

Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council

Provisional Minutes – 2nd October 2017

0. New Member

Mr Neil Cunningham Dobson introduced himself as an applicant for membership of the CC. He informed the meeting that he had been resident in St Andrews since 1972 and he had a long family association over a couple of centuries with the town through his middle name. He is a deep-water marine archaeologist by profession and owns his own company. Locally he has been Chair and Vice-Chair of the COSMOS Centre and was in the local coastguard team for 28 years. He is currently a trustee on the Harbour Trust.

Mr Dobson was accepted as a member of the CC by unanimous consent.

1. Attendance

Community Councillors

Callum MacLeod, Ian Goudie, Gordon Shepherd, Izzy Corbin, Patrick Marks, Judith Harding, John Jardine, Penny Uprichard, Dita Stanis-Traken, Kyffin Roberts, Howard Greenwell, Iain Munn, Penelope Fraser, Neil Cunningham Dobson, Greg Newman

Students' Association Representatives

Hannah Raleigh

Lewis Wood

Co-Opted

Lindsey Adam

Fife Councillors

Jane Ann Liston, Brian Thomson, Dominic Nolan

Apologies – Ann Verner, Jamie McLeod, Alistair Newton, Gerry Beaulier, Iain Munn, Niall Scott

2. Minutes of Meeting – September 2017

Minutes agreed as a correct record.

3. Presentations

3.1. Abbey Park PAN

Mr Roberts chaired the presentation, explaining why the Chair wasn't chairing in this matter. Mr Roberts advised the presenters that the CC members had a range of views on the desirability of such a presentation, both positive and negative.

Those attending from the Abbey Park development group included, Ross McNulty development director at the Robertson Group, Steven Tucker and Stewart Barton, Architecture Director.

Mr Barton began a short presentation explaining that his company, Barton Willmore had been involved with the St Leonards site on behalf of Robertson Group for several years. He explained the nature of the presentation he was going to give about the site, where the proposals had come from etc followed by what will happen next in terms of the Robertson Group's timetable.

He added that the work on the overall site dated back before his group's involvement to about June 2006. Barton Wilmore became involved around 2010/11 with the preparation of a strategic development framework. This was undertaken following the suggestion of the local planning authority to bring some coherence to a number of line planning applications for the site and have a strategic master plan. The strategic development framework had zoned the site for accommodation of residential and mixed use, which included the possibility of a hotel and similar zoning as for the Memorial Hospital site, namely student accommodation. The former Abbey Park now remained the last area within the site to develop. This part of the site he said was categorised at 2/4 storey respecting the landscape setting with its mature trees. Originally there had been a condition to preserve and enhance Abbey Park house but because it was in a serious state of disrepair it was demolished. The parking on the site would be predominately courtyard in nature, making it less intrusive with respect to motorcars.

He showed maps of the boundary of the site and talked about the range of styles used in past developments. In terms of his company's approach to design he said that they first analysed the existing site looking at opportunities and constraints. They also analyse access and he commented upon the fact that there were two main access points on to the site with the more easterly probably going to be the primary access to the site. They then looked at the nature of the surrounding development with its varying heights and styles and looked at how they could fit into the nature of the developments around them. He pointed out the strong linear pattern of development across the site, which was something they hoped to address with their proposals. He then talked about the high quality landscapes of wooded and open green spaces and how they hoped to tie in with the existing landscapes and enhance them if appropriate.

In terms of the current proposals they had looked at various layouts and had eventually arrived at the current proposal as illustrated. There was the hotel block and the student residential block complimented by two high quality public realm spaces. He added that there were some constraints and opportunities on the site, such as mature trees they were planning to retain and incorporate into the design with appropriate landscaping. In terms of the heights the blocks at the top of the site would be four storey and on the south side three storey in keeping with nearby developments.

The main design parameters to which they were working at the present time were a hotel, student accommodation and enhancement of the landscape by developing two key open spaces giving a positive outlook to the current residents. There would be 89 secure parking spaces in total and he emphasised the need to reduce the visual impact of the parking and this would be at the rear of the buildings to reduce the visual impact. There was also a possibility of undercroft car parking at the hotel block as a way to minimise the visual impact.

