

Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council

Draft Minutes – September 2006

For Approval

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1. Attendance:

Chair

Ian Goudie

Community Councillors

Ken Crichton, Ken Fraser, Ian Goudie, Pete Lindsay, Patrick Marks, Joe Peterson, Carole Tricker, Penny Uprichard, Ben McLeod, Stuart Holdsworth, Chris Lesurf, Dennis Macdonald.

Students' Association Representatives

Tom D'Ardenne.

Nominated

None

Fife Councillors

Jane Ann Liston, Bill Sangster, Frances Melville.

Apologies

Laura Wilson, Donald Macgregor, Richard Douglas, Jude Innes, Sheila Black.

Bette Christie – Appreciation by Ian Goudie

"I expect that most of you will now know the sad news that Bette Christie has died. We have lost a much-valued colleague, who served this town well. Our Planning Committee had always attempted to look at proposed developments through the eyes of as many different groups of local residents as possible. When Bette joined us, she enabled us to speak with a new authority on the implications for the disabled. She knew, from hard experience, the difficulties of access and the space needed to turn a wheelchair. When sleeping policemen were proposed as traffic calming in our streets, she told us what the impact would be for those with spinal problems. She turned the inconveniences, the pain and hardships that she suffered into an asset to make life easier for those who followed her.

"She knew also the costs involved with serving on this Council. During the Honorary Citizen debacle last year she received, over a protracted period, a disgraceful stream of entirely unwarranted abusive mail from small-minded people incited by those seeking political or financial gain. Yet she weathered even that. The Planning Committee can at times get heated, but Bette argued her case robustly and with good humour. She will be much missed. To remember her, and her contribution to this town, I would ask you to join me in standing for a minute's silence."

2. Minutes of July 2006 Meeting

Accepted as accurate.

3. Presentations

3.1. Sgt John Cameron, Fife Constabulary, St Andrews

3.1.1. Anti – Social behaviour by motorists

Mr Lindsay asked about the proper procedure in reporting anti-social behaviour by motorists. He had experience of a motorist or his passenger leaning out and shouting at him or beeping his horn late at night on several occasions startling him. Sgt Cameron said that this constituted a breach of the peace and he suggested that Mr Lindsay could phone the local station to report the incident. However the difficulty lay in obtaining corroboration of this behaviour and without details such as a car registration number, the police could do little. He added that the police still had to prioritise their response, but could use the first stage of an ASBO, and if there was a repetition of such behaviour could confiscate the offending vehicle.

3.1.2. Mobile phone prosecutions

Ms Uprichard asked Sgt Cameron about the number of people fined for using mobile phones while driving. Sgt Cameron said that a number of people have been fined for illegal use of mobile phones.

3.1.3. Lack of signs advising of priority to the right at roundabouts

Ms Uprichard also asked about problems she'd witnessed with respect to the priority at roundabouts. Sgt Cameron wasn't certain that Fife Council could put up signs, and even if they could they could only be advisory. Ms Uprichard was concerned that there would eventually be an accident given the number of times she'd witnessed drivers ignoring or being ignorant of the need to give way to traffic from the right. Sgt Cameron hoped that foreign drivers would make themselves aware of the rules of the road, but added that it wasn't only foreign drivers who appeared to have difficulty with this rule.

3.2. St Andrews International Festival

Rev Rory MacLeod and Rev Cameron Harrison from the St Andrews Festival Committee made a presentation on proposals to develop a festival more worthy of St Andrews, one which would be a celebration of Scottish life, literature, music and drama, and which while Scottish in focus would have an international scope. The Rev Harrison felt that it was a good idea into which a lot of work had been put with some successful outcomes and others less successful. He felt that the organising committee had three options, one was to cut the size of the festival, another was to struggle on without change, while a third was to try an expand the concept to incorporate the current possibility of a national St Andrews day and make the festival a more international event. They felt that the current St Andrews week has been hampered by a lack of continuity in funding to allow the appointment of an organiser. Fife Council's withdrawal of funding this year had added to the event's problems.

