

South Dunfermline Community Council

Minutes of Meeting 09 September 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 James Calder:

Visitors: Sharon Waugh: Mhairi Divertie: Irene Syme

Apologies: Fred Wyatt: Councillor Fay Sinclair: Cllr Ross Paterson

Absent: Jane Glen: Lorraine Clarkson: Community Police

1. Acceptance of Previous Minutes

Alasdair welcomed everyone and said he hoped all had enjoyed a good summer. He then invited acceptance of the minutes of the 5 June 2018 meeting.

Proposed: Ann Kay

Seconded: Alasdair Kay

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere.

3. Community Police Report

Despite registering intent to attend the meeting, there was no police presence and no police report. Discussion followed re Community Police attendance record. Cllr Ross said he would discuss with the Community Police Sergeant at next week's ward meeting. **Post Meeting Note: Apology from PC Grant for forgetting to send the report he had prepared. Also advising that correspondence received from Cllr Calder arising from this meeting will be actioned over the next month.**

4. Pitreavie and Canmore Primary Schools – Parking Issues

Cllr Calder said he had just come from the Pitreavie Parent Council meeting and concerns about these problems were expressed. Nancy said cars were blocking drives around Canmore Primary School. Cllr Calder said he had asked the Head Teacher to write to parents asking for consideration when parking in the area. Ann said she had difficulty crossing Pitcorthie Drive due to the number of parked and speeding motorists. Cllr Calder said he would ask Police to carry out a speed check. John said 'Pop up Jim' would also be useful as would use of the Community Speed Gun. Ann asked if Cllr Calder would also mention to the Police the car still parked on the corner of Rowan Grove. **Post Meeting Note: Cllr Calder reported that the Police had replied to him as follows: "We carried out a "Park Safe" patrol on Monday 17th. While the area was busy for a short period, as expected, most people were parked reasonably with only three drivers advised as to the location of their parked vehicle. We also spoke with the driver who left her vehicle at the corner of Rowan Grove. She stated that she had left it their quite often and has been advised not to do this again, which was accepted very reasonably."**

Mrs Syme asked Cllr Calder if he would find out about Cycling on the pavements as there is difficulty when going to the King Malcolm Bus Stop on Queensferry Road – cyclists don't stop. Alasdair said the traffic lane was properly constituted and cyclists should stop at the give way signs marked at bus stops. Cllr Calder said he would check again.

5. **Community Council Elections**

The elections take place on Thursday 4 October 2018 and nomination forms have to be submitted by 1600 on Thursday 6 September 2018. Ann is co-ordinating this.

6. **Secretary's Report**

Penny reported that all emails received since the last meeting have been forwarded. The following points are brought to Community Councillors' attention:

- Civic Events Team would welcome information about any events planned in the area to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1.
- Ewan Heeles – Leader Queen Anne and Woodmill Community use was wondering if it would be beneficial for the Community Council to receive details of current classes run at the centres etc. Also he would be very happy to meet up and discuss.
- Community Learning Exchange is available to promote learning and the exchange of ideas between communities in Scotland.
- Safer Communities Team would like to recruit volunteers to assist with a new initiative in Fife called Adopt-A-Street. Alasdair commented that Community Council had adopted an entire estate.
- Community Archaeological Dig at Inverkeithing Friary Gardens until 14 September. John quipped “if it was suggested there are remains under the King Malcolm Roundabout assistance to clear this might be forthcoming”.
- Making Places initiative offers two funding opportunities. Alasdair said this is where the Community Council could apply for funding the clear the King Malcolm Roundabout if a Contractor prepared to tackle the job could be found - those approached respond “Why are you asking me – that is a Council responsibility”. Cllr Calder said he had thought of asking if the Community Pay Back Team could be used for the task but it was agreed that the area was too overgrown. Alasdair said the Deep Clean Team was to be allocated to the South Dunfermline Area in September/October but nothing further has been heard. Cllr Calder said he would investigate further. John asked where the money from roundabout sponsorship was spent. Alasdair said that Cllr Vettraino was asked to provide but despite several emails he has not responded.
- Proposal to Rezone the Secondary Catchment Areas of Dunfermline, Inverkeithing, Queen Anne and Woodmill High Schools - the Consultation Report was published on 27 August. This runs to 556 pages but Alasdair said he was pleased to report that the Community Council's views were reflected therein.
- Fife Countryside Trust are currently reviewing their existing websites and the future Fife Pilgrim Way website and would welcome views in a short online survey.

7. Treasurer's Report

Ann reported that the balances held are as follows:

Project Fund	£4,000.00
Floral Enhancement	£1,500.00
Goodwill	£ 378.70
Community Council	£ 379.34
Newsletter Advertisers	£3,305.63
Upgrade Fund	£ 89.48
South Dunfermline Entertainments Committee	£5,551.69
Young at Heart	£ 184.00

Ann said she had to juggle funds between accounts to ensure that all invoices from the suppliers for the gala were paid. The Gala costs were £5,332, which was matched by income of £5,665 (£2,165 income on the day and £3,500 from Tesco blue tokens).

8. Newsletter

Ann said the Newsletter was ready to go to print – just waiting for some information re Christmas Menu from King Malcolm Hotel.

