

## Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council Agenda – March 2006

There will be a meeting of the community council at 7pm Monday 6th March in the Burgh Chambers of the Town Hall, Queen's Gardens. There will be a short break at about 8pm during which the 200 Club draw will be made.

**N.B. Members are asked to attend at 6.45pm prompt for the award to the St Andrews Young Citizen of the Year**

*(Copies of Agendas and Minutes of the Community Council are held at Fife Council's Local Office, St Mary's Place and the Town Library, Church Square. Those from late 1997 on are at <http://www.standrewscc.net/>)*

### 1. Apologies

### 2. Minutes of February 2006

*Read for accuracy in matters of substance – harangue the secretary for minor errors (spelling etc) outwith the meeting.*

### 3. Presentations

*For anyone wishing to address the meeting on a matter relevant to St Andrews. Please contact the Secretary or Chair before the meeting. Priority will be given to those who have been invited to speak or have given advance notice.*

#### 3.1. Kinnessburn Road Flood Study

Derek Crowe of Fife Council Transportation Service and Mike Thorpe of East Area Infrastructure Team Leader will present the findings of this study.

#### 3.2. World Heritage Proposal *and* St Andrews World Class

Presentation by Patrick Laughlin, Manager of St Andrews World Class

### 4. Fife Councillors

#### 4.1. Frances Melville (West)

#### 4.2. Sheila Black (South)

#### 4.3. Bill Sangster (Central)

#### 4.4 Jane Ann Liston (South East)

### 5. Planning Committee

#### 5.1 Minutes

See Appendix A

### 6. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

#### 6.1. The Hospital Liaison Group

Has been invited to make a presentation in April.

#### 6.2. What we can do to help Community Councils

The GP Committee met on the 22nd February and finalised our response.

**Action – Pete Lindsay**

#### 6.3. Vacancy

A notice will shortly be put up in Community Council notice board.

**Action – Secretary**

#### 6.4. Reception for Visiting School Party.

Mr Crichton and Chair attended on 1st March. Visiting pupils and staff were entertained.

#### 6.5. Fair Trade Certificate.

Secretary is progressing this matter.

#### 6.6. St Andrews Day Holiday – MSPs' replies

(Appendix – B)

#### 6.7. Reports from representatives

#### 6.8. Any Other Matters Arising

### 7. From Committees

#### 7.1. Health Education & Welfare

| Note circulated at meeting

## 7.2. Recreation

Appendix G

## 8. New Business

### 8.1. Application for Funding for Fairtrade Booklet

### 8.2. Fife Constabulary Consultation Event

(Appendix D)

### 8.3. Forestry Commission Public Meeting

(Appendix E)

### 8.4. Fife Coastal Partnership

(Appendix C)

### 8.5. Installation of University Rector on 9th March

Invitation – Frederic St Johnston to detail the invitation to the Community Council

### 8.6. Any Other New Business

## 9. Reports from Office Bearers

### 9.1. Chair

### 9.2. Treasurer

### 9.3. Secretary

#### 9.3.1. Correspondence

(see Appendix F)

#### 9.3.2. Future Presentation

The Hospital Liaison Group will make a presentation at the April Community Council Meeting.

## 10. Any Other Competent Business

*Please notify Chair of AOCB items before the start of the meeting or at the break. Hint: Given that the end of the meeting is often taken in something of a rush, unless items are urgent it might be better to submit them for next meeting's New Business.*

## Appendix A – Planning Minute

### Planning Minute 13/02/06

Present: Penny Uprichard, Ian Goudie, Bette Christie, George Davidson, Richard Douglas. Apologies: Pete Lindsay.

1.	5-7 Pilmour Links	Repainting	Information requested on materials. P.U. phoned Council – 'repainting' was an error. It is intended to strip off the wooden cladding and reveal the metal underneath	No comment
2.	West Port Hotel, 170 South Street	Internal alterations	Listed building	No comment
3.	Argyle parking area	Request to use it one Saturday per month for a Farmer's Market		No comment
4.	8 Johnston Court, North Street	Replacement windows		No comment
5.	Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Rd	Internal alterations	Listed building	No comment
6.	4A Queens Terrace	Velux roof window installation		No comment
7.	Kinnessburn, Kennedy Gdns	Replacement of gravel in forecourt		No comment
8.	113 South Street, Royal Bank of Scotland	Display of advertising sign	Objection re materials	RD – object
9.	University Hall	Replacement of existing tennis courts and fencing		No comment

### Note re appeals for planning committee and community council

There are two appeals coming up in the near future – Westburn Lane and St Leonards Fields. The

inquires are open to the public.