In terms of the approach to architectural style he said that it was very much a contemporary architectural approach and he cited other recent completed and proposed developments such as Westburn Lane and the University Music School.

The planning application may be by mid-November with the target date to hopefully start the work by March 2018 with completion at some stage in 2019.

Mr Roberts informed the meeting that he'd been involved with the planning committee in 2007 when the development of the site was in its early stages and recollected that it took a long time to get a master plan. He commented on the piecemeal fashion of the developer in letting out the site with no overall Masterplan in their actions. He went out to remind the meeting that then and now there was a clear requirement for affordable homes in the town and he'd been sorely disappointed at the number of such homes in the complex. There had been a hope of getting 30% of such housing but this hadn't materialised with only around 30 being constructed in an area with over 400 new flats and houses. He asked why there couldn't be more such homes? In reply Mr Barton said that the Council policy for the Abbey Park part of the site was mixed use including a hotel. He added that Robertsons had debated with the Council over a number of years whether the site should be a hotel or housing and the feedback had always been for mixed use with a hotel on the site. He also reminded the meeting that his firm had put in responses to the Reporter for the Fifeplan, which were in the public domain on

the possible future of the site. He claimed that the plans reflected what the local authority thought should be built on the site.

In relation to affordable housing provision across the site Mr Barton claimed that it had been done step by step with policies, which existed at the time. He quoted the Bield development and the Fife Council area and claimed that the level of development had all been in line with planning policy. Mr Roberts replied that he wasn't convinced by the response and reminded Mr Barton about the listed building on the site and requirements there had been to keep it intact. He still felt that there was still an opportunity to put affordable housing on the site and didn't think the special needs housing should have been counted as part of the quota of affordable housing. He felt that Robertson Homes had used every trick in the book not to build affordable homes, which disappointed him.

Mr Greenwell supported Mr Roberts's comments and as someone who lives next to the site he had campaigned about many of the past applications for developments on the site. He added that he was surprised that the Bield Homes were far from being fully occupied but thought that the model for occupancy such as part ownership was he felt inappropriate for the area. He claimed that local people in housing need would still be unable to afford the cost of the housing constructed. Mrs Corbin reminded the meeting that the developer had cut down mature trees in the past despite claims that this would not take place.

Mr Barton in response reminded the meeting that the Fife Council Committee paper supporting the demolition of Abbey Park should be online for public viewing. He thought that there had been reasonable support on the Committee for the demolition. He also advised the meeting that there had been an independent study commissioned by Robertson Homes in which he felt there was quite a lot of evidence to support the decision. He also understood that there was a history within the site, which didn't surprise him. Mr Roberts expressed scepticism about the nature and conclusion of the report commissioned by the developer. Mr Greenwell added that Robertson Homes had taken down all the gutters and drainpipes when they'd acquired Abbey House and had allowed the building to deteriorate for years. He thought that the water ingress over the years had allowed the building to deteriorate to the extent that Councillors had no option but to agree to demolition. In response Mr Barton acknowledged that the report had been less than partial but he could only go on what was in the report. He commented from the report about how there had been problems because the building was too heavy for the site and subsidence became a factor in the building's problems. He acknowledged that there might have been a number of years when the building wasn't well looked after which led partly to the condition of the building when demolished. He added that the Council had accepted that demolition on the grounds detailed in the reports as well as on health and safety grounds. He suggested that CC members should look at the Committee report and added that he would be able to supply the CC with copies of the report if required. Mr Roberts in his reply reiterated the CC view that there had always been a strong view about the need for affordable homes.

Mrs Fraser asked about the number of car parking spaces and the traffic flow as an outcome of the proposed development. Mr Barton replied that the 89 spaces he'd mentioned were in line with Council recommendations. Mr Barton acknowledged that the impact on traffic flow would be difficult to answer. Mr Roberts asked about neighbourhood notification during the PAN process compared to during the planning application process. Mr Barton said that there was a difference and informed the meeting that they were sending out letters to all locals in the area likely to be affected by the proposed development.

Mrs Corbin expressed her concern about the stress on the infrastructure of the town and whether it could take any more traffic. She commented on the regular gridlock in south Street at certain times of day.

