

# **Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council**

## **Provisional Minutes –3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016**

### **1. Attendance**

#### **Community Councillors**

Callum MacLeod, Kyffin Roberts, Ian Goudie, Iain Munn, Izzy Corbin, Harry Stewart, Penny Uprichard, John Jardine, Jamie McLeod, Ken Crichton, Judith Harding, Lindsey Adam, Howard Greenwell

#### **Students' Association Representatives**

Charlotte Andrew

Aine Bennett

#### **Co-Opted**

Niall Scott

#### **Fife Councillors**

Brian Thomson, Dorothea Morrison

**Apologies** - Keith McCartney, Frances Melville, Gordon Shepherd, Patrick Marks, Henry Paul, Chris Wallard

### **2. Minutes of Meeting –September 5<sup>th</sup> 2016**

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the September meeting

### **3. Presentations**

**3.1.** Louise Ewing, NHS Fife, Patient Relations manager, Health and Social Care Integration.

Background: Last year the government produced a document “ a national clinical strategy”. On the back of that local health authorities were asked to produce local clinical strategies for the next 3 to 5 years. NHS Fife recognised the need to engage, not only with the service users, but also the public to help support the development of a clinical strategy. An engagement strategy was agreed and since last year staff have been “out and about” speaking to people about what this would mean from a health and social care perspective. People were asked for their views on what works well and what doesn't work well.

In addition “ work streams” were also set up to get the views of staff providing the services.

It is recognised that as people live longer, with more complex illnesses, the present system is not sustainable.

While nothing has been decided, it is clear that radical changes are needed and these changes will impact on individuals.

In the future we are likely to see more nurse practitioners and more pharmacists with additional dispensing authority. There is also the possibility of creating “community hubs” to improve efficiency and provide services in a different way.

Community hubs would provide a local service (thereby reducing travel) but this conflicts to some extent with the national policy of having centres of excellence (that may increase travel).

Lots more discussion is needed. NHS Fife encourage people to get involved by attending meetings and giving opinions. Radical changes are needed, it is important that the public are aware and are involved in the discussions.

A supply of leaflets regarding the possible changes were left with community councilors. The public are encouraged to complete the questionnaire on the back of the leaflet.

J Harding, asked how the “out and about” sessions were advertised because she has not been aware of any.

L Ewing replied. We have engaged with “local groups”, schools, the University of St Andrews as well as holding sessions in shopping centres.

Sessions have been held with specific groups, for patients with Diabetes, Heart and Stroke conditions

Turn out to the sessions has not been good. One of the difficulties is getting people to understand that a National Clinical Strategy will have a direct impact on individuals.

P Uprichard expressed her concern about the time it takes to get medication on a repeat prescription.

L Ewing explained that GP's are individual contractors to the NHS. Each practice works in a slightly different way. The situation may improve when pharmacists are given increased dispensing authority.

Following a question from I Corbin, L Ewing confirmed the importance of public giving feedback regarding their concerns with the way services are provided.

K Crichton thought more should be done to reach out to other groups, such as the St Andrews Blind Group.

## **4. Fife Councillor.**

### **4.1. Frances Melville - Apologies**

### **4.2. Brian Thomson.**

**4.2.1** Councillor Thompson was pleased to see the resurfacing work at the west end of Hepburn gardens has been completed, but disappointed to see that the area around the pedestrian crossing had not been resurfaced. Fife Council informed him that the work was omitted due to budget restrictions. The cost of the resurfacing contract was reduced by £8000 by omitting this area and removing the need for anti – skid paint. Officers believe the existing surface is adequate.

**4.2.2** Affordable housing Greenside Place. Fife Council has confirmed that the developer is not obliged to provide more affordable housing on the site. This is because the McCarthey and Stone and the Beild Housing developments are classed as special needs housing and therefore are exempt from the affordable housing requirements.

**4.2.3** Following a recent presentation to the North East Fife Area Committee by the new Housing Manager for the St Andrews area, Councillor Thompson has asked for a report on the plans to spend the affordable housing contributions collected from planning applications. The funds collected in commuted sums must be spent on affordable housing. At present the figure is about of £500,000 and will increase to over £1 million when contributions from the Bowling Green and Old Police Station developments are collected in the near future. There may be time restrictions on when the money can be spent. Councillor Thompson thinks it is “about time, we start spending it on affordable housing”.

**4.2.4** Greenside place resurfacing is not included in the current 2016 /17 programme of works. However it is high on the list for consideration in the future.

**4.2.5** HMO application, 5 Alexandria Place, to convert a house to a HMO for 5

people. This application has raised a potential loophole in the moratorium on HMO's in the town centre. Councillor Thomson was under the impression that all buildings in the town centre were covered by the moratorium, However, the moratorium only applies to applications that require planning permission. This application does not require planning permission as it is for an HMO for 5 people. Only applications for HMO's for 6 or more people require planning permission.

**4.2.6** H Greenwell commented on the proposed road works on Abbey Walk requiring a 3 week road closure. He asked if parking restrictions would be in place on Greenside Place and Langlands Road. Councillors confirmed that there are no plans for parking restrictions, signage will encourage drivers to use the suggested alternative routes. J Jardine spoke regarding the amount of traffic congestion on the Lamond drive Largo road junction. However there seems to be no alternative route available while the road works in Abbey Walk are ongoing.

