



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 MARCH IN THE NEW TOWN HALL AT 7pm

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

COUNCILLORS: Sean Dillon, Fiona Corps

APOLOGIES: Evelyn Boyd

PUBLIC ATTENDING: 1 member of the public

QUESTION FROM PUBLIC ATTENDEE:

Question asked whether the Witch mural had needed planning permission.

CIlr. SD explained that the Larachmhor had put in for retrospective listed building consent (Council ref: 23/00528/LBC) and for planning permission (Council ref: 23/00117/Full).

PM said that no one in the CC supported the mural, and **DL** (and others) said they had found no one in support of the mural. It was agreed that the CC would inform the Council of their opposition to the mural. **DL** said that the owner had noticed murals elsewhere in Pittenweem, thought it would good for Halloween and did not realise that planning permission would be needed. **LL** suggested that individuals should also put in their opposition to the Council.

Question also asked what was happening to the Pittenweem Inn. It was explained that there had been planning permission to make changes and the 3 years was nearly up. Some work had been undertaken recently which mean the permission might could be extended. It was said that with the Anchor at one entry point to Pittenweem and an empty Lounge About at another, it made a desolate picture of Pittenweem.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9TH FEBRUARY

Approved by **JW** and seconded by **DL**

MATTERS ARISING:

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There is a proposal to place a Link cash machine in Pittenweem. **MW** said there had been one in the garage some time ago. **Cllr. SD** felt this would be a good site for it. **DS** pointed out there were CCTV cameras already installed at the garage. All felt this would be a perfect site.

FIFE DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME/LOCAL PLACE PLAN

DS spoke about the Pittenweem Sustainability Festival. He has met with **PPS** Head teacher who is enthusiastic and has arranged a meeting with school pupils on Friday 10th March to get their ideas, particularly ideas about a logo and a name for the project. Suggestions will be presented for public responses at the PSF on Thursday 23rd March at the Parish Church Hall, James St between 2pm -6.30 pm. Post Card sized leaflets are being prepared and will be handed out by:

- 1) **Drop to Door** to every household in Pittenweem.
- 2) **DS** will hand into shops and businesses
- 3) **DS** to hand them out at the Bowhouse weekend (11th/12th March)
- 4) Leaflets will be available from Pittenweem Library
- 5) **MW** has sent a copy to Kingdom FM who will advertise it on radio
- 6) **SD** will send a copy to East Fife Mail to be placed in the newspaper
- 7) **LL** said she would distribute to other area not covered above

DS invited Willie Rennie to attend the meeting on the 23rd March to declare the project open but he was already booked for another project. It was agreed our three Local Councillors would organise the opening speech. **DS** is finalising a caterer for the event.

DS spoke about training available to **CC** called Place builder. This is a digital community engagement platform. It is interactive, handles data, maps etc. It is free and funded by the government. It was agreed by **PCC** that we take

advantage of Place builder. **PM** thanked **DS** for all his hard work organising the Sustainability Festival.

PM reported that The MUP consultation on 23.3.23 is part of this festival and is progressing thanks to help from **ENCAP** and Fife Council. Unfortunately, it looks like Cycling UK (another event) and Sustrans will not be able to come. However, Holly Hunter, the Sustrans embodied employee at Fife Council will represent Sustrans. Maps are being updated and posters prepared. Crispin Hayes has an A1 colour printer which will produce easily visible material for the consultation. Visitors will be asked for feedback and will be asked to vote on the need for external specialist advice on contraflow for cyclists in Marygate and the High Street.

DL brought up the issue of how drivers without drives could benefit from government support for drivers of electric vehicles. He felt there was an inherent unfairness. **PM** said that this was a government matter and not one for the **PCC**.

There was a brief discussion about the rural development fund and the Local Development Fund. It was agreed that it was a critical time to put it together. **PM** pointed out this was not a topic for the **CC** to comment on at this time.

MUPS

On Feb 21st the **APSUPG** met with landowners, housing developers and tenant farmers to present the latest plans for the **MUP** route. There was general agreement that the route was supported. There remain delays in getting the estates department at **FC** and agents for these bodies to come to legal agreements on progressing plans. However, the meeting focussed attention and will hopefully push thing ahead. There was agreement that clear construction maps are needed from **FC**.