Mr Barton in reply reminded the meeting that the hotel proposed was in the Fifeplan so the developers were following that plan's recommendations. He acknowledged that they still needed to make a case in relation to the traffic impact. Mr Greenwell asked which entrance to the site were the vehicles for the hotel being allowed to use? He wondered if they were going to be allowed to use both entrances at St Leonards Field and St Nicholas? He commented

upon the inability of the latter entrance in coping with increased traffic flow and cited a second collision between two cars near the St Nicholas entrance. He felt that there could not continue to be a single entrance/exit at the north end of the development and suggested that the exit should be at the St Leonards Fields entrance. Mr Barton acknowledged the need to look at that as the process for applying progressed. They had already looked at St Leonards Fields as a main entrance and agreed that consideration of the best use of the other entrance/exit needed to be determined.

4. Fife Councillors.

4.1. Jane Ann Liston.

4.1.1. A New Plan for Fife

Cllr Liston reported that a new plan for Fife had come out, not to be confused she added with the Fifeplan and what she thought used to be known as the Community Plan. She suggested that the CC consider whether they could put anything into the plan.

4.1.2. Cycle Path – Nr botanic Gardens

Cllr Liston informed the meeting about a fault on the cycle path which goes by the Botanic Gardens and was part of the old railway line route. Cllr Liston commented upon how dangerous this fault could be to bikes.

4.1.3. Queens Gardens proposals

Councillor Liston informed the meeting that it had been agreed to go forward with the plan as supported by the residents. She thought it would be easy to undo if the new set up didn't work. Mr Greenwell asked how the success or failure of the new set up would be judged? Cllr Liston acknowledged she couldn't give a proper answer but thought that if it was to become clear that the new system was causing regular snarl-ups in South Street she thought it would be quickly reviewed. She asked Mr Greenwell what he might suggest as a way of assessing the success or failure?

4.1.4. Taxi Ranks – Bell Street

Cllr Liston reported that the rank in bell Street had been extended but it was proving difficult to enforce the proper use after 6. Other car users are parking in these ranks after 6 and Fife Council says it doesn't have the resources to deal with infringements after 6.

4.1.5. Leuchars Railway Station Drop-off

Cllr Liston reported that there was a proposal to put four spaces to the entrance of the new car park to allow drivers to pick up those persons they were meeting from trains. She thought it was quite a good result and wouldn't cost the Council much to implement. Mrs Harding wondered about the legal position in relation to temporarily parking on the double yellow lines at the station? Cllr Liston replied that the best thing was for people to use their judgement and common sense. She didn't think that there would be a warden on hand all the time to ticket anyone parking unofficially for a few minutes.

4.1.6. Canongate Wall

Cllr Liston reported that the plans to deal with this were progressing with ground anchors to be put in during the school holiday period in October and other work done to stabilise the wall.

4.1.7. Kilrymont Road

Cllr Liston reported that drainage work was to be done on Kilrymont Road during October as well.

4.1.8. Greyfriars Gardens garden

Cllr Liston reported on the possible way to acquire this garden citing an example of a community buy-out in Edinburgh.

4.1.9. Fishermen's Stores at Harbour – Common Good Property maintenance.

Mr Jardine informed Cllr Liston that the properties used by the fishermen at the harbour were in need of some TLC. He commented on the various problems due to lack of maintenance such as plants growing in the walls, slates missing off the roof etc. He asked if that could be looked at by the Council. Cllr Liston acknowledged that the first responsibility of the CGF was to ensure its properties were properly maintained.

4.1.10. Cycle Path

Dr Shepherd said that in relation to the cycle path to Guardbridge he knew that the Links Trust vehicles went along the track to access the fields where turf was managed. He asked Cllr Liston whether it might be worth talking to the Links Trust about clearing at least that part of the path of excessive vegetation. Cllr Liston agreed to bear that possibility in mind when speaking to the Links Trust.