J Jardine asked if the developer of the St Leonards field site had contributed anything to the maintenance of Abbey Walk as the construction traffic was a major factor in the road needing to be resurfaced. Councillor Thomson stated that there was a contribution from the developer as part of the planning agreement. He will look out the figures and forward them to Mr Jardine.

P Uprichard thought that the congestion in the Largo Road area is likely to increase when / if the developments at the Fairmount and Kilkell Braes Caravan site go ahead.

I Gougie commented on the poor advertising and poor diversion signage used when road works are taking place in St Andrews. Councillor Thomson agreed

**4.2.6 Councillor Thomson** is pleased that Fife Council has announced a review of the controversial recycling charges before implementing the charges.

A discussion followed,. K Roberts, I Corbin, L Adams, J Jardine, K Chrichton, Newman, I Goudie, A Bennet, P Uprichard, H Greenwell and J Harding commented on the subject. A local businessman also contributed to the discussion expressing the concerns of local businesses.

It was agreed that the CC Chairman would write to invite Mr Ewing (Fife Council officer responsible for implementing the charges) to the next CC meeting in order for CC members to express their concerns regarding restrictions on residents' visits to the recycling centres, per visit charges and closure of recycling centres

that will impact on local businesses and households.

Writing to Fife Council will give an opportunity for the CC comments to be considered as part of the review.

**4.2.7** H Greenwell asked councillors why Fife Council had scheduled a road sweeper to sweep the A91 approach to St Andrews at 8.30 in the morning “creating chaos” and adding to the rush hour congestion. Councillor Thompson was aware of the problem and will discuss it with Fife Council officers.

### **4.3. Keith McCartney – apologies – written report submitted**

#### **4.4. Dorothea Morrison**

**4.4.1** Electric cars charging area at Pethrem Bridge. Not a planning matter. Transportation are looking into it.

Market St fountain water not flowing, investigation work needed on the pipes within the fountain

Tables, chairs, A-boards are again causing concerns as they take up space on pavements. Councillor Morrison has contacted Kevin Smith (Fife Council transportation). He will remind businesses of their responsibilities regarding clear walkways. He will try a “gentle approach” to begin with.

Councillor Morrison had received a report that a house in Crails lane had windowsills painted in red, white and blue. A Fife Council enforcement officer is dealing with it.

P Upritchard suggested Fife Council should provide a pallet of sample colours that are suitable for use in the conservation area. Councillor Morrison reminded the meeting that painting of buildings in the conservation requires planning permission. Fife Council work with businesses and householders to ensure the colours used meet the planning guide requirements, she thought a pallet of sample colours was not practical.

**4.4.2** I Corbin expressed her concern regarding the amount of poor parking (outwith lines) in town. She is also concerned about the confusion between motorists and pedestrians using the unmarked walkway at the junction of Queens

Gardens and Market St.

Councillor Morrison is aware of the some of the parking issues, particularly parking on pavements and double yellow lines. She will discuss these matters with Fife Council transportation department.

## **5.Planning Committee**

### **5.1 Planning Committee Report**

Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 12th September 2016

1 Sederunt: Community Councillors Penny Uprichard (Planning Convenor); Izzy Corbin; Dr Ian Goudie; Judith Harding and Callum MacLeod

Apologies: Community Councillors Jamie MacLeod; Patrick Marks and Chris Wallard

2 Minute taker: CM

3 Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting of Monday 29th August 2016 were approved.

4 Recent Applications: It was agreed that as there unfortunately was no connectivity, Members would look at the new Planning Applications outwith the Meeting.

5 Matters Arising:

a Students Union Signs - PU has written to Fife Council officials asking what the point is of having guidelines if they can be over-ruled by officials under delegated powers

b West Port Trees - ongoing

c Winthank - there is a proposal for a Change of Use from agricultural use to leisure use

d Sunday Parking - our view that the advert in the Courier was inadequate and potentially misleading was not accepted by Fife Council – PU to respond

6 Items for noting or action:

- a Priory Gardens - it was agreed to maintain our previous position
- b 22 Greenside Place - withdrawn
- c Complaint to CEO - a meeting with Fife Councillors is to be requested
- d PAN for The Grange - noted – University housing
- e 12 Park Street - HMO Application – may now be in the Conservation Area – PU to object
- f Kinkell Braes - PU to research further
- g Grange House - PU still trying to establish current status of earlier Planning Applications and Permissions which may have expired

#### 7 AOCB

- a Filing Cabinets - now delivered and installed – thanks expressed to Cllr Thomson and Community Councillor Henry Paul
- b Donation to Students - £150 now approved by Community Council and details being sorted out
- c Flower Planters - those at the Harbour have again been vandalised
- d Byre Planters - PU to establish if planning permission is in order
- e Health impact - it was noted that impact on human health is not something which can be taken into account when assessing Planning Applications

8 Time & Date of next Meeting : 7.30 pm on Monday 26th September 2016

#### Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 26th September 2016

1 Sederunt: Community Councillors Penny Uprichard (Planning Convenor); Dr Ian Goudie; Judith Harding and Callum MacLeod

Apologies: Community Councillors Izzy Corbin; Jamie MacLeod; Patrick Marks and Chris Wallard

2 Minute taker: CM

3 Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting of Monday 12th September 2016 were approved.

