to most of the PCC members that Mayview is not ENCAP's responsibility.

Guests and members of the public were asked to leave at this point

PROPOSAL OF MINUTES: Proposed by – Jim Wood, Seconded by – Duncan Lucas.

COUNCILLORS REPORT:

Cllr Alycia Hayes: Cllr. AH asked could we please fill in the consultation to give your views on Cemetery provision.

Fife Council will decide its budget for the coming year on February 23rd. Fife Council in partnership with Rural Skills Scotland (RSS) have successfully secured almost £500,000 from the Scottish Government's Vacant and Derelict Land Investment Programme (VDLIP) to help develop the Ravenscraig Skills Hub. Photo of three people at the Walled Garden at Ravenscraig Park, Kirkcaldy

This is in addition to the £90,000 Fife Council has already agreed to give to the project. Approval of a further £60,000 was agreed by the Kirkcaldy Area Committee at its meeting held on Tuesday (7 February) and is in addition to the £30,000 it had previously approved. Director of Rural Skills Scotland Stewart Christie added: "RSS is a not-for-profit sharing company that directly delivers Apprenticeships and SVQ's across the whole of the country, delivers employability programmes to attract new entrants to the land-based sector, and through our contracting business delivers forestry, estate maintenance,

environmental conservation or biodiversity activity. We will initially support 10 full time and 2 part time jobs from the site, and we hope to grow that to 12 full time and four part time through time.

fife.gov.uk/consultations

Please fill in the consultation to give your views on the supported bus service needs. - closes March 31
Please fill in the consultation to give your views on Cemetery provision.

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Cllr Sean Dillon: Cllr SD reported the High Street and Kirkgate in Pittenweem have been included in the resurfacing schedule reported in last month's minutes.

Playpark Redevelopment:

- Following the removal of the two slides/climbing frames, a group met last week to discuss the possibility of redeveloping the whole of the playpark.
- The group have been kindly assisted by Fife Council's Park Development Officer, who advised that the first step in any plan is to carry out a consultation with children and park users. A Google Poll has been created and shared to parents through the school and on the redevelopment group's social media (). For anyone interested, the consultation can be accessed at:
<https://forms.gle/Z96cRnFTzxs3LGS39>
- There was a site visit with the officer on Tuesday where he advised that because of funding windows, a new park would be complete in the financial year 2024/25 and the cost of a full redevelopment could be in the range of £120,000 - £150,000.

Roads Programme 2023/24:

- Officers have amended the upcoming Roads Programme to include the resurfacing of the entire length of the High St & Kirkgate. This is due to be presented to the North East Fife Area Committee on Wednesday, 15th of February for approval.

Recent Incidents at the Waid Academy:

- Following the recent sharing of violent behaviour at The Waid Academy, Cllr. SD called on a report to be brought before the council's Education Scrutiny Committee on violence in schools and asked that it cover a range of areas including incidents over the last five years and support for victims, staff & witnesses. This report is due to be brought before the committee in March.

Cemeteries:

Fife Council is carrying out a consultation over the future of our cemeteries. On current trends, Pittenweem will reach full capacity in less than 15 years. Anyone interested in taking part should use the link below:

<https://www.fife.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-diaries/future-provision-of-cemeteries-in-fife>

Future of the Church:

- After a meeting of the parishes of Pittenweem, Anstruther & Crail last week, the situation remains unclear.
- On the 26th of February, the architect who drew up the initial plans to modernise the church will be visiting to answer questions. Members of Church will be invited through a letter from the Session Clerk.

AOCB from SD

- On Wednesday, 15th of February, there will be a coffee morning to raise funds for the victims of the Turkey/Syria earthquake in the Church Hall at the usual time.

MINUTE TAKER: It has been noted that Alan will be joining us to take the minutes as from next month (March)

COMMON GOOD UPDATE:

PM reported that concern over the accounts for the CGFs in Fife continues. Since the meeting with the Head of Communities and Neighbourhood on 18TH November 2022 it transpires that several other CGFs in Fife have suffered similar losses through inappropriate application of codes to FC expenses. After 14 months of activity trying to obtain correction of the Pittenweem CGF it seems incredible that nobody had examined whether this was a more widespread problem. FC remains obstructive regarding further investigation of these events. In particular, an independent external audit of CGF accounts has been refused.

