

DRAFT MINUTES



The Royal Burgh of
Pittenweem and District
Community Council

Chair: Margaret Wardlaw, Vice Chair: Peter Mills, Treasurer: Nigel Mathers, Secretary:
Suzanne Doyle Morris
Members: Tony Russell, Margaret Wardlaw, Duncan Lucas, Peter Mills, Suzanne Doyle
Morris, Nigel Mathers, Stewart Moreland, Grazyna Jakubowska

Website – www.aboutpittenweem.org.uk

PCC MEETING ON THURSDAY MARCH 14TH 2024 IN THE NEW TOWN HALL AT 7PM

PRESENT: Margaret Wardlaw, Duncan Lucas, Peter Mills, Stewart Moreland, Tony Russell, Nigel Mathers.

COUNCILLORS: no councillors tonight

APOLOGIES: Cllr Sean Dillon, Cllr Alycia Hayes, Suzanne Doyle Morris, Grazyna Jakubowska.

PUBLIC ATTENDING: None

MINUTE SECRETARY: Rebecca McLean

INVITED GUESTS: Robbie Blyth, Laura Marr and group from Ninian Fields.

Minutes of meeting of 8th February 2024: Approved by DL, seconded by NM.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS: Cllr Dillon forwarded in his notes for the meeting
Church Closure:

- Following the public meeting on 1st of February, a group has been formed to explore the feasibility of retaining Pittenweem Parish Church for the village. The group, formed of residents who wanted to take an active role in saving the building, has now met twice and is holding a community consultation over the weekend of the 13th and 14th of April in the church to hear what residents would like to see the building be used for. Further details will be shared in due course.

Station Court:

- After being contacted by a number of residents about the new development at Station Court, I have been told that construction will begin next Monday, the 18th of March. The developer is committed to minimising the level of disruption while construction is ongoing. However, if any

residents have any concerns, they should contact the site director, Derek McGowan directly, either by email (derek.mcgowan@championhomes.com) or by telephone (07485 313509)

Larachmhor Mural:

- I was advised on the 14th of February that an Enforcement Notice was issued to the owner of the Larachmhor to remove the witch mural. They have until the 15th of March to appeal this decision. If they do not, they will then have 6 months to carry out the works in compliance with the requirements of the Enforcement Notice. I will update the community council after the 15th as to whether an appeal has been lodged.

Community Emergency Resilience Awareness Event:

- A community resilience Awareness Drop-In is being held on the 27th of March at Fife Voluntary Action (FVA), 16 East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, between 18:00 & 20:00. The event is being organised by the Fife Community Resilience Forum and Fife Council with support from FVA, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service, Scottish Flood Forum, SEPA, and the Scottish Government.

MATTERS ARISING:

PLAY PARK

Equipment will be going into the same footprint as the current play park, next to the school to reduce costs and reuse existing infrastructure. This is separate to the school play equipment. The roundabout was replaced 2 years ago but the equipment that was taken down was unsafe. It was understood that **FC** have said they would support the replacement of some of the equipment.

The Play Park group have approached **FC** who have offered assistance with plans and application but not funding. However, **FC** will be responsible for maintaining the park once installed. Less than four weeks ago they were told that the council has no funds for park equipment. They are currently short of £40K to replace the park furniture.

FC policy is to support two play parks in Pittenweem – at the School and at West Braes. It was asked what are the plans for the West Braes park? It was suggested that this was a two phase development initially at the primary school and then at West Braes. It will take until at least 2025 to complete the school park.

It was suggested there should be a business plan and several quotations to allow the selection of the most cost-effective solution. Currently, there is one quotation from a company used and recommended by **FC**, who have already installed St Monans and Dreelside parks. The children decided and voted on the pieces they wanted which have a 25 year warranty and will be more durable than wooden structures. The playpark age range goes right through from toddler to upper primary age.

What measures will be put in place to prevent vandalism- the fence is in disrepair and will be replaced with a hedge to be maintained by **FC**. The ownership of the project by the school children's engagement is also a preventative factor against future vandalism.

PCC strongly supports the application and sees the value it will bring to the community and local families.

Actions: **MW** to email Sean for clarification on the availability of council funding and will be in contact with **LM**.

WEST BRAES

Potential funding for the **West Braes** play park could be available from the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund.

Robbie Blyth reported that overnight parking has been reduced to 3 marked bays; the car park has been resurfaced; external shower station and changing area have been installed; signage will go up in next few weeks; an external tap with drinking water has been installed. An additional Parking operative has been employed providing 40 hours of cover Fife wide. Internal toilets fixtures and fittings have been updated, issue with electric connection due to a need to dig up the road. Cycle racks to be installed. Toilets open April 1st 10-6 until October 10-4, the area is litter picked regularly. Parking at Leven coming on line so staff will provide information about alternative overnight parking when approaching members of the public. They are not aware of any current pot holes on the unadopted tar road. There are now 150 parking bays in the network across Fife for overnight parking- for any vehicles with a fee and they must park in the bays.

A public open afternoon and evening was promised in the autumn - there is a desire to get a date set for this for community engagement and information.

Actions: **RB** to email re. **RTIF**. The committee will be in touch to arrange a date for consultation.

