

# South Dunfermline Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting 09 January 2018

### **Present:**

Alasdair Kay, Alan Henderson, Ann Kay, Grace MacLachlan, John Ure, Marion Knapman, Morag Ure, Nancy Porteous, Penny Girdler

Cllr David J Ross: Cllr Fay Sinclair: Cllr James Calder

### **Visitors:**

Mr Fred Wyatt, Pitcorthie Resident  
Mr Ian Stewart, Pitcorthie Resident  
Mrs Irene Syme, Pitcorthie Resident

**Apologies:** Cllr Ross Paterson: PC Steven Grant: PC Kevin Hall

Alasdair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year.

#### 1. **Acceptance of Previous Minutes**

Proposed: John Ure

Seconded: Ann Kay

#### 2. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere.

#### 3. **Community Police Report**

Unfortunately, neither Steven Grant nor I can attend tonight's meeting, as we are Day Shift patrol.

Detailed below is Community Police report.

Crime files raised = 8

Detected = 2

Enquiries ongoing = 6

3 x Road Traffic Offences / 4 x House Break Ins (including 2 x Canmore PS) / 1 x Shoplifting.

For Info: PC Grant and I are undertaking a 7 Week Climbing Project, called Operation Ascend – aimed at high-tariff youngsters involved in Ant-Social behaviour.

The project takes place on Friday evenings between peak times 1800-2200 hours.

We will provide updates at future meetings as to the progress.

#### 4. **Pitreavie and Canmore Primary Schools – Parking Issues**

Alasdair said all had been quiet during the holiday period but that the problems would not have gone away. Cllr Ross said he had asked Tony McRae of Parksafes if parking patrols could be provided at the schools. Cllr Calder commented that it was ironic that when Police Patrols were in the area parking behaviour improved. It was agreed that if one or two bad parkers could be made an example, the parking might improve.

## 5. Secretary's Report

Penny said all emails received since the last meeting had been distributed. Those requiring the attention of the meeting are as follows:

- Fife Council's new draft Resources (Waste) strategy workshops in January. The original venues were all in East Fife and after correspondence it was hoped that one could be arranged in the Dunfermline Area (possibly Rosyth) later in January. Morag commented that Fife Council is very tardy at giving details of meetings/workshops etc. She would like to attend but as her shift pattern is decided 6 weeks in advance it is difficult to schedule time off to be able to attend. Cllr Calder requested copies of the correspondence.
- Meeting for Community Councils affected by Edinburgh Airport in the Scottish Parliament at 6pm on 24 January 2018. No one available to attend.
- Invitation from Cllr Helen Law – 'Gathering' in the City Chambers, Dunfermline between 5.30 and 7.00pm on 19 January 2018. The purpose would be to review how successful the 2017 distribution of "grant" monies has been: to discuss the grants required for the year ahead and to provide information on how Community Councils can become more involved in local community planning priorities. Alasdair commented that it was perceived that the Grant was not fairly distributed and that he had been promised a breakdown but this had never materialised. Cllr Calder said he would try to get some detail. It was agreed that Ann and Morag would attend.

## 6. Treasurer's Report

Ann reported that the balances held are as follows:

Project Fund	£4,000.00
Floral Enhancement	£1,044.45
Goodwill	£ 447.06
Community Council	£ 289.05
Newsletter Advertisers	£3,267.62
Upgrade Fund	£ 178.91
South Dunfermline Entertainments Committee	£2,655.21

Ann said she had allocated the Annual Grant to the various accounts excluding the Newsletter as this had quite a healthy balance.

## 7. Newsletter

Ann reported that all 3,500 copies of the December 2017 issue had been distributed. Work has not yet started on the March 2018 issue. Cllr Calder said he had suggested to the organisers of the Comic Con event on 3 March 2018 to get in touch re advertising in the Newsletter. Morag suggested putting a request on the SDCC Facebook page for Newsletter Deliverers and detailing the specific streets where these are required.

Ann said that with future developments the print run might have to be increased to 4,000 copies.

## 8. Fife Council Report

Cllr Calder wished everyone Happy New Year and presented his report as follows:

- Pleased to say that the motion put forward, with Cllr Ross, to have the maximum speed limit of 30 mph introduced on single carriageway roads in the Dunfermline area has been approved subject to a review after a period of time.

In the South Dunfermline Area this reduction will apply to Carnegie Drive, Lapwing Drive and Skylark Road. Cllr Calder said he had received lots of complaints about speeding from his constituents.

