

Minutes of Meeting held via Zoom
on Thursday 11th March 2021 at 7pm

Present: Margaret Wardlaw, Linda Lauder, Peter Mills, Jim Wood, Susan Wilkinson, Lynn Balfour

Councillors: Cllr. John Docherty, Cllr. Bill Porteous

Apologies: Cllr. Linda Holt, Martin Butters, Anne Butters, Gary McClure

Public Attending: One member of the public was in attendance.

Opening of Meeting:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Proposal of February 2020 Minutes

Proposed by L.Lauder, seconded by P.Mills.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr JD noted he is continuing to push for further opening up of the Pittenweem Recycling Centre, as well as telephone bookings, and will raise this at the East Neuk Forum.

Cllr BP provided the following updates:

- Along with other Councillors, efforts are continuing to deal with the issues around access to the Recycling Centre.
- John Mayhew will speak about national parks and give some information about the proposal for East Neuk and Landward.
- It has been highlighted to Allan MacLean that it is correct that Pittenweem is given time to consider and consult about the cycle path and should not be rushed into a decision.

It was highlighted by the **PCC** that **FC** are in breach of equalities law in terms of lack of access for all to the Recycling Centre. Councillors noted they are having no success with **FC** in pushing this forward. It was suggested that a complaint could be submitted to the Senior Executive of **FC**, Steve Grimmond. **PCC** asked the Councillors to submit a complaint about this and also the lack of responses to issues raised by **PCC** via email.

Matters Arising

MUPS

SW and **PM** attended a meeting with ENCAP and the Anstruther Cycle Group to discuss routes for the cycle path. It was noted that ENCAP are planning a community consultation which will be carried out via email and on Facebook. It was noted that it would be beneficial to get high participation from Pittenweem residents. Concerns were raised that the views of individual villages should be considered. It was noted that ENCAP has stated it does not have the remit to carry out a feasibility study on the possible routes for the path between Anstruther to Pittenweem. It was agreed that the **PCC** should have a meeting with Sustrans to discuss this further in the hopes of getting agreement for a feasibility study, as it appears Pittenweem has not been adequately consulted. Councillors noted they were happy to attend such a meeting.

SW and **PM** were thanked for their work on this to date. **SW** and **PM** were asked to include all **PCC** members in all future correspondence about the cycle path.

Finally, it was agreed that a consultation on a range of issues with the community of Pittenweem is needed and will hopefully be done by an independent organisation.

Noticeboard

No further update.

Tolbooth Steeple

PM reported that the scaffolding and weather vane have been removed from the steeple. The next steps are to access the masonry, measure and cut it and all funding is in place for this work. Information is soon due from Historic Environment Scotland about support for the clockface restoration. It is estimated that additional costs to restore the body of the tower will be around £40,000. **PCC** are encouraging Janice Laird to apply for funding for this on behalf of **FC**. It was confirmed that Janice Laird is retiring, and **PCC** noted thanks for all the work she has done for Pittenweem.

SW noted she has been in correspondence with the Shetland Textile Museum and is awaiting information about the process undertaken with the renovation of the old building where it is housed, which could perhaps inform proposals for the work needed to renovate and restore the Tolbooth Steeple tower.

Out of Hours

No new information to report.

Fly Tipping

There was a new report of fly tipping of a trailer load of building materials near Ovenstone.

Police Report

A copy of the Police report was circulated to all **PCC** members. Since the last **PCC** meeting, 21 calls had been made to the Police from Pittenweem residents, with 1 crime recorded. **PM** noted that he has been in touch with the Police about speeding surveys and has confirmed the area of road that is of interest is at Viewforth Place rather than the road at the Waterless Bridge. The Police confirmed that speed surveys will be carried out when time allows.

Speeding

PM noted that there had been complaints from residents in Viewforth Place about speeding through Pittenweem and that data on traffic density, speeding and accidents on the A917 has now been received. The data highlights how busy the main road through Pittenweem is, with speed limits being exceeded frequently. Concern was noted about these findings given the road passes the Primary School, and a lack of areas for safe crossing for pedestrians. An issue with heavy vehicles was also highlighted. It was agreed that some thought is needed as to how safety can be improved on the main road through Pittenweem and that community views should be sought on this. A suggestion was made about engaging with the Primary School, as it was noted that road safety had been discussed recently and there may be up to date data which could be useful. **MW** also noted this had been raised with the **PCC** previously. **MW** confirmed she would circulate any prior information to **PCC** members. **Cllr JD** will follow this up with **FC**.