It is of interest that Pamela Redpath, Service Manager, Audit and Risk Management Services records in the minutes of the FC Standards, Audit and Risk Committee from June 2022 that the Communities and Neighbourhood (Common Good Fund) Section internal audit in 2021/22 had the largest number of recommendations (13) of any council department of which 6 were registered as substantial and 7 as moderate. The number of days spent on internal audit in 2021/22 was 21.5% less than planned by budget. Audit Scotland is responsible for external audit of FC accounts and in 2021/22 the proposed audit fee for the Council was £547,620. There is no public information available on its findings but clearly its activity is regularly missing serious accounting problems. After three requests from the PCC to have its action points from the November meeting addressed, a partial response was obtained. Answers to the outstanding points have again been requested. It is unfortunate that the agreement and understanding that was obtained in November has dissolved and FCs approach is now again obstructive.

The CGF accounts were not approved at the November 2022 meeting of the North East Fife Area Committee meeting because of these errors. The same unchanged accounts are being presented for the Feb 15th meeting.

MUPS ANSTRUTHER TO PITTENWEEM - The next meeting is arranged for 24 February 2023 in Anstruther. The group are concerned about the delay in FC confirming arrangements with landowners. An attempt is being made to bring together the various parties to speed up the process.

THE KING'S CORONATION – The King's Coronation is to take place on May the 6th 2023 unfortunately the PCC have a few commitments at the moment and are unable to organise for this.

CYCLE RACKS: Nothing to report.

TREE PLANTING SIGN: Mr A. Syme has agreed to visit the site and discuss what is required for installing a sign.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION – PAS has had a meeting at the Primary School to involve the pupils in our consultation/place planning work. PAS has written up an action plan which the PCC has agreed to be carried out. A 'Pittenweem Sustainability Festival' combining the proposed Energy Conservation and Active Travel consultations in one drop-in session for the community is to be organised for the 23rd March. A meeting for the PCC to discuss this has been arranged for Monday 13th February at 2pm at the NTH.

After discussions about the decision-making process the draft plans for the community consultation activities were outlined. DS confirmed that following the previous consultation subgroup meeting the Pittenweem Church Hall has been booked for Thursday 23rd March for a Pittenweem Sustainability Festival. Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) have revised their quotation to include activities with Pittenweem Primary School. This will include asking the children to come up with a “brand” name for further Pittenweem consultations, and a Gulliver’s Mapping activity in which children annotate a large map of Pittenweem with their ‘stars’ and ‘wishes’ using stickers and sticky notes. We could also go ‘out and about’ with groups of children around Pittenweem to seek out their ‘stars’ and ‘wishes’. A report and film will be made from this to be presented at the Pittenweem Sustainability Festival. The festival will also include tree planting, community donation spot for re-use through St Andrews Environmental Network, storytelling for children through Pittenweem Library, energy advice through Cosy Kingdom and renewable contractors outlining the benefits of house improvements.

The Community Council unanimously approved that we should proceed with PAS for the consultation as outlined in their quotation. DS outlined that there is a forthcoming issue of the Pittenweem Post through Crail Matters and he could add some copy about the consultation events

The next meeting of the PCC consultation subgroup meeting was confirmed for Monday 13th February at 2pm.

FIFE DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME/LOCAL PLACE PLAN – PAS have been paid by FC to train any member of the PCC on how to create Local Place Plans for your community. The training programme is to be held between February and March 2023, members can choose any or all events they would like to train in. This is will be conducted online.

Fife Development Plan / Local Place Plan

DS explained that following email correspondence he had signed the community council up to the Parish Online software through the Community Map Scotland portal. During the PCC consultation subgroup meeting he will demonstrate the capabilities of the software for mapping the local area and how this could be used in a Local Place Plan.

POLICE REPORT- there were 13 calls to the police. 2 crimes recorded

Coffee with a Cop - Community Engagement Meetings PC’s Cook and Wallace attended at Kilrenny Church Hall on 4th January 2023 as part of our ‘Coffee with A Cop’ initiative where they answered questions from the local community on various matters and provided information about Internet safety, door step crime and online frauds and schemes. PC Cook also attended at Crail Town Hall on 24th January and met with members of the local community. This is a great chance to speak with your local Police Officers about absolutely anything that matters to you in your local community. They are looking to canvas local community groups who already hold regular coffee mornings or

meetings so as they can attend and engage with each community in a less formal setting. If you would like them to attend, please make contact via the community team email address eastneuklandwardCPT@scotland.police.uk

Cllr. AH reported training for new community volunteers to take part in Speed watch is to start in March. At present there are only 3 people to cover the whole of Fife.

ROAD/STREET SIGNS – The street sign at University Avenue has now been replaced.