- The monitoring of lorries driving through the surrounding housing areas to get to Amazon was monitored over the Christmas period. Amazon had put up signs in an attempt to prevent this. The results of the monitoring will be analysed with particular attention to identifying vehicles using this route.
- Over the Christmas period, some people were abusing the recycling facilities in the area, particularly at Duloch (Tesco) and Abbeyview. For example, when the bins were full, bags of recycling were just dumped and there was evidence of fly tipping. If this practice continues, Council Officers may recommend removal of some of the facilities. Perhaps this matter could be the subject of an article in the Newsletter.
- Overgrown shrubs at Glen Artney Grove – it was the intention that a team from Parks, Streets and Open Spaces would tackle these today.
- Cllr Calder said concerns had been expressed about Gritting Bins not being refilled. He had raised the matter with Council Officers and they are now being refilled.
- There is an ongoing problem with rats along the burn: Cllr Calder has reports from his surgery of many more sightings at different areas of the burn and is to ask Pest Control to look at. Alasdair said the area around the burn at Mulberry Grove was to be tidied up. Cllr Calder said he was still chasing and that the Parks, Streets and Open Spaces team was to get it done soon. Mr Stewart commented that bags containing food were being fly tipped into skips in the school grounds. Cllr Ross said he had emailed John O’Neil and some clearing was being done. He said people had to be careful how they feed the birds – put food trees rather than on the ground.

Cllr Sinclair said she had a few things to report:

- Recycling and fly tipping – the problems at the Duloch recycling centre had been posted on Facebook and had been picked up by the Scotsman. Mobile CCTV is being purchased for use at Recycling Points and should be in situ by March 2018. In the period January to November 2017 there were 367 fly tipping incidents in the Dunfermline area but only 6 notices issued as a gently, gently policy is being applied. It is hoped that the use of CCTV and fines will be a deterrent. Mr Wyatt said he had contacted the numbers given when the clothing skips at Aberdour Road Tesco were full and was advised, “they were too busy to deal with this”. Cllr Calder said he would investigate. Alasdair asked if extending the Recycling Centre Opening Hours over the festive period would alleviate the fly tipping problem.
- Grit Bins - if the Grit Bins are empty let Councillors know and the bins will be refilled. Some bins have been removed when requested by some residents but three have been reinstated.
- School Catchment – Cllr Sinclair said that, because there was no capacity at Woodmill High School, letters had been sent to 95 primary school pupils offering places, with transport provided, at Inverkeithing High School. Alasdair asked who had agreed that the selected pupils should go to Inverkeithing and why are the Councillors not chasing for these children to go a Secondary School in Dunfermline. A comprehensive discussion followed during which Cllr Sinclair said she was in constant touch with Education Department Officials and would be meeting with the parents. She said Inverkeithing had been offered because it was the only school with spare

capacity. Alasdair asked where this decision had come from and said it was so wrong that no one wants to make a decision. Ann asked why elected Councillors could not veto the Officials' decision in this case as there must have been lots of objections. Cllr Sinclair said she had met with Head of Service and that the final decision will depend on how many pupils stay on as a result of examination results. She said that developer contributions were now being collected and Officials are in regular contact with Scottish Government regarding the provision of a further Secondary School. Cllr Calder said he had written to John Swinney on the matter but had received no definitive answer. Cllr Sinclair said all three Cllrs present were pushing for Dunfermline to be used instead of Inverkeithing. She said there was to be an Education Committee in two weeks time when it was hoped there might be a solution.

Cllr Ross reported as follows:

- The school gate at the lane leading from Lilac Grove is being repaired. Mr Stewart said that there was a pile of cement left lying. Morag asked why the gate was being fixed – the gates are never closed: why not remove it and make it safe.
- The security lights around the school – work has been scheduled.
- Cllr Ross echoed Cllr Sinclair's report on Grit Bins. He said the policy of removing Grit Bins from Primary Gritting Routes has been suspended and there is a meeting in the next couple of weeks when there would be a better idea of requirements.

Ann said the carpet in the Community Centre has not been replaced: the hot water tap is in need of repair. Also the flooding at the speed bump on the road leading to the John Marshall Centre is caused by lack of drainage. Cllr Calder said he would look into these. (Post meeting note – Cllr Calder has been advised that as this is a roadway rather than a pedestrian path, pedestrians are not encouraged, and the pedestrian footpaths leading to the John Marshall Centre are kept clear).

Ann said there was a problem with the streetlights around Elm Grove (on and off intermittently). Cllr Calder will investigate.

Morag said there was a huge pothole at the junction of Birrell Drive and Alder Grove. This is a bus route and the hole had deteriorated very rapidly over a week. Also there were barriers at various parts of the area since before Christmas and no work seems to be taking place. (Post meeting note – Cllr Calder has advised that completion had been delayed because of difficulty in getting materials over the Christmas period and reinstatement will be completed once supplies are available.) She also commented that when using the slip road from the M90 to the A92, the lights from the Amazon temporary lorry park are blinding.

#### 9. **South Dunfermline Events Committee**

Alasdair said it was time to progress plans for the Gala and a meeting of the SDEC was arranged for 16 January 2018.

10. **Tidy Up Pitcorthie**

Alasdair commented that it was Winter Shut Down at the moment. Ann said there were many dumps of foliage around the school. Mr Stewart said he had been cleaning the school grounds and claimed he had found needles, wine bottles, cans, etc. Cllr Calder said he would investigate. (Post Meeting Note - Cllr Calder has advised that the debris left by Mr Stewart has been cleared and that he had a quiet word with Mr Stewart and informed him that work should not be completed on School Grounds without permission which Cllr Calder would not anticipate being granted.)

11. **Any Other Competent Business**

There was no other competent business.

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 6 February 2018 at 19.45 in the King Malcolm Hotel.