Once the committee had decided to go for the third option, the content of such a festival was then the subject of discussion and research. Rev MacLeod and Rev Harrison listed a range of options to the Community Council which would reflect Scottish culture and history as well as incorporating an international dimension. A possible key theme would be "John Knox's Pulpit" celebrating St Andrews and Scottish life. A production of the "Three Estates" was also mentioned, as well as the possibility of encouraging original works of music. They didn't envisage it trying to rival the Edinburgh Festival. Any proposals would have to be attractive enough to attract investors. Instead of a week, they were proposing a long weekend as an interim measure while still developing a bigger festival over the next couple of years, a twin track approach. Funding to pay a co-ordinator to develop the project would be essential so that it could attract funds from the likes of VisitScotland. The presentation was discussed with Fife Councillors and Community Councillors generally favourably inclined. The Rev Harrison acknowledged the need to develop the idea sufficiently to prevent Edinburgh or Glasgow using St Andrews day taking it over with their greater resources.

4. Fife Councillors

4.1. Frances Melville

4.1.1. Work on Railings

Work has been done on the railings, with funding coming from the local community planning budget. Kate Hughes will be investigating who should be responsible for longer term maintenance. Mr Lindsay asked if the cliff top railings work could include those by the St Andrews Aquarium.

4.1.2. Affordable Housing Presentation

Cllr Melville reported that there had been an excellent presentation at a recent locality meeting by the Housing Service on various aspects of affordable housing by Derek Muir and a colleague. Cllr Melville thought that the presentation which only took around 15 minutes, but contained a lot of material would be very interesting for the Community Council. Cllr Melville agreed to ask about Derek Muir and his colleague being available for a future Community Council meeting. Mr Marks indicated that there would be no problem in hosting the presentation in any of the next few meetings.

4.1.3. Draft Local Plan

Cllr Melville reported that local councillors had been defeated at Environment and Development Committee the previous Thursday by 11 votes to 6. Cllr Melville had proposed a motion, unfortunately defeated, that decisions on the Local Plan should be delayed until the Scottish Executive had completed deliberations on the Structure Plan. Cllr Melville urged opponents of the plan not to let up, despite the Labour use of their block vote to push through this plan with its unpopular proposals for thousands of new homes. Mr Goudie commented that the Community Council was very grateful for all the work that the Councillors had done on the Local Plan issue and that it was distressing that Fife Council seem to regard approval of the Structure Plan as a minor administrative irritant rather than a major issue. Cllr Melville thanked everyone who had contributed to date.

4.1.4. Fair Trade Signs

Cllr Melville passed around pictures of the proposed Fair Trade Town signs. There will be four signs, one at each road into St Andrews.

Mr Lindsay noted that the font on the picture for one of the signs didn't match the town sign. Mr Peterson objected to the sign which was tacked on to the Community Council sign and suggested that Peter Milne (Transportation Service) should be approached about putting it in a different place, possibly closer to Petheram Bridge. Ms Uprichard commented that she still viewed the need to put up Fairtrade signs as a waste of money and couldn't see why individual shops putting up signs advertising their sale of Fairtrade products wasn't sufficient. Ms Liston expressed her support for all four signs as long as they were all in the same font. Mr Peterson while he had no objection to Fairtrade signs didn't feel that the sign on the wall was appropriate and was concerned that it could lead to other bodies wanting their signs adorning the wall. Mr Lindsay reminded the Community Council that the wall wasn't necessarily Community Council property, nor had it been funded by the Community Council. He reminded the Community Council that it had openly declared its support for Fairtrade, so he couldn't see why it shouldn't go on to the wall suitably modified. Mr Sangster commented that he was not in favour of other signs on the same wall as the St Andrews sign.

Mr Goudie suggested a vote on the motion from Mr Lindsay that a slightly modified version of the Fairtrade sign be added to the sign near Petheram Bridge. Mr Holdsworth seconded the motion. Five voted for the sign and five against. Mr Goudie used his casting vote as Chair formally to resolve the tie for the status quo, against the sign on the wall. He asked Cllr Melville to pursue the possibility of another site for the sign near Petheram Bridge.

4.1.5. Community Hospital Boundary and East Access Road

The proposals to increase the boundary of the new hospital was passed without problem, but the

proposals for a new access route on the eastern boundary were rejected by the committee and should be deleted. Mr Goudie welcomed the news of the refusal on this matter which has been very central to the preservation of the southern hillside. Cllr Melville thanked everyone who had put in comments about the hospital plans and added that there had also been unanimous committee support in relation to the green belt boundary issue which would have been affected by the building of an access road.

