



The Royal Burgh of Pittenweem and District Community Council

Chair: K Brereton, Vice Chair: B Whittome, Secretary: K Horsburgh, Treasurer: D Stutchfield

Website: www.aboutpittenweem.org.uk

Minutes of meeting held on 12th May in Pittenweem New Town Hall

Opening of Meeting :

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7.00PM and welcomed all present.

Present:

Community Council: K Brereton, K Horsburgh, D Stutchfield, J Taylor, M Wardlaw, B Whittome and B Hughes

Fife Council: None

Police: Sgt J Anderson

Guest: Anthony Lodge of Bishop Lowe Trust

Members of the public: Three but all left at early stages of the meeting

Apologies: Cllr J Docherty, Cllr E Riches, Cllr D Macgregor and J K Querido

Guests:

Anthony Lodge of Bishop Lowe Trust presented to us on the project to preserve the Priory Gate House which we were advised is Pittenweem's oldest intact building and seen as the best preserved monastic building in Scotland.

The preservation group are people from the East Neuk Preservation Society and St John's Episcopal Church.

In essence the project requires funding of £250,000.00 and applications are progressing with Historic Scotland and The National Lottery where we were advised these organisations require to be satisfied that the resulting 'building' be self sufficient by way of income generation to cover running costs. There is no capital input from The Episcopal Church. Parking would be limited although there is the potential to provide this to the rear of the building into the garden/courtyard area. Accordingly, community usage and support would be beneficial for the project and Anthony said he would welcome design input at this early stage.

KB thanked Anthony for his presentation and agreed to circulate his details to the Councillors for any input.

Appended to these Minutes are the hand out Anthony gave us at the start of the meeting.

Police:

Sgt Jim Anderson gave us a summary of crimes in Pittenweem since his last visit. There have been seven crimes of which five have been detected and two drug warrants issued. There has been one careless driving offence. We were also advised that there will be increased policing on weekends when the motoring events are being held at Crail Aerodrome and will include spot checks as well as having the speed van located along the coastal route leading to and from Crail.

There will be further minutes on Sgt Anderson's input in these minutes.

KB thanked Sgt Anderson for his input and he then left to attend another meeting.

Approval of previous Minutes:

Proposed: B Whittome **Seconded:** J Taylor

Matters Arising and Outstanding Actions:

- KH has progressed the parking on double yellow lines and right of way priorities at Abbeywall Road/Marygate. Colin Stirling has instructed Stuart Goodfellow and Kris Thorbjornson to investigate and hold a site meeting to discuss these matters. Stg Jim Anderson was made aware of this meeting and KH is to invite him when the date has been agreed.
- Along with Cllr JD, KH has been chasing the removal of the caravan at the New Cemetery and we have now been advised that despite an instruction being given to remove the caravan by John Mills of Fife Council, this has not happened and is now being progressed – again. JD has asked John Mills to contact KH with a view to presenting at one of our meetings on ‘travelling people’ issues.
- Cllr JD who was unable to attend the meeting advised KH by email that he has progressed the issue of our blocked gulleys and that an inspection of them has been instructed. KB advised he had seen this happening so it appears to have started and we await feedback.
- Missing street signs for James Street, Marygate x 2, Midshore c/f to June Meeting.
- In April DS took the action to look at pricing replacement notice boards - this is being carried forward to May Meeting
- JT gave an update on Pittenweem Allotments. There appear to have been some fencing/security issues with neighbours but that is getting sorted out with Fife Council. A water supply has now been installed and all allotment tenancies, with rules, have been taken up by Pittenweem residents.
- DS gave an update on LED lighting for West Braes Play Area where he advised technology for this has come on leaps and bounds recently. Cheap version is £80 per lamp with more robust version coming in at £2k. JT advised the robust version is used at Peat Inn. DS to keep a watching brief.
- DS still looking to locate a newly donated bench at West Braes on a concrete plinth that’s already there. (its on the landward side of the toilet block) Communication is ongoing with the donor’s family.
- Replacement of the decorative lamps being handled by Angus Broadhurst remains outstanding.
- The FMA have refused permission to locate the PAFCCP funded defibrillator on their premises. Alternatives were discussed. KB had already considered this and approached the owners of Loungeabout who would be delighted to have this located on their outside wall. This was discussed and with the benefits of having this second defibrillator on the main road, have adjacent vehicular access and being located towards the east end of Pittenweem with a lot of nearby housing, this location was approved by everybody. KB to progress with Loungeabout at the First Responders.
- Cllr DM wasn’t present to update us on the potential to have fencing for the play area at the back of the Primary School to prevent dog fouling. However, the Community Council have been approached by concerned parents and family regarding this and to date have received 21 letters of complaint. KH to progress this issue through Cllr Donald Macgregor to Fife Council.
- KH to ask Cllr DM for an update from the Pittenweem Harbour Breakwater Repairs meeting held on 7th April.
- Discussion were held re replacing our Notice Boards in preference to getting them repaired. Various options were considered and with BH advising he has experience of using both top and side hinged boards he would recommend the side hinged option. It was noted this type would also be able to accommodate our local map. DS to get quotes for providing two double door bespoke options and this will be progressed at the next meeting.

