

Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council Agenda – October 2006

There will be a meeting of the community council in the Burgh Chambers of the Town Hall, Queen's Gardens. There will be a short break at about 8pm. The meeting will be recorded on audio by the secretary to ensure accuracy of the minutes – so members should speak clearly to aid the secretary.

(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 on line at <http://www.standrewscc.net/>)

1. Apologies

2. Minutes of September 2006

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

3. Presentations

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 of Planning Meetings

Plus letters of objection, see Appendix D

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

See Appendix E plus document separately circulated.

5.3. Hospital

Appendix H. For information. Objection submitted July, should have been circulated for information in September.

6. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

6.1. Ship to Ship Oil Transfer Proposal

See appendix A

6.2. Gouffernon

See letter appendix B

6.3. Planning Meeting MSPs – report

6.4. Reports from representatives

6.5. Any Other Matters Arising.

7. From Committees

7.1. Recreation

7.2. 200 Club Report and Draw

See 'appendix Z'

7.3. General Purposes

8. New Business

8.1. Our Planet, Our Fife, Our Future...You Decide

Conference – 03/11/06 – see Appendix G

8.2. Association of Scottish Community Councils

14th Oct. AGM & Subscription Renewal

8.3. Sustainable Scotland Network Annual Conference – 26/27 October

8.4. Fife Volunteer of the Year Awards 2006

Nominations – 26th October

8.5. St Andrews Transport Forum

See appendix F

8.6. National Planning Framework Monitoring Report

Booklet from Scottish Executive with statistics and facts about a range of issues nationwide such as sustainable development, investment in infrastructure, a growing economy, housing supply, a higher quality environment, energy, waste management and a range of other topics. The Executive proposes to begin formal consultation on the scope and content of the National Planning Framework early in 2007, followed by a consultative draft in autumn 2007, scrutiny by Parliament in spring 2008 and publication of the final version in autumn 2008. The report is available for viewing on www.scotland.gov.uk/planning/ or enquires about the content can be sent to Graeme Purves, Planning, Scottish Executive Development Department, 2-H Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ (0131 244 7533) or email grame.purves@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

8.7. Planning Advice Note 79: Water and Drainage

This PAN provides advice on good practice in relation to the provision of water and drainage in a planning context. In particular, it encourages partnership working and the sharing of information in order to ensure a common understanding of capacity constraints and agreement on the means to accommodate new development. It explains the framework within which Scottish Water provides strategic water infrastructure in a co-ordinated way. It clarifies the role of the planning authority in setting the pattern and direction of development to inform the planning and delivery of new infrastructure in a coordinated way. It contains advice on the appropriateness of private schemes.

8.8. Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (Scotways)

Leaflet explaining law and including membership form.

9. Reports from Office Bearers

9.1. Chair

9.2. Treasurer

9.3. Secretary

9.3.1. Correspondence

See Appendix C.

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 – Letter from Alyn Smith MEP about Ship to Ship Oil Transfer

I am writing to you regarding the proposal from Forth Ports and Melbourne Marine Services to establish a Ship to Ship oil transfer facility in the Firth of Forth.

For some time I, along with my SNP colleagues Bruce Crawford MSP and Tricia Marwick have been in contact with the European Commission on this proposal. Initially bringing it to the attention of European Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas and more recently providing him with more information on the objections to the proposal expressed by environmental and campaign organisations.

As a result of this Commissioner Dimas has confirmed to me that he has instructed his officials to investigate the proposals and to assess whether any EU environmental laws, in particular the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), have been broken.

I sincerely hope this investigation will force a re-consideration by Forth Ports, Melbourne Marine Services, the MCA and the UK government of their support for the proposal and ultimately iys refusal or withdrawal. It is certainly a step in the right direction.

As part of the investigation the Commission has expressed a readiness to receive additional information from those opposed to the scheme. If you wish to submit any additional information please direct it to my office and I will ensure it reaches the appropriate staff within the Commissioner's office. I look forward to hearing from you and if I can offer any further assistance please contact my office

Alyn Smith MEP

Appendix B Letter about Gonfannon

From Gavin Grant, Curator, St Andrews Museum

Royal Burgh of St Andrews Gonfannon

Many thanks for your recent telephone call about the gonfannon presented to the Community Council at the Heraldry Congress. I would be most interested in assisting the Community Council in displaying and storing this wonderful object that has been given to the town. There are two possible ways the Museum Service could help.

Firstly, the banner could be lent to St Andrews Museum on a one-year loan initially. Our policy is not to take objects on what used to be called "permanent loan" but rather to have one-year loans that can be extended for a further year on an annual basis. We would be able to display the gonfannon in the museum in Kinburn Park at times and store it along with our banner collection when not on show. We

have experience of providing suitable storage and environmental conditions for banners – a type of object that can be difficult to store properly.