4.1.6. Ottakar's Planning Appeal

Cllr Melville reported that Ottakar's had appealed at the eleventh hour against Fife Council refusal of their request for retrospective planning permission for their ventilation system. Unfortunately there appears to be some uncertainty as to whether because of a delay in the Council issuing a notice relating to the matter, that Ottakar's have had more time plan their appeal, where otherwise they might have run out of time. Cllr Melville said that there were discussions taking place behind the scenes by senior council officials and Ottakar's.

Ms Uprichard informed the meeting about her contact with councils officials about the timing of their notice to Ottakars. She said that the enforcement notice had been issued on 31st July, although the Area Development Committee had on the 21st June turned down the retrospective planning permission with an enforcement order made against Ottakar's. This would normally mean a four week period for the developer to appeal. Ms Uprichard phoned the enforcement officer four weeks later and was told that the order had been issued that day, but later discovered after writing to the Chief Executive that the order had been issued on 31st July. She later discovered that Law and Admin had added three days on to the order and had informed the developer, but not other interested parties, thus giving the developer more time to appeal. Consequently an appeal was lodged by the developer on the 31st August. Ms Uprichard phoned the reporter of the enquiry to complain and has filled in a form to complain.

Mr Goudie wondered further action could be taken, such as writing to the new owners. Ms Uprichard said that the new company was involved in this appeal. She proposed to write to the ombudsman. Cllr Liston reminded the meeting that the Ombudsman would only deal with a complaint once all complaints procedures with Fife Council had been exhausted. Mr Lindsay suggested that we must be seen by the ombudsman to have gone to the end of the process, which might include a further letter to Fife Council. Ms Uprichard explained that she had received an acknowledgement from the Chief Executive four weeks ago and this morning a letter from Mr Birrell which she found unsatisfactory in a number of respects. Mr Goudie suggested that a further letter should be sent to Fife Council expressing the Community Council's unhappiness with Fife Council's response and seeking a more satisfactory response. If no satisfactory response was forthcoming he suggested the Community Council should then take action by writing to the ombudsman.

The Community Council agreed on this course of action.

4.1.7. Strategic Agreement between University of St Andrews and Fife Council

Cllr Melville drew the Community Council's attention to item 15 on an agenda of the Policy and Resources Committee as noted above. Cllr Melville couldn't comment on this item but asked Councillors to read it as it contained references to land use. Given the past history of the relationship between the university and Fife Council she thought that this item merited close scrutiny. Mr Goudie commented that it was clear that the university could play a very important role not least on housing questions within the town, but it wasn't clear from his inspection of the paperwork that the priorities Fife Council was putting to the University was the priorities which this town would wish to emphasise. He cited a vague reference to transportation issues which didn't really address the way in which a railway could be brought into St Andrews.

4.1.8. Possible Replacement of Petheram Bridge

Mr Peterson asked Cllr Melville if she had any information on this matter. Cllr Melville said that she'd ask the Chief Executive about this matter and whether funding was in place.

4.1.9. Completion Date of St Andrews Bus Station

Mr Fraser asked Cllr Melville if there was any completion date for the bus station. Cllr Melville commented that hopefully it would be finished by the end of the year.

4.1.10. Right of Way – 1 Strathkinness High Road to Guardbridge Road

Cllr Melville mentioned some problems with the Right of Way beside from beside 1 Strathkinness High Road, former residence of Mr James Murray and the Guardbridge Road. It has now got quite overgrown, where previously it had always been kept clear of vegetation. She was discussing this matter with Fife Council officials.

4.2. Cllr Sangster

4.2.1. Cemetery Gates

Cllr Sangster is trying to get a blacksmith to look both at the Western Cemetery Gates and the gates of the Cemetery in the Pends which are in poor condition.

4.2.2. Pedestrian Crossing – North Street

Cllr Sangster reported that a pedestrian crossing is to be installed in the Castle Tavern area by February at the latest. Mr Macdonald asked if this would lead to the loss of parking. Cllr Sangster said that there would be no loss of parking. The new crossing would have a vibrating button for the visually impaired. Cllr Sangster explained the way the new type of crossing aid would work. A visually impaired person would know to cross as they would feel the buzzer vibrate. Cllr Sangster said that the beeper type was not acceptable when people lived close by.