Pittenweem Arts Festival Liaison Group:

- As the next PAFLG Meeting isn’t until 29th May there are no updates or minutes to circulate
- KB circulated a letter of complaint concerning parking issues at last year’s Arts Festival and this led to a wider debate on such issues. The consensus of this debate was that there didn’t appear to be any management controls in place by the Arts Festival Committee to control the number of parking passes given out when measured against the parking spaces available. Examples were given of venues with multi exhibits and all exhibitors as well as the residents would justify a parking pass. KB and BW to take up on the Communities behalf at the meeting on 29th May to ascertain what the plans are for 2014.

Councillors' report:

There being no Local Councillors present, there were no new updates to minute.

- KH to ask Cllr DM for an update from the Pittenweem Harbour Breakwater Repairs meeting held on 7th April and circulate thereafter. And also the cleaning of the ground which Cllr D M was to bring up for us.

Planning Issues:

- JT advised that change of use at 27 High Street had been agreed.

Treasurer's report:

DS advised:

- That the Unaudited Community Council Accounts to year end 31st March 2014 show Income of £601.91 against expenditure of £589.00 resulting in a surplus of £12.91. Audited Accounts are now awaited.
- Current funds stand at £840.70.
- Concerns re uncertain state of Coop Back were discussed and as we are not covered by the Governments Compensation Scheme we to move everything into the Royal Bank who has come through their difficulties and is part Government owned. DS to take actions to progress this.

East Neuk and Landward Community Council Liaison Group

No update as there hasn't been an ENLCCLG meeting since our April Pittenweem Community Council Meeting.

Secretary's report:

KH advised:

- He has chased Liz Murphy for an update to coordinate activities with the Community Payback people to help landscape and repair ground damage at New Cemetery and Ruth Crichton is now liaising to get the Community payback people to assist. A target date for this is August.
- State of New Cemetery Car Park remains with Fife Council and KH has reported to Iain Barbour whose responsibility it is to resolve. As we suspect the issues are caused by faulty drainage we anticipate it will fall to Rod Cox to rectify.
- In liaising with the War Memorials Trust, KH advised disappointment in responses back regarding a 50% funding application as they are advising ways to clean the memorial ourselves. This was discussed and the Fund raising Committee will provide the total cost of £275.00 + VAT for J Y Thomson to clean for us as this requires specialist materials and application.
- Further to the foregoing, JT advised we been quoted £1,600.00 by Mayrock Fabricators to replace the ironmongery around the War Memorial on a like for like basis. This was left in abeyance as KB is to speak with George or Robin Bremner to simultaneously repair the damaged sandstone plinths. We will place this on next month's agenda to progress but KH in the interim will sound out the Common Good People to see if they would cover the remaining costs of this project.
- KH has been contacted by Development Services and as requested sent them size specifications of the power sockets to be installed in the High Street.
- KH still progressing the funding request with Fife Environment & Communities Fund for a £17,100.00 grant towards play park equipment and has gone back with further information they require.
- As per an email earlier in the month, the Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay will be passing through Pittenweem on 26 June. At the time of writing no specific time has been communicated nor any or the names of the participants.

Pittenweem Community Fund Raising Committee:

MW updated as follows:

- Car Boot sale raised £272.65 after expenses
- Craft fair raised £241 after expenses
- Film Show disappointingly had a very poor turn out and barely covered expenses due to raising £40.00 from the raffle. With such poor support for the Film Shows consideration is being given to cancelling any further showings unless there is a dramatic improvement.
- MW has liaised with the Primary School to provide the £60.00 to obtain the books for the 'best essay of the year' award.
- MW has liaised with Alan Bryson and acquired the shield for the Community Council Annual Player Of The Year Shield for the Junior Football Team
- There are still six tables available for the Boot sale a week on Saturday

Concerns remain that it's the same people that continue to support the Fund raising Activities and that greater support would be welcome from the local community and indeed some of the people and organisations benefitting from the monetary awards thus far.

Common Good Fund:

KH advised:

- Sgt Jim Anderson has failed to ascertain the whereabouts of any of our moveable artefacts documented as being held at the Police Station located in Fife Council's premises in Cupar.
- Some decorative truncheons have been found and we are to check if any of them display the Pittenweem Coat of Arms
- Andrew Ferguson is simultaneously pursuing the missing artefacts with Fife Cultural Trust
- Andrew Ferguson advised that feedback is being actioned on the need to change the layout of the Common Good Fund Annual Accounts as they didn't seem to comply with standard accounting practices. KH reiterated the need for last year's accounts to the end of March 2014 to correct the errors we have made representations to them about.
- Andrew Ferguson is progressing the rationalisation of a number of 'local trusts' (Parish Mortification, Admiral Anstruther, Ellis Bequest and Drinnan Trusts) and will confirm details later when the year end accounts have been finalised. Similarly with another Trust for The New Hall which KH will progress with that Committee to pursue.
- Andrew Ferguson advised he has still to progress the issues regards the usage of Common Good property and will chase up at a scheduled meeting with Fife Council Estates Dept.
- Fife Council were advised at their last Area Meeting that the late Elizabeth (Betty) Arundel bequeathed £5,000.00 to Pittenweem Common Good Fund in her estate.