The second option would be for the banner to be donated to St Andrews Museum. We would, of course, aim to preserve it for future generations to enjoy along with the rest of the collection. I am sure that it would be a most attractive object for the visitors to the museum, both locals and tourists, and it would complement a number of objects showing the coat of arms of the town we have on show, eg the chain of office of the provost and the 16th century wooden panel on display in the new St Andrews A-Z exhibition on the ground floor.

I hope you find these suggestions useful and look forward to discussing the care of the gonfannon further with you.

Appendix C – Correspondence

| Date | from | Subject |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| 31/08/06 | Alyn Smith MEP | Ship to Ship Transfer issue |
| 11/09/06 | Fife Council Museums – Gavin Grant | Letter re Gonfannon storage – see appendix and matters arising |
| Aug 2006 | NHS Fife | Newsletter – St Andrews Community Hospital Project |
| 01/09/06 | NHS Fife – Glenrothes & NE Fife Community Health Partnership | Leaflets for Glenrothes and NE Fife Public Partnership Fora |
| 14/09/06 | Take a Pride in Fife | |
| Environmental Network | Our Planet, Our Fife, Our Future ..You Decide Conference 3rd Nov, Rothes Halls | |
| Sept/2006 | Association of Scottish Community Councils | AGM notification – 14th October and renewal of subscription |
| Sept 2006 | Scottish Environment LINK | Set for approval? – 4 page A4 leaflet on National Planning Framework a new statutory framework plan for Scotland to be consulted on in 2008 |
| 19/09/06 | East Area Development Committee | Agenda for meeting on 19th September 2006 at County Buildings, Cupar |
| Sept 2006 | Volunteer Centre Fife | Volunteer of the Year Awards 2006 Nominations |
| 29/09/06 | Ted Brocklebank MSP | Parliamentary Update Newsletter Autumn 2006 |
| 27/09/06 | Scottish Executive Planning Department | Planning Advice Note 79: Water and Drainage |
| Sept 2006 | Fife Constabulary | Eastern Division Community Newsletter Sept 2006 |
| 13/09/06 | Scottish Executive Development Dept | National Planning Framework for Scotland 06 Monitoring Report |
| Sept 2006 | Scotways | Leaflets with a brief overview of the law on Rights of Access to the Outdoors in Scotland |

Appendix D – Planning Minutes

1. Planning Meeting – 11.09.06

Present: P. Uprichard, I. Goudie, G. Davidson, C. Lesurf, B. McLeod. Apologies: R. Douglas

The Planning Committee discussed the application for proposed development at Brewsterwells Farm, which consists of erection of a 2-storey office building (Class 4), conference facilities, centre manager's office, new access, landscaping, parking and associated infrastructure.

.the Local Plan, which has not been approved and which has to conform to the Structure Plan, which has not been approved. Also on the grounds of increased traffic which will impact upon St Andrews. The Committee also queried whether this application is consistent with the provision of 'Development in the Countryside'.

There were brief discussions on the organization World Class, and also on the proposed Strategic Agreement between Fife Council and the University.

2. Planning Meeting – 25.09.06

Present: P. Uprichard, I. Goudie, B. McLeod, C. Lesurf, K. Fraser. Apologies: G. Davidson, R. Douglas

1. Brewsterwells Farm housing development (discussed at previous meeting).

PU to write objecting to the plan.

2. New Park School housing development. C & L Properties wrote to say they had modified the plan in light of comments made on it.

3. 10 Abbey St: replacement windows (listed building)

PU to investigate what kind of replacement windows had been proposed.

4. 8 Golf Place: repainting façade

PU to make a comment enquiring if proposed colour and lettering were appropriate

5. Strategic Agreement between Fife Council and St. Andrews University

PU will comment on this plan at the Council Meeting. The committee is concerned especially by the statement that both parties will engage on an “ongoing dialogue to ensure support for St. Andrews University Estates Strategy in Structure and Local Plan”, might this prejudice Fife Council’s impartiality over planning applications from the University?

3. Letter of Objection – Brewsterwells Farm

06/02855/Full: Erection of Two Storey Building Manager’s House, New Access, Landscaping, Parking and Infrastructure – Brewsterwells Farm, St. Andrews.

The Planning Committee of the Royal Burgh of St. Andrews Community Council wishes to OBJECT to this application on the following grounds:

It is premature to the approval of the Local Plan. The Local Plan to the Structure Plan has not yet been approved. To approve applications on the basis of unapproved plans will lead to chaos.

The extra traffic will inevitable impact on St. Andrews, which has little space for more vehicles.

The development will be contrary to ‘Development in the Countryside’.