Mr Lindsay asked about the design of the crossing signs. Cllr Sangster said that they would be the same as the Bridge St crossing signs. Mr Lindsay felt that these were confusing as they required pedestrians to look down to the sign beside them, instead of across the road as in the older type of signs. He wanted it

recorded that he viewed these as a bad design and objected to them. He asked Cllr Sangster to get someone to look at the design as he preferred the type where one could see the sign from across the road. Cllr Sangster agreed to ask about this matter. Ms Uprichard backed Mr Lindsay in his concern.

4.2.3. Chewing Gum Containers and Cigarette Butt disposal

Cllr Sangster mentioned the chewing gum containers now decorating many lamp posts around town. He also mentioned that smokers could now obtain containers from the local office in which they could store their butts until they could properly dispose of them.

4.2.4. Beach Facilities – East and West Sands

Mr Peterson commented on the lack of play and other facilities at the West Sands compared to facilities at other seaside resorts in Scotland. He felt there was a considerable lack of investment given the extensive use in good summers such as 2006. He also noted the lack of facilities at the East Sands. He felt that we should be pressing Fife Council on this matter. Cllr Sangster believed there was also a big lack of funding in that area. Mr Peterson felt that better facilities would attract more visitors. Cllr Melville commented that this type of need might attract "Quality of Life Funding" and she would approach Kate Hughes and the West Sands Group on this matter. Mr Holdsworth defended the quality and cleanliness of the play area facilities at the West Sands. He felt the play area was excellent and was spotlessly clean. He also commented that very few children appeared to use it during the time he was there with his grand children. Mr Crichton commented on the East Sands saying that the few facilities still extant were well used, but could be improved, given the proximity for families from the Caravan site amongst others. Mr Macdonald pointed out the problem of the location of the play area which was a distance from the beach across a road. Mr Peterson agreed with Mr Holdsworth about the condition of the present play area, but felt that more variety of activities was required. He cited the change in swimming pools with the introduction of wave machines etc. He felt that it only required some imagination and finding the funding. He also felt that the road dividing the play area from the beach was not a problem and solutions could be found to ensuring safe access in his view.

4.2.5. 10th Anniversary of Loches Alliance

Cllr Sangster informed the Community Council about this anniversary which is to be celebrated locally by a dinner on the 30th September to which the Chair of the Community Council and other local noteworthy persons have been invited. He wondered if the Gofannon could be displayed alongside other flags on that evening.

4.2.6. Rights of Way Problem – Greenside Place

Mr Goudie asked about a problem with a Right of Way between the Cottage Hospital and Greenside Place which had been mentioned in the Citizen letter column. Mr Lindsay understood that the problem was that someone was blocking the route, which he thought would be a Right of Way. He felt that the Community Council should approach Fife Council on this matter to seek formal adoption of the route as a Right of Way. Cllr Sangster agreed to follow this matter up and check out the route himself. Mr Lindsay thought that the route could touch on the core paths issue as well and felt that something should be done before development at St Leonards Fields created any further problems of access. Mr Peterson said that there had been a screen put up when the first development at St Leonards Fields had taken place, possibly for health and safety reasons, but he didn't know if had been left in place subsequently possibly to discourage public use.

4.2.7. Park & Ride Funding 2007

There is to be a members liaison meeting on 25th September to discuss ways to fund and co-ordinate next year's Park and Ride. He hopes that it can be integrated with the local bus service.

4.2.8. Road Maintenance Funding for North-East Fife

Cllr Sangster is looking into why North-East Fife has the lowest road maintenance budget of all three Fife areas, given the greater mileage of roads to maintain. He said that the transport department were having great difficulty finding money for repairs, leading to many roads remaining in a poor state and worsening the longer they are left.

4.3. Cllr Black

Absent

4.4. Cllr Liston

4.4.1. Primary School Changes – Progress Report

Cllr Liston reported that the enlarged Canongate Primary appears to be settling quite well with the School Board and staff trying hard to make it work smoothly. There is a bit of concern on the School Board about underuse of the school bus which they worry could lead to the withdrawal of the service. Cllr Liston also had concern that the route of the school bus didn't cover all of the areas where there might be a number of vulnerable children who would benefit from the bus passing close to their homes, instead of just down Lamond Drive as it does at present. Overall however the transition appeared to be working well.