4.2. Dominic Nolan

4.2.1. Partner Organisations List

Cllr Nolan had brought copies of the list of these organisations, which were distributed. He also commented on a query from Miss Uprichard about what were the priorities of a Fife Councillor on one of these bodies if the decision might be conflicting with their duties as a councillor to their electors? Cllr Nolan quoted from the Fife Council guidance on Councillors code of conduct 3.1.7 and 3.1.8. and in conclusion said that in some instances they would have to follow the code of conduct in relation to how they should respond, but in some other instances they would be allowed more discretion in deciding how to respond on behalf of their constituents. Miss Uprichard expressed her concern that on some bodies Councillors were expected to give priority to the needs of the organisation as opposed to their constituents to whom she thought Councillors should give their first priority. She wondered if anything was going to change about that? Cllr Nolan replied that he didn't think there would be change and that it would be a matter for Scottish Government. He added that usually a Councillor's duty should be towards local constituents and if conflicts of interest were to arise the Councillor would have to decide if it were appropriate to resign from the organisation on which they'd be placed as a representative.

Mr Greenwell queried the absence of the Links Management Committee from the list. Cllr Nolan acknowledged that this was absent and explained the reason. Cllr Thomson added that he was on the Links Management Committee and Cllr Verner was on the Links Trust and that there was a vacancy on the Links Management Committee to be decided on Thursday this week.

4.2.2. Begging in St Andrews

Cllr Nolan reported back that begging was not in itself illegal in Scotland although he knew it could be a sensitive matter in varying degrees to local people. He had spoken to the police about their response to any begging issues and they'd told him that they were aware of the issues and were trying to work with the local community and the individuals in a constructive manner. Any specific action would require Fife Council to set up a byelaw to allow action to stop begging.

4.2.3. Public Toilets

Cllr Nolan said that there had been quite a bit of publicity about the issue with both the local MP and local councillors quoted on the issue in the local media. He'd passed on Dr Shepherd's complaint about the Harbour toilets to Fife council.

4.3. Brian Thomson

4.3.1. Public Toilets

Cllr Thomson said he'd met with Ken Gourlay, Executive Director with responsibility for toilets a few weeks ago. Cllr Thomson acknowledged that the public toilets in St Andrews had been an issue for some time and things haven't got any better in recent times. Cllr Thomson reported that Mr Gourlay had informed him that the Council had only £50000 pa to manage its

30 toilet facilities of which 6 were in St Andrews. He added that this amount would hardly fix one toilet requiring major work. It had been estimated that the local toilets would require substantially more to bring up to a decent standard. Council officers have been asked to pull together an estimate of the cost for the work required to deal with the St Andrews toilets. Cllr Thomson also commented upon the cost of manning toilets with attendants estimated at £50000 pa for 3 attendants. He said he'd feedback in due course.

4.3.2. Logies Lane – Parking Issue

Cllr Thomson reported that he had sought clarification on the parking issue with one of the Council's transportation officers. He had confirmed because of the Traffic Regulation Order one wasn't supposed to drive or parking in Logie's Lane. The only exceptions relate to the emergency services or people on Church matters. Mr Greenwell said he'd recently seen a flatbed truck managing to access the area as the driver had a key to unlock the bollard acting as a block for vehicle access. Mr Greenwell was unable to give any clue to the identity of the vehicle but wondered how he'd got access to a key, which was meant primarily used by the church. Cllr Thomson acknowledged that this maybe shouldn't have happened and agreed to check out whether it might have been a council vehicle on a job. Mr Jardine also commented upon the apparent ease of access to the area and wondered how many keys were in existence.

Dr Shepherd informed the meeting about schemes he'd known elsewhere in which local hotels etc were persuaded for a small financial contribution from the Council to allow members of the public who weren't customers to use their toilets. He wondered if this might be possible locally. Cllr Thomson replied that the idea was similar to the Comfort Break Scheme at one time run by Fife Council in which local restaurants/cafes/hotels agreed to allow access to their toilets to non customers. However he thought this had fallen by the wayside. He felt that there should be a focus on providing proper public toilets. Mr Jardine thought that it might be an idea to consider toilets used by both sexes with an appropriate charge for use. He'd seen the set up elsewhere in the UK.