### **St Leonards Fields**

The developers are appealing against the refusal of an application for 24 flatted dwellings with car parking and extend access road – St Leonards Fields, Abbey Walk, St Andrews.

The appeal will take place from 14th to 17th March 2006 inclusive at the Scores Hotel. Copies of the Inquiry papers are available for inspection at the Library, Church Square. On 14th March the Inquiry will start at 10am. On subsequent days it may start earlier – at 9.30 or 9.45am, and will last probably until 4.30 or 4.45pm, with an hour's break for lunch.

Dr Goudie had intended to represent the Community Council but unfortunately will be unable to do so. He will be submitting a written comment.

Mr A T Croft has been appointed to conduct the Inquiry and determine the appeal.

### **Westburn Lane**

The developers are appealing against the refusal of an application for a terrace of flatted dwellings (including parking areas) at Westburn House, Westburn Lane, St Andrews.

Mr G M M Thomson, the Reporter hearing the Inquiry, has arranged a pre-meeting at 2pm on Wednesday 8th March 2006 at St Andrews Town Hall. It is open to the public. No date has yet been set for the Inquiry.

Penny Uprichard will be representing the Community Council in this Inquiry. Support from anyone able to come for part of the time would be welcome!

## **Appendix B – St Andrew's Day Holiday – MSPs' Replies**

*Replies were received from all local MSPs to a letter sent by Keith McCartney, Convenor, St Andrew's Day Holiday Campaign. The text of these letters is appended below for the record:*

### **1. Reply from Iain Smith MSP**

Thank you for your letter regarding the St Andrew's Day Bank Holiday (Scotland) Bill.

I should first of all make clear that the Bill has not yet completed its Stage 1 procedure. The decision of the parliament was to refer it back to Committee for a further Stage 1 report as there were a number of concerns about whether the Bill as it stands could achieve its policy objectives.

The basic problem with the Bill is that it will not deliver a national St Andrew's Day holiday for Scotland. It makes a technical amendment to the Banking Act which allows but does not require Scottish banks to treat the day as a non-banking day. Recent experience suggests that Scottish banks would be unlikely to observe this 'bank holiday'.

A second concern with the Bill is that it proposes that this is an extra bank holiday rather than a replacement. While I support the principle of a St Andrew's day holiday I have always made clear that this should be a replacement for an existing day.

I enclose for your information a copy of the report that was presented to the Enterprise and Culture Committee on 8 November and a copy of the Official Report of that meeting, when the Committee considered how to progress the Bill

You asked me if I had any proposals on what might be done to progress the aim of achieving a St Andrew's Day holiday.

There is no legal reason to prevent any private employer or public body from declaring St Andrew's Day as one of their 'occasional holidays'. Indeed the Scottish Parliament has already done this by making St Andrew's Day a holiday, in place of a holiday in September.

Perhaps Fife Council could take a lead for Scotland by making one of its locally set holidays St Andrew's Day? Maybe the Community Council could write to Fife Council to make that suggestion? I would of course be happy to support this should you wish to do so.

I trust that my reply is useful to you and I look forward to further progress in the debate. I will continue to monitor the development of the Bill in the Scottish Parliament. If there is any other information you need please let me know. Best Wishes.

### **2. Reply from Ted Brocklebank MSP**

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the St Andrew's Day Bank Holiday (Scotland) Bill.

As you rightly state I supported this Bill at Stage 1 when it came before the Parliament in October, as did all my Conservative colleagues who were present. Despite being signatories to Dennis Canavan's Bill, Fife MSPs Helen Eadie, Christine May and Iain Smith all voted in favour of referring it back to the Enterprise and Culture Committee thereby effectively kicking it into the long grass.

My colleague, Murdo Fraser, who sits on the Committee, will continue to support the Bill with the caveat remaining that a St Andrew's Day Holiday must be substituted for an existing holiday.