It is believed that the great majority of local residents are against this development, which will not bode well for its success if approved.

P.M. Uprichard

4. Letter to New Park School Developers

Thank you for your letter of 19th September, and for your offer to make a presentation to members of the Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council. Planning Advice Note 47 states that ‘Discussions on the planning merits of cases between applicants and community councils are strongly discouraged’. I regret therefore that the Community Council will not be able to take up your offer

P M Uprichard

Appendix E – Strategic Agreement – Fife Council and University of St Andrews

Introduction

Fife must play an active part in the modern, technology and market driven global economy, meeting all the economic opportunities and sustainability challenges this brings. Key to this is to develop the indigenous workforce in Fife so as to ensure capacity for individual businesses and entrepreneurs and also to provide a lead to others in shaping communities and the urban fabric.

In this context, Fife Council and the University of St Andrews will work together to ensure a more prosperous future for residents and companies in Fife. Through this Strategic Agreement, Fife Council and the University of St Andrews have identified shared priorities and are committed to developing strategic approaches to tackling these priorities in a cooperative, complementary manner.

Aims of the Strategic Agreement

There is significant common ground in the objectives of Fife Council and the University of St Andrews. Fife will need to draw fully upon all its resources as it moves ahead into the future to achieve desired impacts. As a world-class university based within Fife, the University of St Andrews stands ready to contribute toward these goals. This Agreement thus identifies opportunities and approaches for joint working between the University of St. Andrews and Fife Council.

Strategic planning and joint working

Fife Council

Both Fife Council and the University of St Andrews are partners in the Fife Economic Forum. As a key partner of the Forum, Fife Council Development Services is responsible for a range of planning and economic development activities to support the implementation of the strategic objectives for the Fife economy proposed by the Fife Community Plan 2004-2007.

The Economic Development Strategy for Fife – Growing Fife’s Future, produced by the Fife Economic Forum in November 2005, is set within the context of the Fife Community Plan and seeks to create a prosperous and thriving Fife. It offers a long-term view of what the Fife economy could look like in ten years time and sets out the steps to be taken to achieve the vision. The Strategy is based around a series of programmes aimed at:

- growing the business base
- creating pathways to employment for all of those without work
- making investment in infrastructure for growth
- creating a knowledge economy; and promoting success in key sectors.

Actions contained within the Strategic Agreement will assist in addressing a number of priorities across the five programmes. The priorities for action identified within Growing Fife’s Future include:

- supporting commercialisation of research from the University of St Andrews
- developing science and technology links within and outwith Fife through the creation of a science park associated with the University

- maximising the opportunities provided by the St Andrews World Class Initiative in relation to golf, tourism and the University of St Andrews

The actions of the Strategy will also address the range of objectives identified in the Fife Community Plan, which highlights the need for: a stronger, more flexible and diverse economy; a well-educated labour pool in Fife; a safeguarded and improved environment; improving health and well-being in Fife; strengthened and safer communities.

The Fife Development Plan, incorporating the Fife Structure Plan and the Local Plans for Fife, seeks to support the commercialisation of the Higher Education sector and in particular there is an intention to work in partnership with the University to develop the Campus Plan over the twenty year period.

The University of St Andrews

Future joint working with Fife will be well-grounded, as the University is already woven firmly into many dimensions of Fife, generating positive economic and social impacts. The University participates in a variety of Fife-wide efforts. A Professor from the highly-ranked School of Economics represents the University on the Fife Economic Forum. The University is a member of the Fife Lifelong Learning Partnership, committed to contributing toward the FLLP's aim: "A Well Educated and Skilled Fife ... a knowledgeable and confident Fife in which all members of the population have access to high quality, relevant education and training opportunities." The University's own Strategic and Operational Plans devote substantial attention to widening access for Scottish students. As just one example of its many activities, the University's Access Office has strong links with courses given at: Adam Smith College, Angus College, Dundee College, Elmwood College, Lauder College and Perth College. The University is a member of the Fife and Tayside Wider Access Regional Forum, and seeks out potential students from across Fife, including those progressing from the Further Education sector.

A few points here (from 2002-2003) will highlight the common ground already shared with Fife Council and its goals. The University is a significant "business" and a major employer, with some 1,870 staff, who receive nearly two-thirds of the University's annual expenditures of £78,117,000. When leveraged spend and employment are calculated, based on equations in an analysis commissioned by Universities Scotland, the true economic impact is seen to be even more striking: some 2,400 jobs created and a total output of £124,987,200 (including calculated knock-on effects) generated by the University.