4.3.3. Motorcycle Parking

Cllr Thomson was keen to hear members' views on the possibility of making motorcycle parking spaces by the former POG office in South Street. If members were minded to agree he'd get the Council to progress the matter. Ms Adam asked if motorcycles paid for parking and were the spaces in car parking spaces? Cllr Thomson confirmed that they would be in car parking spaces but would need to check if they currently paid to park. Ms Adam said she was thinking about the potential loss of revenue for the Council. Mr Jardine and Mr Greenwell pointed out the difficulty for motorcyclists in using the present system which used a non-adhesive ticket and which could be vulnerable to having the ticket removed!

4.3.4. Rent Pressure Zone

Cllr Thomson commented on the issue of affordable housing in the town and the possibility of making the town a "rent pressure zone". There is new legislation coming into place towards the end of this year and this would mean that rents charged by landlords could be capped. He said he'd consult with officers on this possibility and feed back in due course.

4.3.5. Madras – Pre Application Stage

Cllr Thomson reported that the education consultation had a 98% backing. The other ongoing consultation is the pre application stage. There will be three applications, namely the St Andrews West, the new road and the school. The intention is to get the application for the road in as soon as possible. This is necessary to allow site access. He hoped the application would be submitted by November 2017.

4.3.6. Bins Problem.

Mr Greenwell commented upon the large number of bins parked by the side of the road close to Trespass and said he felt something needed to be done to better manage this unsightly gathering.

4.4. Ann Verner

4.4.1. Public Toilets

Cllr Verner sent in a report – Public toilets in St Andrews and other areas are currently being assessed to find out the extent of improvement work that is necessary, taking into consideration, costs and any restrictions with regard to situation and historical significance. It is hoped that these assessments will be completed by the end of October, so I might be in a better position to comment next month.

5. Planning Committee

5.1. Planning Committee Reports

Miss Uprichard reported on behalf of the Planning Committee. She informed the meeting about the adoption of the Fifeplan, which she said, was an enormous document. She had asked for a paper copy but was informed by the relevant department that they were unable to print it out, which could be for financial reasons or another reason. She felt that it should be available for people to browse and read about the sections relevant to their own area.

The Planning Committee had held two meetings in September and discussed 18 applications and objected to three. Two members had also attended the presentation on the Abbey Park Hotel/Student Accommodation development. The university is also lodging proposals for 770 student beds plus 200 beds at each of two other locations namely University Hall and Agnes Blackadder Hall, making a total of nearly 1200 beds.

The committee objected to the cycle parking plans, particularly the ones proposed for outside the West Port. She acknowledged that cycle parking was needed but the committee thought that the proposed sites appeared to have been taken without much consideration for their suitability etc. Miss Uprichard read out the text of the objections and asked if there were any comments or objections to the Planning Committee's objections. There was no significant disagreement amongst members present.

Three members of the planning committee had also attended a site visit with the Reporter at the West Port Hotel for a new proposal for the area at the rear subject to much controversy in the past.

6. Matters Arising

6.1. Reports from Representatives

None

6.2. Community Police Attendance

Dr Shepherd wondered about the situation in relation to the attendance of the Community Police representative at CC meetings? Mr Marks reminded the meeting that he'd emailed out details of a recent visit to speak to PC Peddie and he reported that if she or a colleague could not attend they had a proforma form they could email to the secretary for information. Mr Marks had also given members details of PC Peddie's email and contact number. He agreed to email PC Peddie to remind her about sending a report if necessary.

6.3. St Andrews Safety Panel

Mrs Fraser reminded the meeting about past discussion in the CC about whether there was to be ongoing involvement as it was unclear whether the Panel covered just St Andrews or a bigger area. She wondered if any action had been taken. She currently attends the meeting. Mr McLeod confirmed that the CC was prepared to come under the wing of the CC and asked that they be advised of this and set up a joint meeting to allow some discussion to take place about the nature of the relationship between the two organisations and the type of input expected from the CC.