PITTENWEEM INN

The **PCC** were encouraged to see plans for reopening the hotel and restaurant on the Pittenweem Inn site. A group from Ninian Fields are seeking support regarding lodging an objection to one aspect of the plan. It was thought that the three shepherd huts replacing the back of the car park would lead to limited parking issues in Charles Street. There was also concern about noise and smoke pollution from the communal fire pit and the patio area outside the inn.

PCC has been seeking to restore the hotel and restaurant for a long time. The issue of visitors parking in Charles Street is the most significant issue. **PCC** offered help and advice going forward. The date has passed for the **PCC** to object. All objections need to be lodged by March 29th.

APSUPG

Last meeting 16th Feb, met Joanne Stewart from **SUSTRANS**. From 2025 Transport Scotland will take over construction costs for MUP with **SUSTRANS** only still involved in the first 4 stages of design. Savills are exceedingly slow in getting landowners to agree terms. It is hoped to arrange a meeting with **SEStran** to discuss MUP linkage from Earlsferry to Leven.

ENCAP SUP

Crispin Hayes has supplied detailed maps of the Pittenweem to Earlsferry MUP. He states that landowner agreement should be finalised by the end of March.

COUNCILLORS DISCUSSION WITH LANDOWNER/LEVENMOUTH

Inch Farm owners were asked to meet with **Cllr.SD** and **Cllr.FC** about the MUP passing over their property. It has proved difficult to secure a date.

Action: **MW** to ask for an update

PITTENWEEM ARTS FESTIVAL

Meeting with Simon Learoyd. A lot of changes to the festival are planned with entertainment most nights based in the church hall and concerts in the church. He's keen to engage with the community and arrange an open day for ideas.

COMMON GOOD FUND

Ken Gourlay, **CEO of FC** has been approached again and he assures the **PCC** he will be dealing with things. The 2022/23 accounts were produced on February 28th but they are unintelligible and contain major errors. Symptomatic of poor stewardship of these funds. At present we are uncertain how much is in the **PCC CGF**.

NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

Work is starting on the Campion homes development on March 18th.

John Handley reports that Waverly Tweed's development is at a standstill at the moment but he will keep **PCC** updated. They have paid £12K to **FC** and these funds have already been given to the play park.

LICENSING OF SHORT TERM LETS

We await report from **Cllr.SD**.

POLICE REPORT

16 calls to police 4 Crimes recorded

SCOTTISH WATER

Work is progressing slowly. High Tides have hampered things for the divers. Residents of the East Shore have been positive about interactions with Scottish Water workers.

CHURCH CLOSURES

There is still concern of what the Parish Church building will be used for, uncertainty over its running and maintenance costs and ownership of the Parish church hall.

WEEM WOOD

The PCC sign has not been put up yet owing to weather conditions. Footprints have already installed their sign.

Acton: MW to chase putting the sign up.

NEW PCC MEMBERS

Need of new members esp. those prepared to take on administrative roles.

ROAD WORKS

The proposed roadworks at the Colinsburgh straight are now not going ahead.

PCC Insurance

Zurich Insurance will continue to provide cover.

Witch Mural

The right of appeal runs until 15th March and then they have 6 months to comply with its removal.

Fife Health and Social Care Partnership

Concerns over St Andrews Community Hospital out of hours closing persist, leaving access only to VH Kirkcaldy. Previously took out a participation request and overturned the decision. Angela Anderson from Elie Community Council has suggested that the issue may be coming up again and a meeting arranged for April 16th. PM and NM have agreed to attend.

Vandalism (amended)

A car was keyed and jam poured over the handles where her car is parked in Waggon Rd (North). Wood screws have been put down to burst tyres - the police have been informed.

Kings Portrait

SDM was trying to get this but she couldn't access the form. No progress regarding this since Feb 17th.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

MW has kept everyone up to date, information being forwarded is useful.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

NM reports that accounts done up to March and the independent auditor is happy to do his audit on March 31st. Received a debit card for the accounts so online banking can now be used. Thanks to MW for her management of the accounts over the past year. Financial records are held from as far back as 2005, Council is happy to destroy records older than 5 years.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Everything is running well.

A.O.C.B.

East Neuk First Responders

The organisation is down to five active members providing 24 hour coverage - ambulance services are refusing to arrange training for new members. This is putting the future of this essential organisation at risk. The Ambulance Service have been contacted for an explanation.

Tolbooth Steeple

The Community Manager is retiring. We need to arrange a meeting with the new manager, once appointed, to discuss restoration of the internal structure and future use of the building.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 11th APRIL 2024 AT 7pm AT THE NEW TOWN HALL.

ABBREVIATIONS:

PCC – Pittenweem Community Council,

MW – Margaret Wardlaw, **DL** – Duncan Lucas, **PM** – Peter Mills, **SM** – Stewart Moreland,

DS – David Stutchfield, **SDM** - Suzanne Doyle Morris, **TR** - Tony Russell, **NM** – Nigel

Mathers, **GJ** - Grazyna Jakubowska

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

Cllr.AH – Councillor Alycia Hayes.

FCCT – Fife Coast and Countryside Trust

FC – Fife Council

ENCAP – East Neuk Community Action Plan

We would encourage any Pittenweem resident interested in these issues to attend our meetings which are held the second Thursday of each month.

Alternatively, you can read a more complete guide to local activities via the Pittenweem Post, (copies of which are available in the Library, Adamson

Hair Design and Barnett's Bakery or online at CrailMatters.com for more detail on what's going on around the Village).