Furthermore, the University provides an international profile, contacts and attraction of visitors. For example, in 2003 a minimum of 100 major international collaborations took place and numerous conferences were brought to Fife. Calculations based on the 1,620 international students brought to Fife by the University in 2002-2003 indicate: total off-campus expenditure of £9.07M; expenditure on Scottish goods and services of £5.21M; total output generated through the Scottish economy of £13.29M and 148 additional jobs – with most of these economic impacts falling to Fife. Extremely conservative calculations as to overseas visitors attracted to Fife in whole or in part by the University would evidence: total off-campus expenditure of £4M; expenditure on Scottish goods & services of £2.3M; total output generated through the Scottish economy of £6M and 59 additional jobs.

The University plays catalytic roles for business and economic development, as recognised, for example, in its Strategic Agreement with Scottish Enterprise Fife. Its contributions fall into the areas of the St Andrews World Class project and various dimensions of knowledge transfer into commercialisation, via the generation and exploitation of cutting-edge research and intellectual property, spinouts, training of students in entrepreneurialism, attraction of international companies to Fife and development of its Convergent Technologies Centre. Research and education propel advances in relevant areas such as sustainability, energy, social dimensions of health and creative industries.

With a higher percentage of academic staff in 5/5* ranked units at the top of their fields than any other Scottish university, the University attracts bright people from Scotland, the UK and around the world, as staff and students. The University is making a deeply committed effort to include as many Fife students as it can within its home/EU students intake (which is capped by the Scottish Funding Council); the University also offers a part-time evening degree and high quality executive CPD education. The University also offers recreational and cultural activities, such as Stanza, the largest poetry festival in Scotland.

The University of St Andrews intends to develop its landholdings at the western edge of the town to encourage the growth of small to medium businesses. To this end, proposals for the western expansion of St Andrews are currently under consideration. The proposed development would include housing land, university and economic and research development and employment land. Should this development proposal go ahead, it will be phased over a twenty year period.

Joint Agenda – Key Challenges

Given this background, a number of key issues have been identified by Fife Council and the University of St Andrews as joint priorities for the Strategic Agreement. Six major themes of overlapping interests have been defined as: Building Key Relationships; Strategic Planning for Land Use and Infrastructure; Sustainability; Commercialisation of Research; Tourism Development in St Andrews; Development of Key Sectors; and Workforce Development.

Building Key Relationships

Both the Council and the University will benefit from an ever-improving relationship in which, for example, information is shared as a matter of course and reciprocal contacts are established for various dimensions of activity.

The following have been identified as priority areas:

- Knowledge and information sharing between Fife Council and the University
- Developing the relationship between the University and the St Andrews community

- Strategic Planning for Land Use and Infrastructure
- Continued dialogue will take place between Fife Council and the University of St Andrews to ensure that strategic plans are informed by each other and make the best use of possible synergies regarding land use and infrastructure.

The following have been identified as priority areas:

- The University Estates Strategy
- Fife Development Plans (Structure and Local)
- Issues relating to transportation
- Issues relating to student housing, specifically houses in multiple occupation (HMOs)

Sustainability

Sustainability, for both the environment and the economy, is key to the long-term future; both the Council and the University are committed to exploring and identifying strategies for sustainability.

The following have been identified as priority areas:

- Short courses (Continuing Professional Development) presented by the University to meet Fife Council and Fife private sector needs, if identified (e.g., environmental accounting)
- Local projects (to be selected annually)
- Research linkages

Commercialisation of Research

With the University of St Andrews a world-class research powerhouse, it is certainly desirable that some of benefits of commercialising such research fall to Fife; in turn, Fife Council could facilitate effective facilities for research and infrastructure for spinout companies. The University of St Andrews is a world-class research powerhouse, across an unusually wide spectrum of research areas. As rated by the last UK-wide Research Assessment Exercise, the University excelled, with 72% of its academic staff placed in prestigious 5/5* units, thus topping the league tables in Scotland in this regard and placing it well within the top 10% of similar institutions across the UK. It is the only Scottish university to have no grades lower than 4, with all of its departments achieving international excellence in some aspects of their research. Thus research strengths range from development of a new laser device that can detect potentially fatal gas leaks to ecological and bio-diversity studies to much-consulted research on terrorism. Many of its research strengths lend themselves to commercialisation, including but not limited to photonics, fuel cells, computer science, biotechnology, chemical catalysts and physics. In fact, the University participates in/receives external funding for a number of schemes that can provide leveraged funding to partner or spinout companies; examples include: the North East Scotland Technology Seed Fund, SE's Proof of Concept, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, and the undergraduate-oriented Scottish Institute for Enterprise. Sectors addressed by its current spinout companies include: biotechnology, dentistry, environmental surveying, fuel cells, interactive displays and opto-electronics.