6.4. Traffic Management Plan

Miss Uprichard asked for Councillors views on her belief that there should be a traffic management plan because of the 15 proposed developments to take place in the foreseeable future in St Andrews. She asked why there couldn't be such a plan given the scale of the developments occurring. Cllr Thomson reiterated that he couldn't foresee how such a plan could be put together. He gave examples of how it could be difficult as developments might be planned but a developer might not start for a number of years and in another instance a developer could go bust. He thought it would be virtually impossible to predict when most of the construction sites might be active so he wondered how it would be possible to plan a traffic management plan around that? Miss Uprichard thought that at least the routes could be discussed beforehand. She cited Lamond Drive as being one of the hardest hit of routes and thought the residents should have some say. She was concerned not only about the number of vehicles but also about the emissions and how these could affect local residents. She thought that Fife Council should be taking this into consideration when developments were taking place.

6.5. Future of Holy Trinity Church

Dr Goudie reported that he'd deputised for Mr McLeod at a meeting about the future of Holy Trinity Church. Mr Stanis-Traken had also attended. The meeting was looking at how to achieve a financially viable solution in a national context for the Church of Scotland. Capital costs were viewed as less major a matter to balancing the annual outgoings. At present there is no firm plan as to how to achieve this but one approach would be for the church's activities to be conducted in a smaller area and for the church to take on other organisations as tenants. Some initial consultancy work has been done but further work is needed into the viability of schemes of this nature. The meeting was looking for community reps for suggestions for possible sources of funding. As this train of thought continued, Raymond Young thought complete change of mindset was needed or the community at large taking possession of the project. Dr Goudie said he'd been pressed as to whether the CC was willing to take the lead and be in the Chair? Dr Goudie had replied that he couldn't commit the CC to anything at this stage but said that the CC would be willing to explore whether or not it could bring together interested parties with a view to forming some sort of embryonic Trust. The meeting agreed to forward a letter asking the CC if it could take the initiative. Dr Goudie had advised the meeting that once the letter had been received then perhaps there might be a need for a meeting with some representatives from the meeting he was attending and interested members of the Community Council to work out how to proceed. Mr McLeod advised that he'd had an informal meeting with two of those who'd attended the meeting and they'd hoped to have the letter out in time for the CC meeting, but this hasn't happened. Mr McLeod also reminded the meeting of the dire circumstances the church has found itself in. He concluded by suggesting that the CC await the letter and discuss at the next meeting.

6.6. Victory Memorial Hall

Mrs Harding raised the issue of what might happen to the Victory Memorial Hall. Mr Newman reported that he'd had a meeting with Fife Council official, Andrew Brunton who looks after Fife assets recently. Mr Newman wanted to know what would be involved in taking over such an asset as this would include a range of running and overhead costs. He informed the meeting that he still needed to find out the costs of running the building and then could report back on whether it would be in anyway viable to manage the hall. Then it might be viable to set up a working group to look at the possible future use etc. Mr Brunton would be willing to attend a CC meeting to discuss this matter. Mr McLeod thought that Fife Council would not be allowed to dispose of a common good asset. Cllr Liston informed the meeting that the Council would have to go to the Sheriff Court to request authority to dispose of such an asset. Mr Greenwell said there was nothing to stop the CC being the part of the set up of an independent Trust, which could then own assets. He thought that this would be the ideal way for the CC to become involved.

7. Committee Reports

7.1. Recreation Committee

Mr Jardine reported that there was no meeting in September due to health problems of a member and another member being on holiday. However Mr Jardine reported on various ongoing items.

1. The Bandstand refurbishment is being looked at by Mr Roberts
2. The Gardening Competition went ahead and will be reviewed by committee
3. Putting Competition had 21 entries on the 21st September. Beverley Wilson won the Andra Kirkcaldy Cup with a score of 43, the 2nd Victory Cup was won by Dennis martin with a score of 45 and Graham Clelland was third with a score also of 45 (but lost on count back) while Mr Callum McLeod won the CC Quaich.

Mr Jardine informed the meeting that it was a fairly good competition. He did wonder if it was at the right time of the year. Another issue is the lack of room on the cups for names to be put on the plinths. He said that two new plinths would require to be purchased and with the cost of engraving these will be £350. Mr Roberts proposed expenditure and this was agreed.