8. Fife Council Report

Cllr Calder reported as follows:

- Green Areas – he has had a lot of discussion with Parks, Streets and Open Spaces re maintenance of Green Spaces in Pitcorthie. There seems to be a reluctance to take on areas that are not perceived to be Council responsibility. Cllr Calder is contacting the original developers in an attempt to find out what agreements were made when the developments were completed. He said there were areas where overgrown trees were causing problems and in the areas around the burn there were problems with rats and an area of Japanese Knotweed that was being treated. Cllr Calder is also chasing to get work started on areas from last winter eg Nationwide Roundabout. He was pleased to report one success: on Aberdour Road the area around Masterton School has been tidied.
- Schools - Cllr Calder attended an interesting Education Committee meeting. On the table was a proposal to make replacing Inverkeithing High School the priority over Woodmill and St Columba's. After a lot of discussion, Cllr Calder succeeded in having the proposal amended to "plans to be brought forward to build of the schools". Still awaiting for Scottish Government decision and funding. The preference seems to be for a Super Campus on the old Motorola Site. This is not wanted generally but Council Officers are in favour but will have to see what elected representatives have to say on the matter. All three schools are rated Category C, which is poor.

Cllr Ross reported as follows:

- The Consultation on Joining Up Care is now available until 8 October 2018. It can be completed on line or by paper copy. To date 140 on line and 100 paper copy surveys have been completed. There are a number of consultation workshops being held throughout the region. According to Council Officers Public Attendance has been disappointing. There is a workshop in the City Chambers tomorrow between 11.15 am and 1pm.
- Park and Ride Parking Charges U Turn – these have been overturned following an agreement between Stagecoach and Fife Council. Ann said they should have worked to get a deal before proposing the charges.

- Change of Bin Collection Days – this will start on 17 September 2018 and current days will apply until then. It was a pity they could not get the calendar right before issue the notices. Nancy asked about recycling guidelines and changes – there are so many contradictions. Penny said a new set of guidelines would help clear the confusion. Cllr Ross agreed that communication has been poor. On a brighter note, he has been given a tentative promise that more paper bins will be sited at Duloch Recycling Site over the Christmas period. John asked if someone could come along to a meeting to explain Recycling policy. Cllr Ross will enquire if this will be possible.
- CCTV at Recycling Centres not yet in place although promised for March. John said it was disappointing. We can all talk but how can we get things done. Is there no way to bring pressure on Fife Council eg, withholding Council Tax. Cllr Calder said the lack of action and mistakes (eg errors in bin collection calendar and community council literature) was also frustrating for Councillors. Cllr Ross said Councillors couldn't physically make someone do something. Cllr Calder said they (Councillors) can only keep pushing. Ann asked if Council Officers and employees were subject to Performance Targets and Reviews. Cllr Calder said he would raise this with the Chief Executive. It was suggested that Council Officers, including the Chief Executive should attend Community Council Meetings to explain their actions. After a very heated discussion it was agreed that Council Officers should be accountable to those who pay their wages, i.e. Fife Residents.

9. **South Dunfermline Events Committee**

Alasdair said that despite the weather the gala had been a success. He had tried to get feedback but none was forthcoming. Morag said we undersell ourselves by accepting donations from concessions. Perhaps we should look at a pricing structure. Alasdair said that more volunteers were needed, as it had been very difficult this year with only a group of four to organise the gala. It was also suggested that the separate areas that make up South Dunfermline Community Council Area (e.g. Pitcorthie, DEX, Heatheryfold, etc) did not help engender community identity. Mhairi Divertie said many people still think the event as Pitcorthie Gala. Alasdair said perhaps a change of venue, eg Pitreavie Playing Fields: also a Focus Group to look at all aspects should be considered. Morag suggested a meeting in November/January. Alasdair also suggested taking a stall at Pitreavie School Christmas Fayre (24 November) to give residents an opportunity to meet the Community Council and perhaps give feedback: enquire if Canmore and Masterton Schools have similar events and if Fife Council have advertising material.

Quiz Night – it was agreed to hold a Quiz Night in November and Ann would try to get this organised.

It was also agreed that Over 60's Night in March 2019 should continue.

Alasdair asked that Community Councillors consider the social scene and possibly have suggestions for the October Meeting.

10. **Tidy Up Pitcorthie**

Covered under Fife Council Report.

Alasdair said the pots outside Pitreavie Primary needing replanting with winter bedding plants and it was agreed this would be done in October (date to be arranged).

11. **Evershed Drive Development**

Alasdair said this application had not yet come before the Planning Committee and Cllr Calder said it seems to have stalled.

12. **Any Other Competent Business**

Ann said that something needed to be done about maintenance/upkeep of the Community Centre. Some of the problems are:

- The Hot Water Tap needs replacing – it has been repaired many times and still does not work.
- The Soap Dispenser is jammed.
- On Gala Day there were no toilet rolls or hand towels.
- The Playgroup is not keeping the plant/bug gardens tidy.

Alasdair said the Community Centre is used everyday am/pm and there had been occasions when a birthday party bookings could not be accepted because there was no staff. Would it not be possible to appoint a full time caretaker? Cllr Ross suggested appointing a Trusted Key Holder. Cllr Calder said he would take these points forward.

13. **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 02 October 2018 at 19.45 in the King Malcolm Hotel.