4.4.2. Pigeon Problem at Town Hall

There has been a problem with the pigeons which have inhabited the town hall because of the mess they have been creating in South Street outside the Record Shop. Fife Council appears to have been unable to decide which department has responsibility to pay for a clean up. As a result there has been a suggestion that the Common Good Fund could pay for the necessary clean up. Cllr Liston felt that this was not an appropriate response, and hoped that Fife Council would be able to sort out their confusion about who might be responsible to pay for what. Cllr Liston thought that we should be alerted to this matter and felt that it was a maintenance problem. Mr Lindsay also hoped that Fife Council wouldn't be tempted to use

the Common Good Fund for ongoing sweeping. He felt that the only reasonable use of Common Good Fund money might be in defences to prevent further access by pigeons into the offending parts of the Town Hall. Cllr Liston added that the University had managed to get rid of pigeons from St Mary's College without resort to lethal measures, so she couldn't see why Fife Council couldn't do likewise. Cllr Sangster said that Environmental Services were rewiring to prevent the pigeons gaining access again.

4.4.2a. Play Park Scheme Funding

Mr Crichton said that he'd read about funding available for Play Park schemes equipment. Cllr Liston wondered if this was money which the Area Locality Manager could access and agreed to check out the criteria for funding availability. Apparently £50,000 was available throughout Fife?

5. Planning Committee

5.1 Minutes

5.1.1. Tennis Club Lighting

Ms Uprichard is to check on the details of this application which is to upgrade to lighting in part of the courts. Fife Council Environmental Health are assessing the impact of the proposed lighting before confirming whether it will be acceptable.

5.1.2. New Park School Development Application

Ms Uprichard said that there were concerns about this application. Mr Peterson asked about the grounds for our objections. He was concerned that objecting to plans within the town we could nullify our objection to plans to extend the town to the west. He felt that we should be very careful on the grounds on which we objected. We shouldn't be seen to be objecting just for the sake of objecting. Mr Goudie replied that we weren't objecting without some legitimate concerns about specific proposals, height and overlooking the Lade Braes being two of the grounds of objection. Mr Peterson felt that we needed to be careful about our reason for objecting, as he felt that it could diminish our case in objecting to development outwith the present boundaries if we were seen to be objecting to every development proposal. Mr Goudie added that the Lade Braes were a major asset to the town so any encroaching development should be sensitive to that unique aspect of St Andrews. Ms Uprichard backed Mr Goudie's comments.

6. Matters Arising

6.1. Blue Flag Award Ceremony

Mr D'Ardenne reported on this ceremony which he had attended on behalf of the Community Council.

6.2. Removal of BT Payphones

A reply in Appendix A of the September agenda from BT to Sir Menzies Campbell, about reason for removal of payphones, and the news that the payphone in Langlands Road would not be removed at this time.

6.3. Gonfannon

Mr Fraser reported on the presentation of the Gonfannon to Mr Macgroegor at the 27th International Congress held last month in St Andrews. Mr Fraser had hoped to display the Gonfannon properly at this meeting but had discovered that there was a stand missing. Mr Fraser informed the meeting that there were several things to be decided as follows:

1. A letter of thanks to be written to Mr Mark Dennis (who designed the banner), for the presentation of the Gonfannon

Secretary to write

2. Mr Fraser wondered about insurance cover given the value of the Gonfannon

Mrs Tricker offered to check

3. Storage was a possible problem in the short term with Mr Fraser being informed by the caretaker that it couldn't be stored in the Town Hall, partly due to the size of the pole. Mr Peterson offered to keep the pole in his garage in the short term.

4. Longer term storage also had to be decided. The alternatives being the Town Hall, Kinburn Museum, Preservation Trust Museum and the University. The curator of the Kinburn Museum has expressed an interest in coming to an arrangement

Secretary to follow up and bring details back to next meeting.

6.4. New Community Education Worker

Ms Izzy White has had to change the date of her presentation to the Community Council as she is due to go on maternity leave.

6.5. Reports from Representatives

6.5.1. Common Good Fund Assets

Mr Crichton has written to Fife Council to ask for a list of Common Good Fund assets and the return the Fund is getting on the assets and the value of each asset. He is yet to have a reply.