As to what the Community Council can do to progress this Bill, I suggest that you apply some pressure on North-East Fife MSP Iain Smith, and ask him why he voted to scupper the Bill in the first place, despite declaring in a debate on December 2004, "*I congratulate Dennis Canavan on securing the debate and on his bill proposal to make St Andrew's Day a national holiday. It is a proposal that I have long supported. I believe that St Andrew's Day should be a national holiday.*" Why then, a year later did Mr Smith say in the chamber "*Although I remain fully committed to the principle of having a St Andrew's Day national holiday, I do not believe that Dennis Canavan's bill will deliver that. I would, therefore, be unable to support the bill in its present form at stage 3?*"

From being a signatory to Mr Canavan's Bill, Mr Smith turned into a critic of the Bill. Although you rightly state that the St Andrews Community Council is apolitical, I am afraid that Mr Smith's motives in ditching the Bill were far from being so. At Stage 1 it was clear that the Labour Executive did not want this Bill and although 10 Lib Dem members and 19 Labour members signed up to it only one of these supported it at Stage 1. I am sorry that that member was not Mr Smith.

I am also sorry that by referring the Bill back to the Committee, it stands no chance of going through Parliament in this session and being on the statute books prior to the 2007 elections.

I make no apology if this letter is perceived to be negative or party political. But because of the actions of Lib Dem backbenchers caving into pressure from their Labour masters, A St Andrew's Day Holiday looks increasingly unlikely to happen even in the long term.

### **3. Reply from Andrews Arbuckle MSP**

Thank you for your letter of the 17th November 2005 about the Campaign for a St Andrew's Day Holiday.

The Bill has now gone back to committee for further consideration and refinement.

I am supportive of a St Andrew's Day Holiday but preferably as a replacement Holiday rather than an additional day.

St Andrews Community Council has worked hard to promote this idea and I would suggest that it continue to press the Scottish Parliament on the matter.

I wish you well in your endeavours.

### **4. Reply from Tricia Marwick MSP**

Thank you for your letter dated 17th November. As you are aware, I supported the Bill at Stage 1 but the Labour/Liberal Executive remitted it back to Committee for further consideration. You ask what can be done now. Only pressure can change what is a political decision. I would suggest that your Community Council now contacts all your representatives in the Scottish Parliament making your views known.

### **5. Reply from Mark Ruskell MSP**

Thank you for your letter about the future of the St Andrew's Day Bank Holiday (Scotland) Bill and apologies for not replying sooner.

As Dennis Canavan is the lead MSP on this proposal we await guidance from Dennis Canavan on how to take the campaign further. However, I would hope that a lobby from St Andrews would add continued weight to get the National Holiday established.

If you wanted to organise some publicity event or other activity then I would be happy to lend my support

## **Appendix C – Fife Coastal Partnership – Community involvement**

*Amanda Drummond, Trust Manager, Fife Coastal and Countryside Trust*

You will recall that Fife Coast and Countryside Trust (FCCT) organised a number of Public Meetings, which culminated in a meeting at The Old Manor Hotel at Lundin Links late last year. This was part of a programme to develop a Fife wide coastal Partnership made up of interested people and institutions who are committed to developing and improving the Fife Coastal Path. We have unfortunately not been able to maintain our original momentum and we would like to apologise for that.

The delay has been caused by a number of factors the primary one being that a major re-organisation of Fife Council's Community Services is taking place and the future of the Ranger Service and Coastal Maintenance Team are affected by this re-shuffle. As these services are critical to the progress of the coastal partnership we have been forced to put things on hold for the short term.

The position, after the last meeting, was that a number of members of Community Councils submitted their names for the proposed partnership committee. We are holding these nominations for use when we can begin to build the Partnership. There was also a general agreement that the larger partnership should contain representatives of other key stake-holders such as the Ramblers Association, RSPB, environmental groups, Land Owners and others.

I would like to thank you for your co-operation to date and ask that you bear with us while the Fife Council re-organisation is concluded. I will contact you all again once we are in a position to move forward.

## **Appendix D**

*Summary of letter received from Fife Constabulary*

### **Consultation Events – Force Contact Centre/Operational Support, Fife Constabulary Headquarters, Glenrothes**

Invitation from Chief Superintendent Alan Maich, Head of Operational Support to Community Councils to consultation evenings at Force Headquarters. The evening will update councillors on the work of Operational Support, the on-going work with FCC, a visit to the FCC, and the CCTV Unit and an open forum to raise or discuss any issues.

Meeting dates are Monday 10th April, Tuesday 18th April and Wednesday 26th April at 7pm. A reply form and sae is enclosed.