AOCB:

- DS appraised everybody with PICT which is the acronym being used for the Pittenweem Community Trust initiative, previously known as the 'save a pub for Pittenweem Campaign'. PICT are now holding very regular meetings to progress matters and finalise their Memorandum and Articles of Association. They have appointed a Board of Directors to meet and progress matters, all of whom will stand down at their first AGM and have to be re-elected to hold any office in PICT thereafter. The Board will be limited to eleven Directors, four who can be co-opted for their skills or experience. There will be three types of Members. The first will be Residential Members and be the only members who have voting rights, the others being Associate Members (non-residents of Pittenweem) and Child Members. Membership will cost £1.00 per Annum. PICT will operate as a Company Limited by Guarantee and currently have Public Liability cover in place which cost £175.00. A strawberry fair is organised to raise funds which will be held in the Fish Market on 21st June and DS confirmed there are no other events which would conflict with our own Community Council's fund raising activities.

DS displays the minutes of PICT's Meetings on the Website: www.aboutpittenweem.org.uk

PICT are organising a survey which will be communicated in paper format shortly, one per person and also be available to complete online via the servicemonkey website

- Potholes up to 40ml deep have been repaired in Pittenweem, mainly in South Loan, West Braes, Sandycraig Road and Queen Elisabeth Road. Disappointingly it's noted that close or adjacent potholes which are in a bad state of repairs but fell short of 40mls were left when it would have been prudent to repair when all the equipment and skills were to hand to undertake this. We should bring up with our Local Councillors at the next meeting they attend with us.
- BH brought to our attention the very shoddy installation of a manhole on the slipway at the east end of West Shore. Coping stones of the sea wall have also been damaged. He advised it was badly finished off by Scottish water who when contacted about it came back and covered their unsatisfactory work with a couple of buckets of sand. It's felt that it will be washed away at the first high tide and be damaged at the first gale and these concerns need addressing. KB to call the area in Fife Council who is responsible for Sea Defences and KH to write as Secretary as a follow up with a view to getting this work properly finished off.
- JT asked how long the existing biomass chimney at the Coastline Community Church can remain in position, since a condition of approval was that it be moved to a different position. Cllr DM to enquire.
- KB advised that the Old Men's Club will be scheduled for repair next year but only if funds are available.
- Concerns again were raised about the activities of The Coastline Community Church. The first was to publicise the disturbance caused at a recent event when police were called to get the 'music' turned down on the back of complaints from neighbours. Sgt Jim Anderson is aware of this situation and advised us that any neighbour experiencing such issues in the future to phone the police straight away. He advised he has encouraged the 'owners' of this establishment to be more communicative. On another topic we have been made aware of the continuing health hazard of fume omissions and monitoring of this is being progressed through official channels.
- BW raised a question about a 'keep clear' white line appearing at the west side of the High Street on which we have had no communication. KH to raise with Stuart Goodfellow when we meet about the parking at Marygate.
- KJH to chase up Iain Barbour re two rusty iron spikes appearing at football pitches which we think are the remnants of a previous sign and are obviously dangerous.
- KB and KH to ascertain whether HM and AG are looking to remain as active members of the Community Council.
- All circulated emails requiring feedback and auctioning should be cc'd to everybody by 'replying to all' in order that all members know what each other are thinking and what their views are.

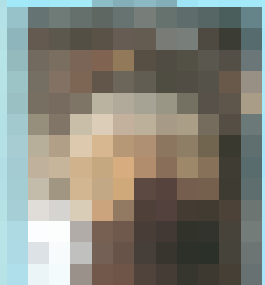
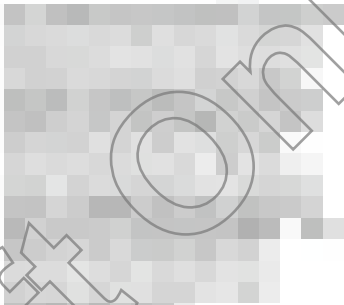
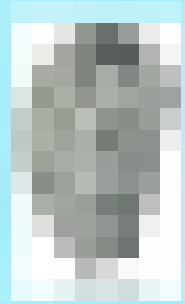
Close of meeting:

In the absence of any other competent business, the meeting was closed at 10.15 PM.

The date of the next meeting was set for 9th June 2014.

Kenneth Horsburgh

Secretary



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