6.5.2. St Andrews and District Community Safety Panel – Women's Safety Course

Mr Crichton had attended this body which is chaired by Cllr Sangster. The panel is proposing to run a safety course for women under the aegis of the Police. The Panel asked whether a contribution towards the cost of running the course could be considered by the Community Council.

A contribution of £150 was agreed, proposed by Mrs Tricker and seconded by Ms Uprichard.

6.5.3. Volleyball at East Sands

Mr Crichton felt that Kate Hughes should have a letter of thanks from the Community Council for a recent initiative in purchasing volleyball sets for both the East and West Sands. These were for public use and set up by the lifeguards, who also stored them in their huts at night.

Secretary to write to thank Kate Hughes

6.5.4. Leuchars Community Forum Report

Mr Holdsworth and Mr Macdonald had attended this forum on the 19th July. Mr Holdsworth reported that the low flying complaints had fallen significantly compared to previous years. However when the Eurofighter arrives in 2010 complaints will rise again as this is a noisier plane. There will be less flying activity next year as the runway is to be resurfaced in 2007, exact dates not confirmed, but for a three to four month period. RAF Leuchars will suffer redundancies as part of a nationwide RAF reduction in staffing with about 50 going from Leuchars.

6.5.5. Community Council Seminar Report

Ms Lesurf and Mr Lindsay reported back on a seminar they had attended on 2nd September organised by Fife Council for Community Councillors. The seminar offered several workshops on a range of topics. Mr Lindsay attended a workshop on procedural matters. Mr Lindsay felt that it was useful as it identified procedures we would need to enforce, and suggested that we should have a General Purposes meeting to look at these matters. He had also attended a workshop on Community Engagement which centred on how bad Community Councils were at connecting with the public, rather than offering ideas at engaging the public. Mr Lindsay commended the day to Community Councillors, both for the workshops and the chance to speak to other Community Councillors.

6.5.6. World Class

Mr Macdonald reported on his attendance at the World Class meeting in July. He said the attendance had been poor and little of importance had been discussed. The August meeting had been cancelled, but there is to be one in September.

6.6. St Andrews & East Fife Local Plan: Strategic Environmental Assessment

Mr Goudie noted the correspondence in Appendix E and thanked the Fife Councillors for their work relating to this matter.

6.7. Consultation Period for Community Councils

Mr Goudie asked the General Purposes Committee to consider a possible reply before the October meeting.

6.8. Planning Meeting MSPs – 27th September

Mr Goudie asked for a volunteer to attend this meeting. Ms Uprichard said that she would be happy to attend.

6.9. Any Other Matters Arising

6.9.1. Flag Pole Problems

Mr Crichton mentioned problems with using the town hall flag pole for Merchant Navy Day, September 3rd. Unfortunately the saltire couldn't be lowered as it was jammed on the pole. The Red Ensign owned by the Community Council appears to have gone astray, so Mr Crichton had to borrow one. Mr Lindsay suggested that if the Red Ensign couldn't be found we should purchase a new one. He also wondered if there could be another way of presenting the flag if the flag pole wasn't available, which wouldn't offend the organisation in question. Cllr Liston suggested fixing flags to the Town Hall balcony as an alternative if the flag pole remained a problem.

7. Committee Reports

7.1. Recreation

see Appendix B in September agenda

7.1.1. St Andrews in Bloom

Mr Peterson flagged up a couple of amendments to his report. He said that contrary to the new constitution this year's AGM would be in September. They had to approve the new constitution at the forthcoming AGM before they could formally have the AGM in future years in October. Also the date and day of the AGM was incorrect being Tuesday 26th September, not as written in the agenda. New members welcome.

7.1.2. Bandstand Concerts

Mr Peterson suggested that the Community Council should write to the owner of the Sea Life Centre thanking them for keeping the chairs for the Bandstand Concerts. Mr Lindsay added that they had also lent additional chairs which he felt was a very kind gesture. There was also an issue about the number of chairs. Mr Peterson felt that there appeared to be fewer and wondered if some might still be in Hamilton Hall, but he won't be able to get access until the developer starts work as the University have handed the keys to the developer. Mr Macdonald said that there should be 40 chairs. Mr Peterson confirmed that they certainly had less this year. The chairs were a distinctive design. The caretaker at the Victory Memorial Hall has offered to lend chairs next summer if required. Mr Lindsay drew the attention of the Community Council and Fife Councillors that the bandstand had started to leak in the centre. Mr Sangster agreed to pursue a repair with Fife Council.