4 Matters Arising:

a Students Union Signs - no response has so far been received

b West Port Trees - ongoing

c Sunday Parking - the decision to charge only from 1 pm on Sundays was noted

d Complaint to CEO - ongoing

e 12 Park Street - PU to object

f Grange House - information is at last being received, months after our initial enquiry about the status of this Application – there is an extant Application for demolition of Grange House

5 Recent Applications:

From the Weekly List of 11th September 2016:

16/03006/FULL - 24 Murray Park - PU to object

From the Weekly List of 18th September 2016:

16/02598/FULL - 13 Church Street - No comment

16/02713/FULL - 127 North Street - No comment

16/02922/FULL - 65-75 North Street - CM to check details of this

16/02989/FULL - St Andrews Golf Club - No comment

16/02990/LBC - St Andrews Golf Club - No comment

16/03007/FULL - R&A - No comment

16/03072/FULL - West Port Hotel - PU to object

16/03071/LBC - West Port Hotel - PU to object

16/03094/FULL - 3A The Scores - No comment

16/03097/PAN - The Grange - Statutory Consulteeship cannot be obtained

6 Items for noting or action:

a Car Parking Charges - it was suggested that £1.10 could be an awkward amount

b CEO Complaint - PU to circulate correspondence

c HMO Consultation - CM has arranged the Meeting for 18th October 2016

d Leuchars Station Parking Charges - it was noted this could amount to £300 a year

e Internal Reports - a meeting with our Fife Councillors to discuss the matter of internal reports had been requested – they have suggested instead that we have a meeting with Pam Ewen, Planning Manager

7 AOCB - none

8 Time & Date of next Meeting : 7.30 pm on Monday 10th October 2016

## **6.1 Reports from Representatives. – no reports**

### **6.1 Facebook**

A closed to CC members Facebook page already exists. Mr Wallard set it up and he is the administrator of the page.

Not all members are on Facebook and there is no obligation to be so.

The question is, does the Community Council wish to have an open to the public Facebook page?

A detailed discussion followed regarding the advantages and disadvantages of having an open Facebook page.

After 25 minutes of discussion K Roberts proposed the setting up of a core group to prepare a report for the next Community Council meeting regarding

the practicalities of setting up a Facebook page in order for the Community Council to make a final decision regarding this matter.

Following a further 5 minutes of discussion it was agreed to set up a working group to meet in October to provide answers how the page would be run, what it would achieve and who would administer it.

C Andrews and A Bennett offered to create a mock up of a proposed Facebook page that could be demonstrated to the working group and CC members prior to a decision being taken at the November meeting

The Working group will consist of C MacLeod, J MacLeod, C Andrew, A Bennett, I Corbin

### **6.3 Mini golf update**

A presentation has been arranged for 6 p m Friday 7 November at the harbour bridge, when members of the CC will have the opportunity to meet and discuss the proposal with the golf mini operator.

### **7.1 Recreation committee**

H Greenwell reminded members that the next CC coffee morning takes place on Saturday 8 October, volunteers are needed along with prizes for the tombola. All will be much appreciated.

The next recreation committee meeting to be held at H Greenwell's home 7 pm Wednesday 5 October.

Plans for the Civic Reception and the Senior Citizens Christmas treat are on-going. A guest speaker for the Civic Reception is still needed.

I Corbin reported that the Garden Competition awards ceremony went well. As always more help is needed with this event.

**7.2 G P Meeting** – minutes circulated separately

**7.3 200 Club Draw completed**, winners were G Methvin, M Denyer, H Wilson

**7.4 Health Education and Welfare. – convenor - nothing to report.**

K Roberts reported that Dementia Alliance group is being set up in St Andrews and suggested the CC members could show their support for the group by registering online with the group.

**8. New Business** – No new business reported

### **9. Chairman's report**

The chairman is still working on the purchase and supply of Community Council ties.

In September the Chairman met with D Campbell the commercial director of St Andrews Links Trust and the Chairman of the Community Trust. Following that meeting members of the CC were invited to a visit of the Links Trust's commercial arm in the Morrice building.

Also in September the Chairman was invited to speak about the community council at a meeting of the Kilrymount Rotary club.

In November the Chairman expects to have a meeting with the Chairman of the St Andrews Preservation Trust and the manager of St Andrews BID. He will also represent the CC at the St Andrews Voices Festival.

He will also meet the consultant that has been appointed by Fife Council to look into the question of the HMO Moratorium. That meeting will take place at the planning committee meeting on 24 October.

**9.1 Treasurers Report** – all payments up to date, monthly report available on the CC website.

**9.2 Secretary's report** – apologies- secretary on holiday

**10. AOB** no A O B

The CC meeting then moved on to a private ( in camera) session where members of the public and elected member left the meeting. Separate report filed with these minutes.