PLANNING REPORT: JW had nothing specific to report. Planning is being processed for the mural in School Wynd.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Robbie Blyth from FCCT informed the PCC that the Pittenweem West Braes Carpark will be closed to all vehicles on the 2nd & 3rd March for resurface work and signage will be installed in the very near future to make the public aware of this development.

Cllr. Alycia Hayes sent an attachment regarding asset transfers as many Community Councils are considering the future of various community buildings.

Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action Fund - Emma Swift noticed from the Inspiring Scotland website that our community council was one of those who had been awarded funding through the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action Fund, and thought that this might make for an interesting case study for the Showcases section of their website. DS expressed he would be happy for PCC to be a case study and would contact directly to Emma.

Ability Net – an email was sent from Chris Andrews he is the community relationship administrator for Ability Net, hoping to introduce the community council to Ability Net and see if we could possibly work together through our free volunteer service. We do have volunteers in Pittenweem Community.

Debbie Cassell - The Community Council's insurance policy is due for renewal. The insurers are reviewing the policy in full this year and they require all Community Councils to complete the renewal declaration form.

Patrick Marks from St Andrews Community Council sent an email regarding Pittenweem's experience in relation to the use of the town for filming of TV/Movies. A reply was sent to contact the WBP explaining it was their outdoor swimming pool project that has been in the media.

Free webinar for community councillors to learn more about Community Map Scotland on Microsoft Teams on Friday 10th February at 2pm. PM and DS have signed up for this.

Akin Colin Andrews – wanted to share some information regarding an art project he is currently doing, called *akin*. The project involves planting oak trees across Fife and is looking for volunteers to undertake the planting of and stewardship of a tree gifted by the artist – so he is trying to get the word out and make contact with local organisations and individuals that might be able to help with this. So, is reaching out to community Councils in Fife to see if this is something they would like their community to be involved in and, if so, to connect me to local individuals, groups or organisations that might be in a position to plant an oak tree locally. Further information at www.colinandrews.org/project/akin

TREASURER'S REPORT: MW reported the bank has now sorted out our problems. There is £4,967.38 in the fundraising account, this includes £4091.61 from Pittenweem in Bloom. There is £6,605.03 in the current account, this includes funding from Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action.

CHAIR'S REPORT: MW has been in contact with Mr John Handley regarding an update on St Margaret's Farm Development and is to invite him to our next meeting.

There has been very little response back from people who used to be involved with P.I.B. To date three people have been in touch. There are no plants available at Pathhead at present, will contact Phyllis at the end of the month for an update.

MW did suggest the possibility of putting up a CCTV camera at the end of the hall garage to cover the play park to try and stop the vandalism within the playpark itself.

A.O.B.

Listed building planning consent for 18 West Shore

Historic Environment Scotland and the FC Economy, Planning and Employability section had submitted reports not supporting this development. In addition, there were a number of objections from the community. Most concerned the size of the development and the flat roof proposed which are both out of keeping with the West Shore properties. New plans have been submitted but there is little change made.

Visit East Neuk have produced new maps regarding the East Neuk.

Councillors have been informed:

- **There are lights out and over grown weeds in Water Wynd.**
- **There is a dispute regarding a garden wall in School Wynd.**
- **Larachmhor Tavern: nothing new to report.**
- **Questions and comments made by DL,**

- In reply to the invited guest DL said he was totally against the two way Marygate idea for cyclists.
- He officially asked Cllr SD about correcting the disparagement between the Episcopalian Church to sell HOME MADE food while the Church of Scotland which is Scotland's indigenous church being barred from selling the same.
- In conversation with Cllr AH he mentioned Pittenweem setting up their own museum and the lack of the Fisher Lass picture (Alycia replied saying this picture is on display at the Anstruther Fishery Museum).

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NEW TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 9th MARCH 2023
AT 7pm IN THE NEW TOWN HALL**

ABBREVIATIONS:

PCC– Pittenweem Community Council, MW – Margaret Wardlaw, LL – Linda Lauder, DL – Duncan Lucas, PM – Peter Mills, SM – Stewart Moreland, JW – Jim Wood, EB – Evelyn Boyd, DS – David Stutchfield.

Cllr. FC – Council Fiona Corps, Cllr.SD – Councillor Sean Dillon,

Cllr. AH – Councillor Alycia Hayes.

FC – Fife Council, MUP – Multi Use Path, SUP – Shared Used Path,

ENCAP – East Neuk Community Action Plan. NTH – New Town Hall,

PIB – Pittenweem in Bloom, FCCT – Fife Coast and Community Trust