



**Chair: M. Wardlaw, Vice Chair: A. Butters, Treasurer: A. Butters:
Contact Secretary: J. Taylor.**

Committee: S. Wilkinson, L. Lauder, M. Butters, P. Mills, G. McClure.

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th August 2019 in Pittenweem New
Town Hall**

Present:

Community Council: Margaret Wardlaw, Jim Taylor, Peter Mills, Anne Butters, Martin Butters, Gary McClure, Susan Wilkinson, Linda Lauder.

Minute Secretary: Jackie Johnson

Fife Councillors: Cllr Linda Holt, Cllr John Docherty.

Apologies: Cllr Bill Porteous

Visitor: James Wood as proposed new Member.

Guests: Bill Morris – St Monans

Opening of Meeting

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7pm, welcomed all present and asked that all mobiles and electronic devices be turned off.

New PCC Member: JT introduced James Wood as a candidate for election to the Pittenweem Community Council.

GM proposed that James be accepted and **AB** seconded it. Paperwork was completed and **MW** welcomed Jim to the **PCC**.

Approval of Minutes of 11th July Meeting

Proposed: S. Wilkinson Seconded: M. Butters

Councillors Reports

Cllr LH asked if Pittenweem experienced any flooding during the recent heavy rain. Members replied that none had been reported. She then reported:

FC had carried out a study regarding where **Water Taxis** to **North Berwick** should run from, and had concluded that **Anstruther** was the best place. They are now looking at how viable this would be for a couple of months in the summer and if there would be a private firm willing to accept the contract.

She then said any other action points would be picked up as they arose on the agenda.

Cllr JD reported that:

Like NE Fife, Community Councils on Skye are reporting issues arising from tourism, in particular **Camper vans** being parked over night blocking local access, and the dumping of rubbish and waste. They are asking Highland Council to look at ways of regulating and managing the situation, possibly by new bylaws to allow fines.

Cllr LH agreed that there is an increasing problem at St Monans, Crail and it is particularly bad at Elie Ruby Bay where wild camping is also an issue through the dumping of human waste. It was suggested that the 'No Overnight Camping or Caravans' signs should have "Campervans" added to them and be erected again, or the barriers reinstated. Fife Council has to look at ways of managing the problem, perhaps by providing proper toilet facilities and charging for parking, thus raising money for the local communities affected. It has not been too bad in Pittenweem this summer but the fear is, that as word gets around on Facebook, the problem will worsen as more and more people come in the future. **SW** suggested that perhaps a designated parking site could be shared with Pittenweem Arts Festival who would only need it for one week of the year.

Matters Arising

St Andrews OOHS - PM reported on a meeting on the 13th August with GP representatives and two Health Service Managers. Questions were raised as to whether GPs would want to work 3 or 4 hour shifts and whether nurses felt happy and competent to be left without a GP present. The answer to both questions was no, in addition there are insufficient nurses as there is already a staffing crisis. Ambulance personnel are also stretched and the closure of the OOH's Service has made this worse. **Cllr LH** said it was fortunate that the medical practitioners are so engaged in fighting this. **PM** agreed and added that he advised that meetings should only take place with medical and nursing staff, not administrators.

Abbey Wall Road – Cllr LH confirmed that she had written to the engineer again but received no reply. She has since discovered that he has left **FC**, so she has written to his replacement. **AB** reported that the flow of water issuing from wall is now constant and never dries up.

20 MPH Limit and School Crossing- (20mph dealt with and can be taken off agenda). **Cllr JD** reported that the **Traffic Lights** at School Crossing cannot be turned off but he is going to contact the Patrol Co-ordinating Officer to discuss other possibilities to help manage the situation

Bill Morris arrived at this point and was introduced and welcomed by **MW**. Bill had brought with him the Stewart McAllister Easton Trophy to show to the PCC and to thank members for their generous donation. Pittenweem won the football match held at St. Monans and £1,540 had been raised for McMillan Nurses. The match will be held annually between St Monans and Pittenweem with money

raised for a chosen charity in memory of Stewart. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the Easton family all the information can be found at the St Monans Heritage Centre.