It is certainly desirable that some of benefits of commercialising such research fall to Fife. In turn, Fife Council could facilitate the development or expansion of effective facilities for research and infrastructure for spinout companies.

The following have been identified as priority areas:

- Knowledge transfer
- Research and development
- Spin out companies
- Entrepreneurship

Tourism Development in St Andrews

St Andrews World-Class as an initiative highlights the significant role the University within the town plays in attracting tourism to Fife. Many offerings that will promote tourism will also benefit Fife residents; by working together (e.g. on conference facilities), the Council and the University can enhance the level and nature of the tourist experience in Fife. In addition to general tourism related to the University, many Scottish, UK and international individuals make professional visits to the University, or visits to student/staff relatives, and stay in the area. As a further example, the University's international prestige acts as a magnet for conferences. In the summer of 2003 alone, for instance, 143 conferences took place in University residences, with a total of 46,384 bed nights, of which 13,904 were from outside the UK and 17,061 were from the UK outside Scotland.

The following have been identified as priority areas:

- Cultural events
- Leisure facilities
- Effective use of assets
- Funding source
- Accommodation
- Conference facilities
- Tourist Information provision
- Transportation

Development of Key Sectors

Through the Fife Economic Forum, work is underway to identify and develop Fife's key sectors. Growing Fife's Future seeks to maximise economic impact on the economy by working with key growth sectors to enable them to become more competitive.

The University of St Andrews can engage more fully in this process and the key sector work will be complemented by initiatives implemented by the University. Current developments include the pioneering Master's course in Creativity Management offered by the consortium Institute for Capitalising on Creativity based at St Andrews, research such as the prize-winning work on fuel cells in the University's Chemistry School, and Continuing Professional Development such as that offered for executives by the University's new Management School.

The following have been identified by Growing Fife's Future as priority areas for key sector development:

- Construction
- Tourism
- Financial and Business Services
- Creative industries
- Retail
- Bio-technology
- Life sciences
- Environmental industries – "green" jobs
- Energy/Engineering

The University and the Council will work together to develop these key sectors where appropriate.

Workforce Development

Fife's workforce will need to be prepared for and continue to learn and adapt as the knowledge economy evolves; the University of St Andrews shares this vision with the Council. For example, the University's Access Office conducts a variety of activities affecting the educational and career development of Fife individuals. These include but are not limited to: providing information and guidance to aspiring students about Higher Education in general and the University of St Andrews in particular; forming compacts with Fife Schools and Fife individual students to encourage progression to university; working with colleges and others to provide a range of flexible routes into University; supporting university entry via Access Summer Schools for students about to enter and Sutton Trust Summer Schools for S5 students; sending undergraduate student tutors to Fife schools; offering a Student Shadowing day; forming a pilot collaboration with Kirkcaldy High School that provides mentoring for 25 S3 pupils; providing access programmes for mature students; establishing with other universities a widening in health access programme. Furthermore, the University has prioritised student bursaries as a key fundraising target. In addition to a part-time evening degree programme, the University also provides short courses (Continuing Professional Development) in a variety of areas, particularly in aspects of Management. Fife Council could assist in promoting awareness of University opportunities.

The following have been identified as priority areas:

- Widening access to higher education
- Continuing Professional Development
- Graduate Management School

Joint agenda – priorities for Action

This Strategic Agreement provides the lasting conceptual framework within which Fife Council and the University of St Andrews have identified common ground and shared priorities. To implement the Strategic Agreement, the partners have developed an Action Plan for 2006-2007 [attached at Appendix B]. This will address the key challenges identified within the Strategic Agreement, enabling both Fife Council and the University of St Andrews to work jointly in delivering the priority actions identified. While the Strategic Agreement will remain much the same over the upcoming years, the Action Plan will be revisited and updated annually, to take advantage of opportunities arising.

Appendix F – Email from Mrs Lesurf about St Andrews Transport Forum

In the Spring 2006 Environmental Network Newsletter – Take Pride in Fife – there is an article on p14 titled 'St Andrews Transport Forum'.

It says: 'Under the auspices of St Andrews University, a Travel Forum is to be established for the town. Membership of the forum will include Transportation Services as a lead partner along with representatives from Stagecoach in Fife, First Scotrail, St Andrews Taxi Association, Fife Police and other groups who can contribute to the Travel Plan concept and the promotion of sustainable travel options'

Were you, as secretary of St Andrews Community Council, ever sent information about the Transport Forum? They seem to have left out the main participants in local travel: the potential passengers / drivers and these are the people we are supposed to represent. The contact name and numbers given in the newsletter are Clare Hamilton-Sturdy, Transportation Services, Tel: 01592-413826, Fax: 01592-413111.