The **APSUPG** met on 24.2.23 and agreed that these maps should be finalised after the Pittenweem consultation. Holly Hunter has been particularly helpful in moving things forward.

MW reported that Andy Whiteford had heard nothing from **ENCAP** and **PM** suggested that he would need to speak to his agent. **MW** said she could provide **PM** with Andy's e-mail.

LL reported that a 'concerned resident' had raised concerns about bats at the St Margaret's Farm development, but when she tried to reply via e-mail it pinged back. Because it was therefore deemed anonymous, no further action could be taken. **MW** forwarded the email to John Handley owner of the site who responded with a copy of the bat report that he had sent to **FC** earlier in the application procedure.

Alison Hannah had explained to the **PCC** that bats were not active in young trees like those at the site, but instead preferred the mature trees adjacent to the site. The application has gone through **FC** without a problem.

SUP/ELIE

The meeting on 1.3.23 was postponed as Sonja has just given birth to a son. Sonja is now back at work and the **ENCAP** team are taking charge of the **MUP** public consultation around Pittenweem.

COMMON GOOD

There was a discussion about the clarity of finances relating to the Common Good Fund. **PM** reported that **FC** have still not answered all the questions raised by the **PCC** at the meeting in November 2022. **Cllr AH** has had a discussion with Pamela Redpath, Service Manager of the **FC** Audit and Risk Management Services department. Despite the evidence that many **CC's** in Fife have had incorrect **CGF** accounts **FC** has so far not agreed to an independent external audit. Evidence from the previous Audit Scotland external audit is being obtained by FOI request. The **CGF** accounts were previously not agreed by the North East Fife Area Committee in November 2022 because of errors. They were again presented unchanged in February 2023 and accepted on this occasion on the basis that corrections would be presented in the 2022/23 accounts to be published in November 2023.

Cllr. FC has asked for a report with the details broken down, as currently we cannot see where the money is going. This is a common problem for other **CC's**.

PLAY PARK

Cllr. SD informed the **PCC** that:

- a consultation with the local school children has been carried out and the results can be seen on our Facebook page.
- this is being used by **FC** to draw up a design

- we are currently working with Fife Voluntary Action to draw up a constitution so that we can open our own bank account and start applying for funding

CYCLE RACKS

LL has not heard anything back and suggested that **ENCAP** should say where they want the bike racks. **PM** suggested that we wait until we know where the path is coming in. It was agreed that it would be a good idea for them to come and have a look.

CHURCH CLOSURES

Cllr SD reported that the Parish church congregation had met on March 8th and agreed to set up a Trust to safeguard parish assets. An attempt was to be made to have the famous stain glass windows listed by Historic Environment Scotland.

TREE PLANTING

DS to speak to school pupils on Friday 10th March meeting. Many young trees have either died off or been vandalised so it was decided to replace these in the near future by using the youngest children attending **PPS**.

POLICE REPORT

There were 13 calls to the police and 1 crime recorded.

A couple of people from Pittenweem are taking 'Speedwatch' training with others.

DS said that Crail will be starting a 20mph experiment starting Monday 13th March.

We have been advised to NOT put keys on a windowsill in sight of passers-by. Also to put new type car keys in special boxes to keep the data safe as there has been a spate of thefts of the data from these keys.

LIGHTS AT WATER WYND

Regarding the lights out at Water Wynd, **Cllr. SD** has repeatedly reported this to **FC** who say there are complications between Scottish Power and Morrisons who do their contract work. **FC** have said they can take it on themselves but involves legal complications. Lights were reported out at 22 High St and Clock Tower. **Cllr. SD** will report these.

ROAD/STREET SIGNS nothing to report.

PLANNING REPORT:

18 West Shore: this proposed housing development has just been agreed by the planning department despite opposition from the **PCC, HES** and neighbours. Councillors were asked to investigate why both a statutory consultee such as **PCC** and a total of 6 objections were both ignored. It is still the view of that this development of a listed building in the conservation area is not in keeping with the surroundings.