The **PCC** thanked **BM** and agreed it is a beautiful cup.

SW suggested that it would be a good idea to purchase a trophy cabinet so that all the Pittenweem trophies could be put on public display.

BM left the meeting and we returned to Matters Arising.

Clock Tower – Cllr LH confirmed that she had sent Janice Laird a long list of questions. Janice had responded and says she is happy to come to meet with **PCC** members to discuss further. Her view is that the Trust should not take on the Old Town Hall/Library building as well as this has a number of leases.

JT asked who would be eligible to form the Trust and who would "own" the Tower should it fail – **Cllr LH** replied it would be willing people from the community and that the Trust would have charitable status allowing the community to take control.

Action: Cllr LH to forward Janice Laird's answers to us and invite her to a meeting early in September.

Play Parks – Alan Bissett has said that he will have an improvement plan ready for the **PCC** September meeting. **SW** added that public consultation is now open and people should be encouraged to respond.

PAF – MW expressed the view that the wash up meeting should be held here in Pittenweem New Town Hall. A lot of complaints were received this year including some from artists very unhappy that people were being told not to come because the car park was closed due to bad weather. It was reported that there appeared to be less boarding down this year meaning more damage was done before the park was closed and the Shuttle Bus brought into operation. **AB** said that the shuttle bus caused a lot of problems as it was stopping on the main road and blocking traffic. There were the usual difficulties down at the harbour for big delivery vans. There were reports of uncontrolled parking and a tractor and trailer being there for two days. **MW** added that there were complaints about a lot of people drinking in the streets. **SW** said that she had written to **Cllr JD** expressing her concern that a community asset was being damaged with nothing being put back, since money raised from parking charges goes to **PAF** not to the community. **Cllr LH** said she felt the best course of action was to go public and take these concerns to the newspapers.

ACTION: Cllr JD to speak to Janice Laird and insist that the wash up meeting is held in PNTH. All the concerns expressed can be raised at this meeting and in addition the employment of local people at the festival can be discussed.

Gritting Routes – a response has been sent to **FC** but no reply has been received as yet.

Action: Cllr LH to chase.

Police – 22 calls related to the Pittenweem area. No crimes were recorded for the July period.

Short Term Lets – **PM** said he felt the meeting on the 16th July had been very useful. A report is to follow but the person writing it is currently on holiday. **SW** said that the East Neuk has one of the highest numbers of Airbnb properties in Scotland.

CC Review Scheme – **JT** reported on an e-mail extending the period for replies.

James Street Shop – Cllr Holt reported no update from planning. **JT** said that there had been complaints that adverts offering teas and ice creams are posted all over Pittenweem.

Old Town Hall & Library – **SW** said she was concerned that the hall and library would fall by the wayside were they not included in proposed Trust and that she was keen to see what Janice Laird would have to say at the meeting in September.

Dog Warden – now Safer Communities Team. Take off agenda.

Cemetery Gates – nothing heard from **FC**.

Skatepark – Cllr **LH** reported that she had met with Caroline Berry and her manager and had a useful discussion about taking this forward. Caroline Berry has contacted the **Head Teacher** of Waid Academy in order to get young people who are interested in a skatepark involved. The **Head** and another teacher at the school are keen to do this and **CB** is to organise a presentation to pupils. With this in mind Cllr **LH** said it was her view that next weeks meeting should be postponed until the young people are on board with the project and a presentation has been made at the school. **This was AGREED.**

ACTION: Cllr LH to write to Nicola Walker.

Traffic Management - Cllr **LH** said that she has been given the plan for location of double yellow lines on South Loan but did not think they covered the area asked for.

ACTION: Cllr LH will forward plan for our comments.

Multi Use Path (Cycle Route) – **PM** said he has been trying to contact Ian Smith in order to make progress and his understanding is that **IS** has spoken to Cllr **BP** who will offer feedback at the next **PCC** meeting. **SW** had received an e-mail from a former member of the Anstruther Cycling Group who said that cyclists have been clear from the beginning that they do not want the path to go along the main road as it is too dangerous and that they want the route to go along hard standing. There are now no objections to this from local farmers and it is not true that **FC** cannot maintain a hard standing route as it is already carried out in other places. The cyclists are meeting with Elizabeth Ritches in the near future and they will feedback the outcome to **SW**. **Action: SW to report back to the PCC.**

Grass cutting and Weeds - Cllr JD reported that weed spraying was scheduled to take place.