Appendix G – Our Planet, Our Fife, Our Future... You Decide

Conference 3rd November 2006, Rothes Halls, Glenrothes

The Take A Pride In Fife Environmental Network invites you to participate in a conference on Friday 3rd November 2006. The goal of this conference is to explore how we can all work together to improve the local and global environments!

Awareness of the impact that we have on the environment is rising, and it is important to make changes now to protect the Earth for our children and grandchildren. At the local level a number of problems, such as litter graffiti and dog fouling, can have a real impact upon quality of life. Globally, we are seeing a rise in fuel bills, the climate is changing and becoming stormier, and ice caps are melting at an alarming rate. With all this information it is easy to feel overwhelmed – but we can all do something, especially if we work together!

This is what this conference is about. Getting together organisations, community groups, businesses and individuals from Fife, so we can all work together to the benefit of the environment. We would greatly appreciate your input and hope that you can attend! Register by 13th October at latest – you can book online at www.fifedirect.org.uk/environment.

There will be speakers and workshops, as well as a short film, exhibition and live music, coffee and lunch. Speakers will include Simon Pepper, WWF, and Maureen Burgess from Newburgh Community Project.

Appendix H – Hospital Land

For Information (should have been circulated in September). Letter of objection submitted by Ian Goudie in July. See also September 2006 minutes item 4.1.5. for outcome.

Application for outline consent for erection of hospital, etc. Land South-East of Largo Road, St Andrews.

I write on behalf of the Community Council to object to the above application. For the strategic planning of St Andrews, the most important effect of this application has nothing to do with the provision of a hospital and healthcare centre. Indeed, as the East Area Development Committee expressed its view on the matter last year, we will not pursue our earlier objection to the principle of using the Largo Road site for the hospital. That does not imply, however, that we, or the town, are resigned to having urban development all along the unbuilt southern hillside, and it is that grim prospect that this application would facilitate.

The hospital project manager told us, at a Community Council meeting earlier this year, that Fife Council officials had inserted a clause into the planning consent for the Largo Road hospital site that required the NHS to allow access across this site to the southern hillside beyond. Although this information had presumably been formally in the public domain since shortly before the meeting at which the decision was taken, this revelation appeared to be greeted with near-disbelief by all the Community Councillors and Fife Councillors present. It seemed staggering that officials would slip through, in the small-print, a clause opening the flood-gates to urban sprawl along the southern hillside without drawing it to anyone's attention. It appeared to imply either subterfuge or a complete failure to understand the enormity of the action and how it would be perceived in the town. The protection of the southern hillside was a primary reason why we, as a Community Council, put so much time and effort into trying to ensure that the St Leonards Fields site remained available as a viable alternative. The widespread popular support for this position was seen repeatedly, most notably during the well-conducted consultation on the St Andrews Strategic Study. The prophetic words of Conclusion 1 of that Study, that "There is considerable further potential for involving the community in actively influencing the future of the town", appear all the more ironic with every passing year.

The plans do indeed show clearly and explicitly a major road leading eastwards from the Largo Road roundabout along the bottom of the site and to the rear of Lamberton Place. The accompanying documentation indicates that Fife Council's insistence on having this road forms one of the factors for the existence of the current application, since land used for a road is obviously not available for healthcare purposes. The understanding of the applicants is that the road is to provide access to the site that Fife Council, in its draft St Andrews and East Fife Local Plan, designated for industrial use. The reality, of course, is that it would provide access to a very large part of the southern hillside. This Community Council has, moreover, made it clear that it regards the southern hillside as a completely unacceptable location for an industrial site. Yet, as if to emphasise for how little public opinion counts, the proposed access road is shown on a plan that purports to show the existing hospital site!

Prematurity

The insertion of the clause providing access to the southern hillside gives still more weight to our argument that this application should be regarded as premature with respect to both the Fife Structure Plan and the St Andrews and East Fife Local Plan. Any decision to facilitate development of the hillside is a major strategic decision for the town. To slip it in by the back-door as a condition in a planning application makes a mockery of the idea of involving the public in the long-term planning of the town. It is irrelevant that the Draft Local Plan leaves a swathe of the southern hillside inside the town envelope. This document does not have any formal planning status, and therefore it is premature to take steps to facilitate its implementation. At the very least such a decision should be delayed until the judgement of the Scottish Ministers on the Structure Plan is known, as this will effectively define the scale of expansion for the town. For Fife Council to proceed as though the Structure Plan will inevitably be approved in its submitted form – as was recently done with the launch of the supporting Transportation Plan – is to display a lack of courtesy to the Scottish Executive and contempt for the public.