## **Appendix E**

*Summary of letter from Forestry Commission Scotland – Syd House, Conservator, Perth and Argyll*

*Conservancy*

FCS is leading a review of the Scottish Executive's Forestry Strategy. This is the second round of public consultation, the first having ended in September 2005. This consultation is to inform key stakeholders and seek views on the content of the Draft Strategy formulated during the first period of consultation. A copy of this Draft Strategy will be posted in due course and will be on the FCS website from early March. It is hoped to have an updated Scottish Forestry Strategy approved and in place by August 2006.

To canvas wider views a series of Public Meetings is being held with two venues to which interested parties are invited

1. 9th March 2006 at the Queens Hotel, Dundee, from 1.30pm to 5.30pm.
2. 21st March at Lodge on Loch Lomond, Luss, from 1pm to 5pm.

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## Appendix F – Correspondence

Date	From	Subject
February 2006	Association of Scottish Community Councils	Newsletter – February 2006
February 2006	Scottish Information Commissioner	Annual Report 2005
12/02/06	Scottish Executive – Development Department	Planning Advice Note on Community Engagement
12/02/06	Fife Constabulary	East Division Community Newsletter – February 2006
February 2006	RAF Leuchars	Minutes of the RAF Community Forum Meeting – 18.01.06
03/02/06	Fife Coast and Countryside Trust	Letter – see New business & Appendix C
24/02/06	Forestry Commission Scotland	Letter with invitation to consultation event
04/03/06	Stappard Howes	Consultation: Vodafone mast at St Andrews UFC
04/03/06	Marine Conservation Society	Strandline Newsletter Spring 06

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## Appendix G – Recreation Committee Report

*By Joe Peterson*

1. **Ceilidh** Awaiting reply to letter sent to Murdo Macdonald.
2. **St Andrews Week** Awaiting confirmation of dates for this year.
3. **Bandstand Concerts** Elise Methven not able to organise Recreation Committee to go ahead and book bands.
4. **Young Citizen of the Year** Decided and invitations sent out to those nominated.
5. **St Andrews in Bloom** *Ad hoc* meeting arranged for Friday 10th March at 10am in Locality Office St Mary's Place.
6. **Gateway Building Landscaping** Letter to St Andrews University *re* Gateway Building landscaping awaiting reply.

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## Health, Education & Welfare Note

*circulated by Chris Lesurf at the meeting*

### Community Health Partnership Public Partnership Forum Workshop 2nd March 2006

Last Thursday there was a very encouraging meeting where people from Fife Council and Fife Primary Care NHS Trust's Community Health Partnership for Glenrothes and N.E.Fife met many others to plan the development of Public Partnership Forums.

CHPs have been initiated by the Scottish Executive to involve as many people as possible to plan and audit local primary health care and its co-ordination with other aspects of their lives. The first decision made on Thursday was to have 6 PPFs in our CHP to coincide with the localities managed by Fife Council. Possible means of publicity were discussed including contacting and involving Community Councils, voluntary bodies, web pages, adverts/letters in newspapers, school competitions for a logo etc.

Representatives of all 6 PPFs would meet once a year with the CHP but each have their own meetings much more frequently. No qualifications would be necessary to become a PPF member just a strong interest in improving the wellbeing of everyone around.

There will be an official report on last Thursday's meeting and I will either pass it on to our secretary or bring it to next month's meeting.

### Future of HE&W

As our own Health, Education and Welfare Committee has had to be dissolved as the number of members has been reduced to 2, I would appreciate being given the CC's permission to act on its behalf wrt the St A PPF. I have also applied for membership of the Scottish Health Council and am already a member of the St Andrews Community Hospital and Health Centre project's public reference group. In view of these commitments I would appreciate an office being established for representation of the CC wrt matters relating to health.

**International Women's Day 8th March 2006**

There was a considerable difference in gender balance between the PPFW and the CHP meeting. At the PPFW in the morning there was only one man. The purpose of the meeting was to establish ways and means to encourage members of the public to become more involved in the organisation of the NHS 's local work.

In the afternoon meeting, there were 2 men on the top table and about 50/50% men and women at the meeting held on behalf of Glenrothes and NEFife CHP, to which the PPFs will be responsible. The attendance was 2 men on the top table and about 50/50 men and women on the others.

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