4. Coffee Morning – Mr Jardine reported that the take was £71.86. He thanked the help of members and the student helpers organised by Hannah. He did wonder whether the days of bric a brac and books were ended. He recognised as well that it wasn't a money making exercise.
5. Civic Reception – the forms have been submitted to Fife Council and permission to hold the event has been confirmed. Attendance invites will be sent out by card and Mr Jardine is working with Mr Greenwell on that. The guest speaker will be Euan Loudon of the Links Trust. Catering will go to a local contractor and the Pipe Band has been booked.
6. Senior Citizens Treat – This will be starting earlier at 13.30 and finishing earlier at 15.30. Invitations will be delivered by hand when made up. Christina the entertainer has been booked and the Glee Club and school helpers are to be organised. He'd also spoken with Hannah about student helpers though exams might make this problematic. Catering again will be out to local business. Wine to be restricted to 2/3 glasses and more soft drinks available. Finally possible changes to the running of the raffle to facilitate smooth running.

Mr McLeod appealed to members to consider assisting Mr Jardine in the various activities

7.2. GP Meeting

No report – Mr Roberts asked

7.3. 200 Club

7.4. Health, Education and Welfare Committee

no report

7.5. Rail Committee

Dr Goudie reported that there would be a meeting in a week. They will be meeting with the consultants involved in the recent STAG. Starlink attended the 2nd Fife Rail Enhancement Forum chaired by Mark Ruskell MSP. He and Allan Rail Consultancy are trying to convince Fife to develop an interlink strategy to various rail campaigns in Fife.

8. New Business

8.1. St Andrews in Bloom

Mrs Fraser said that she understood that St Andrews in Bloom was run by a number of volunteers trying to improve the environment in the town with floral displays. In the Beautiful Fife Competition they won a Gold Award, Best Coastal Town and a discretionary award for horticultural achievement. She wondered if member shared her view that their efforts had enhanced the town with their floral display and if so whether a certificate of appreciation or a formal letter from the CC might be sent to them to show our appreciation of their effort. Mr

Jardine suggested that they could be invited to the Civic Reception and awarded a certificate at that event. This was agreed. The Chair to put together the certificate.

8.2. Common Good Fund Assets

Mrs Fraser said that her request had come following some conversations in which there had been queries about what assets were owned by the CGF. Therefore she thought a list of CGF assets would be useful to have. She acknowledged that there was a list on the CC website but this only included properties and had no date on it. She had been encouraged by Cllr Liston's comments that she had a list. She thought that the list on the CC website there should be a date and she also noted a comment about moveable assets and wondered what they might be and thought they should be listed. Mr McLeod explained that the CGF mainly had property in the form of buildings and land but the CC had some small moveable assets apart from the Provosts Chain etc. He acknowledged a need for a list to be held by the Treasurer. Mr Roberts said that Mr Paul had undertaken a list of assets when he was a member. There were areas of land the status of which was uncertain.

9. Reports from Office Bearers

9.1. Chair

Mr McLeod reported that he'd attended a number of events and had submitted his latest article for St Andrews in Focus.

Mr McLeod also mentioned the news of the death of Mrs Stewart-Meiklejohn a former member of the CC at the age of 92.

Dr Goudie commented that while he couldn't remember the detail of Mrs Meiklejohn's contribution he noted that Mr Ken Fraser had written minutes for around 20 years. He suggested that such historical material could be recorded if someone was able to transfer the details to online thus making it easier to find details of the contributions of former members.

9.2. Treasurer

To go online

9.3 Secretary

9.3.1. Correspondence

Mr Marks reported that apart from the usual flow of emails directly to him it had been discovered that people were sometimes responding to the old email and question section used by the secretary as it was still active on the website. This had been checked out and much of the emails received were junk but they were now being forwarded to Mr Marks's email so anything of worth was not being missed.

Mr Marks also reported that St Andrews Environmental Network were looking for a new office as St Marys Place is to be sold by Fife Council and the current office is too small for the organisations needs. He appealed to members for any ideas about alternative office and storage space for the organisation.

9.4. Membership Secretary

10. Any Other Competent Business

10.1. Support for Students

Ms Raleigh described a scheme by which students the worse for drink etc might be assisted by volunteers to return home safely. The CC supported the idea.