The scope of the Environmental Statement

The EIA (Scotland) Regulations 1999 (para 85) say that "In addition to the direct effects of a development, the ES should also cover indirect, secondary, cumulative, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects". Clearly the most major of the consequential effects of this application is that it facilitates major development of the southern hillside. As in 1993 we would be faced with the prospect of the Muir Group building up to 1000 houses on the southern hillside. As the ES fails to address this crucial effect, it is in our view clearly in breach of the EIA (Scotland) Regulations 1999. Yet it appears from the documentation that Fife Council advised the applicants that no new Scoping Study was

required for this new application. In contrast, it has been suggested to us that there is a pertinent recent ruling of the Court of Justice of the European Communities on the need for environmental assessments relating to reserved matters.

Site Layout

When the NHS submits an application for detailed consent, it will need to conform to any conditions imposed in the outline consent. It is therefore important to ensure that these conditions are designed to protect the environment of the town rather than, as at present, designed to destroy it. The aspects that should be addressed include

(a) Putting the hospital car parks and access to the west of the buildings rather than the east. In most circumstances this would be deemed the obvious thing to do, since the buildings would then be further from the road, helping to remove the "industrial tunnel" effect to which the Green Belt Forum so aptly referred. The present arrangement looks as though it was conceived with the Muir Group in mind. The proposed screening belt on the eastern side is almost irrelevant as the proposed major road leading east will allow this screening belt to be leap-frogged.

(b) In order to respect the opinions of the town, Fife Council should require that the buildings be sited towards the east of the site in such a manner to prevent access beyond. This would be the best outcome for the environment of the town.

(c) The visual impact of the hospital itself is also well worth considering at this stage. It is obvious that to minimise this impact the taller buildings should be sited on the lower parts of the site. The NHS emphasis on the wonderful views that the new hospital will enjoy tells its own story about its visual impact.

Traffic Impact

Presumably based on last year's experience, the applicants appear to believe that this application will be judged on broad political considerations, and that a Transport Assessment (TA) merely needs to exist rather than to bear any strong resemblance to reality. This is the only interpretation that one can put on the resubmission of the previous TA which was written in 2004. The baseline data in the TA are for 2002, with the impact forecasts for a hospital that opens in 2006. In reality, the opening is unlikely to be before 2010. Increased parking provision also implies increased traffic impact, and the effects of this need to be carefully assessed.

For anyone who is interested in the details of the flaws in the 2004 TA, we reproduce, as an appendix to this letter, section 5 of our submission last year.

Proximity to the recycling centre

Since outline consent for the hospital was granted last year, significant progress has been made with the recycling centre, which is expected to open this autumn and which is located behind Morrison's supermarket. Moving the hospital buildings further away from the Largo Road, as we have proposed above, would also have the advantage of reducing the problems caused by proximity to the recycling centre, which may well include noise and wind-blown litter driven by the prevailing westerly wind. Problems from vermin are also not unknown at recycling plants. The recycling plant will operate compacting machinery, and, at the time when planning consent was being sought, the Community Council proposed that the levels of noise generated should be monitored at least for the first year. Local residents have already complained about the noise of HGV deliveries to Morrisons which occur from as early as 5.30 a.m. until the late evening. The recycling site will bring both more car movements and a further stream of HGVs to remove the deposited waste.

Electromagnetic radiation

Whilst opinions on the likely dangers from electromagnetic radiation vary widely, the majority position on the Community Council has been to support the precautionary principle with respect to such risks. Experimentation with different microwave monitors indicates that the level of exposure to such radiation is lower on the lower parts of the site, which are further from the mobile phone mast and the TETRA mast to the south-west of the site, as well as being less exposed to the pulse of the Leuchars radar every few seconds. Again the implication would be that it is preferable to require that the hospital buildings should be built on the lower parts of the site, and not too close to the Largo Road. We understand that the Italians operate an exposure limit of 6 V/m in respect of buildings in which people work for more than four hours per day. We have obtained repeated readings of 4.0-6.5 V/m on the Largo Road. Readings on the higher parts of the Largo Road site itself are somewhat lower, but, unsurprisingly, decrease as you move down the site.

Appendix Z - 200 Club Report & Constitution

Papers circulated with the agenda, but not formally as an appendix originally.

200 Club Report

1 October 2006

By Pete Lindsay

Hand-over of the 200 Club records occurred in mid-September.

The accounts for 2004 and 2005 have been reconciled with the bank position at the ends of the respective years. 2006 accounts reconcile to the September bank statement.

During the hand-over audit a backlog of awards was identified and some prize cheques from the monthly draws were discovered misfiled among other correspondence. These problems date back to April 2005. All save two (miswritten) outstanding cheques have now been sent out.