Cove Wynd Lighting

PM reported a replacement lamp in keeping with the Edwardian style of lamps

in Pittenweem is now on order for the broken light at Cove Wynd and will be in place in about 8-10 weeks.

Grit Bins

MW confirmed she wrote to **FC** following the last **PCC** meeting, but there had been no acknowledgement of these emails by **FC**.

Potholes, David Street

It was noted that potholes in David Street have been filled in, however this resulted in a burst water pipe. The potholes in the car park have not yet been fixed and are becoming much worse. **PCC** have written to **FC** many times about this, but nothing has been done. **Cllr JD** confirmed more Council funding has been confirmed for fixing potholes in Fife and that there has been a lack of staff and equipment to carry out repairs due to Covid. **Cllr JD** will chase this up again.

Cemetery Gates

No further update to report.

Damaged Pavements

MW confirmed she had written to Stuart Goodfellow at **FC** about damaged pavements, but there has been no response.

Charles Street

Cllr BP noted he has written to **FC** to thank them for the recent resurfacing work in Charles Street.

Planning

JW noted there were four planning applications since the last **PCC** meeting, but all were submissions for minor amendments.

Treasurer's Report

It was noted that:

- The main account balance is £416.92
- The fundraising account balance is £3835.29
- **MW** confirmed that £2000 ringfenced for the community consultation sits within the fundraising account

Secretary's Report

LL provided the following updates:

- The East Fife Mail has confirmed that Community Councils can submit summary reports of meetings to be published in the newspaper. These reports are subject to sub-editing. LL agreed to summarise minutes and circulate to **PCC** members for approval prior to sending on to the East Fife Mail.
- LL attended a Circular Economy & Planning System presentation hosted by Planning Aid Scotland.

Twinning

MW confirmed she had sent several emails to enquire about current Twinning schemes but has been unable to get information about the process and cost involved. MW will continue to pursue this.

Donation to the Waid Academy

MW confirmed she handed in the **PCC** donation to the Waid Academy which was very well received.

Skatepark

It was noted that a Skatepark is being set up in Anstruther

Community Consultation

SW confirmed she has written to consultation companies and has had some responses. It was agreed that the **PCC** will need to think about the variety of items the community should be consulted on. Suggestions from the community would be welcome. Consultation companies can only carry out online consultations, this is due to Covid restrictions. It is possible to carry out a mass mailing as well to reach as many people as possible. It was agreed that the consultation will need to be well marketed to get a good uptake.

A.O.C.B.

The following points were noted:

- There was a discussion about interest from a member of the community becoming a **PCC** member. It was noted that to have voting rights on the committee, members must live within the designated Council area. **Cllr JD** will contact the **FC** Community

Council Liaison department to get clarification on the policy around this.

- **LL** and **MW** work together to filter all incoming correspondence to make sure no inappropriate emails or posters are circulated.
- A poster about an online book club will be added to the noticeboard, and **SW** will also post this on Facebook.
- There has been an initial approach for the **NTH** to be used as a voting base for the elections on 6th May. **MW** asked follow up questions about the logistics of this given the Covid restrictions, but no further information has been received.
- **MW** noted that Glenrothes College has been in touch with an offer to pass on large tables for use in the **NTH** or for any other clubs/organisations that may benefit. **MW** can provide further details.
- It was noted that there are a lot of discarded creel pots, nets and ropes on the coastal path that require clearing. It was agreed the **FCCT** may be able to help with clearing this and should be contacted.

Pittenweem Tennis Club

Victoria White attended to speak about fundraising for the Pittenweem Tennis Club. It was noted that the club will be 100 years old next year. Currently there is a crisis with the club house being unsafe and no longer fit for purpose. Plans are in place to replace the existing shed with a converted shipping container. The new club house will provide disabled access for the first time and will also be a space that the wider community can benefit from. A Crowdfunder has been set up to raise much needed funds.

MW closed the meeting at 9.02pm by thanking everyone for attending.

Next Meeting: Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7:00pm on Zoom.

Abbreviations:

PCC – Pittenweem Community Council. MW - Margaret Wardlaw, AB - Anne Butters, MB - Martin Butters, PM - Peter Mills, SW - Susan Wilkinson, GM - Gary McClure and JW - Jim Wood.

Cllr LH - Councillor Linda Holt, Cllr - JD Councillor John Docherty and Cllr BP - Councillor Bill Porteous. FC – Fife Council.

OOHS - Out of Hours Service, MUP - Multi Use Path, PAF - Pittenweem Arts Festival, NTH - New Town Hall. WBP – West Braes Project.

CGF – Common Good Fund, FCCT – Fife Coast and Countryside Trust

DRAFT