7.1.3. Fife in Bloom

Mr Peterson wondered whether there was any word about the result of this competition. He believed that they should have been given some indication as he had heard of one person who had received notification of his place in the competition. Mr Sangster said that the result was due to be announced at the Horticultural Show in Cupar in a few days.

7.1.4. 200 Club

Mr Lindsay read out a report from Mr Douglas who was unable to attend the meeting. In his letter he acknowledged that he'd not made a good job at running the club but said he'd assist further in sorting out any queries as requested. The Club Grant Fund currently has just over £4000, and the club membership is 109 (possibly -11). This year there have only been two applications for grants, one from the Fairtrade Group which was turned down and a second which has not yet been discussed. Mr Lindsay said he still had to get the cheque book from Mr Douglas who is writing, "catch-up" cheques. Mr Lindsay then proceeded to the draw.

The winner of £50 for August was R A Burnett, £30 to F. Quinault, £20 to A. Sproson and £15 to A. Foster. In September £50 was won by C. Tricker, £30 to I. Methven, £20 to G. Methven and £15 to G. Hands.

8. New Business

8.1. Children's Panel Recruitment Poster and leaflet

Mr Marks displayed a leaflet and poster relating to a recruitment drive by the Children's Panel. He outlined the leaflet details and said he'd put the poster in the Community Council notice board near the Library.

8.2. Planning Aid for Scotland Subscription

Mr Marks had received a request for a subscription renewal from this body. The Community Council following comments from members questioning the value of membership decided not to renew the subscription.

Secretary to write informing Planning Aid of decision

8.3. SPP 11 – Consultation on Physical Activity and Open Space

Due to time constraints this document was not discussed. Mr Goudie suggested that the relevant documentation be passed to the Planning Committee for discussion and appropriate action.

8.4. SPP 10 – Consultation on Planning for Waste Management

As 8.3.

8.5. SPP 6 – Consultation on Renewable Energy

As 8.3.

8.6. Planning Advice Note Consultation – Community Engagement “Planning with People”

As 8.3.

8.7. Consultation on Proposal for a Member's Bill – Abolition of the Bridge Tolls on the Forth and Tay Bridges

As 8.3.

8.8. Shane Charlton

The email from this young Olympic cycling hopeful was discussed. Mr Lindsay suggested he could mention him on the Community Council website and that he should be advised to contact a body like the Merchants Association if he hasn't already done so. Mr Sangster volunteered to bring up his request at the next meeting of the Merchants Association which he will be attending.

8.9. Petheram Bridge Roundabout – Vegetation Problems

Mr Macdonald reported problems with bushes obscuring the vision of motorists at the Petheram Bridge roundabout over the summer. He'd asked for the bushes to be trimmed, but it had taken the intervention of Cllr Melville to speed up the job. He questioned the wisdom of planting bushes at a roundabout, given the growth and potential for obscuring visibility.

8.10. Closure of Wilson's the Ironmongers, South Street

Ms Uprichard suggested that the Community Council should write a letter to the owners of this business which has closed after 140 years trading in St Andrews. Mr Marks to liaise with Ms Uprichard about letter.

9. Reports from Office Bearers

9.1. Chair

No report due to absence.

9.2. Treasurer

Mrs Tricker reported on recent financial matters including:

1. Fife Council had passed the Community Council accounts.
2. Fife Council had granted £3017.54.

3. Present financial balance is £28,804.89 which involves the transfer of money from the trust fund.

9.3. Secretary

See Correspondence list.

10. Any Other Competent Business

10.1. Park & Ride

Mr Macdonald, when he attend the World Class meeting, had taken the opportunity to use the Park & Ride service. He'd heard some complaints about the state of the buses being used, but found that the bus he used was new and clean and the driver was courteous.

10.2. Bench at Health Centre

Mr Macdonald informed the meeting that a new bench has replaced a bench which was in poor condition outside the Health Centre. The bench was provided by the family of Dr & Mrs Orr.