A further problem was identified in the membership lists. These were not up to date as cancellations had

not been notified to the 200 Club administrator. Some draws had resulted in former members being recorded as prizewinners. Identification of lapsed members has relied on close analysis of the payments listed in bank statements as far back as January 2004. Fortunately the backlog in despatch of prizes allows these errors to be corrected: there will be re-draws for these past prizes so they may be awarded to members who were in good standing at the time, along with the regular monthly draw this month.

At the end of September 2006, 200 Club funds stand at £4,330.50. The bank account holds £6225.50 (September statement) but with 70+ outstanding cheques having just been issued the bank figure will drop rapidly in early October. Due to the late discovery of the constitution document the signatories to the bank account have not yet been updated.

To clarify the operation of the 200 Club the constitution will be circulated (possibly for the first time since 1995).

I should like to thank

1) Ken Crichton for his invaluable assistance in performing an initial audit and reconciliation of the books on handover, his advice on book keeping practice and his assistance with the catchup operation.

2) Richard Douglas for his cooperation and clarification of various points having handed over the records and his assistance with the catchup operation.

The Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council 200 Club Constitution

(6th February 1995)

1. The Club shall be called "The Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council 200 Club".

2. The function of the Club shall be to provide funds which will allow the Community Council to support and sponsor events and environmental improvements and help local groups organisations and individuals.

Administration

3. The Club shall be run by an Administrator, who must be a member of the Community Council, and must be authorized in writing to act on its behalf. The Administrator is not permitted to be a member of the Club.

4. The Administrator shall be required to make returns to the District Council in terms of the Lotteries and Amusements Act of 1976, and to administer the Club within the terms of this Act.

5. The Administrator shall be required to keep accounts of transactions made in connection with the Club, which must be submitted to and approved by the Community Council's Auditors.

6. The Administrator shall be required to keep a record of correspondence arising from the administration of the Club.

7. The Administrator shall be required to satisfy the Secretary and Treasurer of the Council that these requirements are being met.

Membership

8. Membership shall be open to everyone except the Club Administrator.

10. Members shall be required to pay by Standing Order the sum of £2 into the account of the Club on the first of every month. Members may also pay by one Standing Order or one single cheque for £24 per year. Only those members whose Standing Orders are operating or whose cheque for the year has been received shall be entitled to be included in any draw.

11. Multiple memberships may be held by any family or individual. A different registration number will be issued for each subscription.

12. Members may cancel their subscription at any time and are requested to inform the Administrator of their intention to do so.

Finance

13. Each month's income will be used as set out in the Lotteries and Amusement Act 1976.

- Up to half of the monthly income shall be used to provide prizes for the members of the Club.
- Of the remainder, up to 30 per cent may be used to cover administration costs.
- The rest shall be used to finance such projects as are deemed worthy of support.

14. There shall be at least two prizes each month, a large one and one or more smaller prizes. In addition, a proportion of the prize money will be kept back each month to be accumulated into one or more larger prizes.

Draws

15. All draws shall be made at a meeting of the full Community Council. A number of beads shall be drawn from a bag by members of the Council. The bag and its contents may be inspected by anyone who wishes so to do. The number of beads drawn shall match the number of prizes available for that month. Each bead shall have on it a number representing each member of the Club whose subscription is in order. The first prize shall be awarded to the person whose number matches that on the bead drawn first, the second prize shall be awarded to the person whose number matches that on the second bead drawn, and so on.

- The numbers on each bead shall be verified by the Council Secretary, or his/her deputy, as they

are drawn.

- The Administrator, or his deputy, shall announce the winner of each prize as it is drawn. Another Councillor shall verify the names of the winners.

16. The winners of any prizes shall be informed by the Administrator and shall be sent a cheque to the value of their win.

Grants

17. After allowance for administration and prizes, the remainder of the monthly income shall be used as outlined in Paragraph 2. Individuals or organisations may apply on the appropriate form for financial assistance for a project which must be concerned with the Royal Burgh of St Andrews.

18. Applications shall be considered by a Management Committee which shall consist of

- the Administrator, who shall chair the meetings of the Committee;
- the Chairman of the Community Council, or his/her Deputy;
- the Chairman of the Community Council Recreation Committee;
- and one other Community Councillor, who shall be appointed for one year.

19. Applications shall be approved or rejected, and the applicants shall be informed of the Committee's decision which shall be final. It shall not be necessary for the Committee to justify its decisions to the applicants, though it may do so if it so wishes.

20. Where an application is successful, full acknowledgement of the Community Council's association with the project shall be required, as shall proof that the grant has been used as intimated in the application. The Committee shall decide what form such acknowledgement and proof shall take.

Amendments to the Constitution

21. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be placed before the full Community Council for consideration. Amendments must be approved by a majority of votes. Members shall be given at least one month's notice of approved amendments.

2nd May 1988 AMENDED September 1991 and February 1995