A Statutory Committee response needed to have been presented but **PCC** but did not know how to achieve this. We needed to have put in objections to both listed building consent and full planning. It was clear that **PCC** and the public need clear information as to how to make objections reach the planning committee. Cllr. SD will get an update.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Email was sent from Mr Kennaway who would like to thank the **PCC** for their support with the society's application.
- Email from the Chair of **VEN** Martin Dibley who would like to make a short presentation to a future Community council meeting concerning a proposal for a Town Map or visitor information boards for Pittenweem. Martin to attend 13th April meeting.
- 65 High Street, **Cllr. AH** received a reply from Andrew Wilmott acknowledging our email and will take action accordingly.
- Fife Council propose to enter lease agreements on a common good property Pittenweem Old Town Hall and Community Library Representation in writing by 24th April.
- **Boarhills & Dunino Community Council**, Peter Heathcote emailed enquiring regarding a Local Place Plan but we have not submitted one yet.
- Local Place Plan Training Sessions, I have attended 3 – Introduction to **LPP** which made it clearer as to what a **LPP** is: it can be defined by boundaries, Fife or Local Community Boundary. Changes can be made. New developments can be disagreed with but must suggest a different area on where it is to be built.

It cannot be a wish list.

Introduction to Project Management which made me think about the Workshop we did last year with Paul (**PAS**) when we went into groups to discuss a few topics from the Place Standard Plan Tool.

Make sure your **LPP** has creditability, what goals does your **LPP** have?
Have Structure.

Engaging community facilitator skills, this was role playing.

Slides were sent to all attendees. Linda to share with members.

Following this, **DS** agreed to send out information on any training programmes available. **PM** although not attending many of the programmes himself said he felt very positive about them - said they made you feel you were achieving something.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Main funding account: £6581.03

The business account: £4967.38

FC have retrospectively agreed to cover **MUPS** meeting costs. **MW** to send costs to Alan Maclean.

MW asked for any further cash payments required to be submitted to her.

DS provided preliminary costs for Sustainability Festival.

CHAIR'S REPORT: **MW** will chase A. Syme up again regarding a sign to be made and installed where the new trees were planted last year.

A.O.B.

Cllr. SD reported that:

- To influence future supported bus routes (e.g. the 95 and Go-Flexi service) now being discussed by FC please follow this link:
<https://www.fife.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-diaries/north-east-fife,-supported-bus-services-post-consultation>
- To find details of the local transport strategy for the next decade and to give your views please follow this link:
https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=L6Vp-cBC8UCYutrtrbEMIfHxcjvyC84tAgjiewtVTEHu9URT12U1JRMIIJQjBMQjFEUjFMSThMWIIHWC4u&fbclid=IwAR38hwsObYKetFq1sPiAjbLvRN_rjLAcVEsmJVu29uH07PfjzV-gHyphokQ
- **Cllr. SD** held a coffee morning on 22nd Feb in aid of Ukrainian refugees. It raised £800 which was donated to the Disaster Emergency Committee's Ukraine Appeal. He thanks all those who supported the

DL had been asked by a resident to clarify planning issues related to double glazing and solar panels. She had been refused permission whereas someone close by had them in place. **Cllr. SD** suggested that she approached **FC** direct. Also, anyone can go onto **FC's** planning portal to see if someone has had planning permission. **Cllr. FC** said that new guidance had just come out.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NEW TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 13th APRIL AT 7pm IN THE NEW TOWN HALL

ABBREVIATIONS:

PCC – Pittenweem Community Council, **MW** – Margaret Wardlaw, **LL** – Linda Lauder, **DL** – Duncan Lucas, **RB** – Ruth Brown, **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,

PPS – Pittenweem Primary School. **PSF** - Pittenweem Sustainability Festival

PL - Pittenweem Library. **LPP** - Local Place Plan

VEN –Visit East Fife, **FOI** – Freedom of Information

APSUPG – Anstruther Pittenweem Shared User Path Group

HES – Historical Environment Scotland