Giant Hogweed - Cllr JD reported that some action was planned.

Tree Pruning in Market Square - Cllr JD reported that the Scottish Natural Heritage site does not have records showing who planted the trees. MW said pruning will take place later in year.

Planning Report :

JT said this has been a quiet period with only one verbal comment received on a proposed new build at Water Wynd.

There have been 10 Planning Applications: 4 new, 4 permitted/ approved, 1 amended and 1 completed

Treasurer's Report:

AB reported a balance of £275.31 in the account.

Secretary's Report:

JT showed a list of the e-mails he had received and forwarded on to all PCC Members over the last month. He said MW will mention some later but he would point out a few.

Settlement Grant – We no longer have access to information regarding how this fund is handled. JT has been made aware that a grant of £200 has been given out but he doesn't know to whom. **ACTION: JT to follow up.**

Common Good Property – we are reminded we have to respond to amending the register. MW agreed we should look at the assets register but advised that we should wait for a meeting with Janice Laird before discussing the CG Fund further.

PAF – lots of complaint to the Secretary regarding inconsiderate parking during the Festival.

Larachmohr Beer Garden – the police have said an investigation is ongoing.

Disabled Toilets - complaint from a woman who couldn't access the disabled toilet at the harbour because it was being used as a storeroom. **Cllr BP has reported the incident to FC.** SW said that this has happened before at West Braes.

MW then mentioned other items from list:

Resilience Seminar – MW said that she can no longer make this seminar at Cambuslang on the 11th September and will forward details to any PCC member willing to attend.

Pay Phones – Telephone kiosks are to be removed from local villages. PM said that currently no payphones are to be removed from Pittenweem and the immediate surrounding area although some are in other parts of Fife.

Children's Panel – recruitment is currently taking place for volunteers to sit on Children's Panels.

Gull Proof Plastic Bags – available from FC Waste Operations at no cost (locally at Recycling Centre).

Any Other Business

East Neuk Forum – an open meeting is to take place on 21st August at 7pm in Crail Town Hall. **JT and JW** confirmed they would attend. **Cllr LH** said that the police will attend this meeting and are embarrassed that they have not been able to attend normal **CC** meetings, this is purely down to workloads and shift patterns. She added that the police are keen to encourage Community Speed Watch, as this is the only area that does not have it. It was said that it had already been suggested that a local team should swap duties with other villages so that they are not reporting on their own community.

Cllr LH added that Caroline Berry will also be attending to discuss the simplifying of grants for community projects, the closing date being the 2nd September. **PM** said that this is not a new project, it is just a different way of allocating what is already there.

Future Minute Taking- this was **JJ's** last meeting as she is leaving the area. **MW** thanked her on behalf of the PCC for all her help and wished her well. Efforts are being made to find someone else to take the minutes.

Meeting closed 9.15pm

Next Meeting: Thursday 12th September 6.45pm for a 7pm start.

Abbreviations:

AB-Anne Butters, **GM**-Gary McClure, **JT**- Jim Taylor, **MB**-Martin Butters, **LL**- Linda Lauder, **MW**- Margaret Wardlaw, **PM** - Peter Mills, **SW**-Susan Wilkinson, **JW** - Jim Wood, **JJ** – Jackie Johnson, **Cllr JD**-Cllr John Docherty, **Cllr LH**- Cllr Linda Holt, **Cllr BP**-Cllr Bill Porteous, **JL** - Janice Laird, **FC**- Fife Council, **PCC**- Community Council, **PCCFRC**- Community Council Fund Raising Committee, **IS**- Ian Smith, **NT**-Nicola Thomson, **WBP**- West Braes project, **OOHS** – Out of hours service; **IJB** - Integrated Joint Board; **PCES** - Primary Care Emergency Service. **PAF** – Pittenweem Arts Festival,