

Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council Agenda – December 2006

There will be a meeting of the community council at 7pm Monday 5th December 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. Meetings are recorded for the preparation of the minutes.

(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

Bill Sangster, Chris Lesurf

2. Minutes of November 2006

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

3. Presentations

3.1. Pay & Display Proposals

Mark Dewar and Moir Gibson, Fife Council Transportation Services

3.2. Nan Taylor – Presentation

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

See Appendices B & C

5.2. Objection to revised Grange House planning application

Appendix D – for information,

6. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

6.1. Community Council Vacancy

Nan Taylor (11 Irvine Crescent, tel 472588) has asked to be considered. Here is her profile:

Born in Dundee, educated at Morgan Academy and St Andrews University. Wide teaching experience in Britain and abroad until she took early retirement from Madras College in 1984. Nan Taylor became involved in community fund-raising for Rymouth Hostel (opened 1986), and formed 'Friends of the Hostel' to enhance the lives of residents.

In 1988-9 she represented 150 petitioners objecting to developer-led expansion of the town on SE border on unzoned land, and took part in the Inquiry on the Local Plan Alteration (St Andrews).

From 1989 to 1992 she was a member of the CC and then was elected to NEF District Council for St Andrews South-East, serving for 4 years.

At the end of 1998 she became involved in the Pier Project, and co-ordinated local support for the pier restoration until the Heritage Lottery in March 2001 announced that the Harbour Trust application for funding had been successful.

Nan Taylor feels that through her experience she can contribute to the CC's work.

6.2. Community Council Seminar – 2nd September

Report received

6.3. Reports from representatives

6.3.1 Common Good Fund

6.4. Any Other Matters Arising?

7. From Committees

7.1. Recreation

7.1.1. St Andrews Day Reception Report

7.2. General Purposes

7.3. 200 Club

Draw and report.

8. New Business**8.1. Renewal of Trade Mark Registration****8.2. Sources of Funding – External & Internal**

see Appendix E – The Big Lottery Fund – Breathing Places

8.3. Conference on Middle-sized old European university towns

see Appendix F

8.4. Consultation on Draft West Edinburgh Planning Framework 2006

For info only.

8.5. Implementing the Standards for Community Engagement

Supporting Best Practice – Exchanging Learning – Appendix G.

8.6. www.onlinestandrews.co.uk

Community Website – see Appendix H

8.7. Eastern Division Community Newsletter

see Appendix I

8.8. St Andrews Art for Mercy Charity Auction

see Appendix J

9. Reports from Office Bearers**9.1. Chair****9.2. Treasurer****9.3. Secretary****9.3.1. Correspondence – Appendix A.****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 – Correspondence

Date	from	Subject
Nov 06	Postwatch Scotland	Newsletter Issue 15
Nov 06	Fife Council – Law & Admin	EADC Meeting 21st November – Agenda
Nov 06	APRS	Rural Scotland – Autumn 2006 Newsletter
Nov 06	The Patent Office	Renewal of Trade Mark Registration
25/10/06	Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator	Letter confirming winding up of Community Council Trust
Nov 06	Fife Community Services	Agenda of East Sands Leisure Centre Advisory Group 28th November and Minute of 5th September
03/11/06	Fife Law and Admin Service	Sources of Funding letter and attached enclosures.
29/11/06	Scottish Executive Development Department Planning	Consultation on Draft West Edinburgh Planning Framework 2006
03/11/06	Fife Council Law & Admin	Community Council Seminar – 2nd September – Report
Nov 06	Scottish Community Development Centre	Implementing the National Standards for Community Engagement – Supporting Best Practice – Exchanging Learning – received by email
27/11/06	Chris Dunkerley – smartcommunity.co.uk	Email announcing new website for St Andrews – see agenda
30/11/06	Chris Lesurf	Email with apologies and suggestion that another councillor should become Common Good Fund Rep
Nov 06	Fife Police – Eastern Division	Community Newsletter by email
06/11/06	Bo Larsson	Email re Conference on Middle Sized old University Towns
15/11/06	Scottish Language Dictionaries	Email newsletter – November 2006

Appendix B – Planning Committee – 13th November 2006

Present: Penny Uprichard, Ian Goudie, George Davidson. Apologies: Richard Douglas.

Kinburn Castle	Walkway between castle and building beyond it.	P.U. to comment as PC feel it will not enhance conservation area or setting of listed building
13 The Links	New Dormers (new application)	N/C
Students Union, St.Mary's Place	Bus shelter	N/C
Barnardo's, Bell Street	Two signs	N/C
Macgregors, Market Street	Change of use from retail to public bar	N/C
Tesco's, Market Street	Installation of additional ATM	N/C
Clydesdale Bank, South Street	Additional fixed sign	N/C
15 Queens Gardens	Extension to building	N/C
5 Ellice Place	Alterations to gift shop and café, table and chairs outside	N/C
12 Murray Place	Conversion of part of house to flat on lower ground floor	N/C
Westview House, Lade Braes Lane	Dormer Window	N/C

Appendix C – Planning Committee – 27th November 2006

Present: Penny Uprichard, Ian Goudie, George Davidson, Richard Douglas. Apologies: Ben McLeod

Hope Park Church, 1 Howard Place	Formation of access ramp	N/C
Aslar House, 120 North Street	Internal alterations	N/C
Afton House, Kennedy Gardens & Newton Lodge, Wardlaw Gardens	Renovate to from one residence	N/C
Former Langlands Primary School	Refurbishment	N/C
Rufflets Country House Hotel	Extension to hotel (Banqueting and conference facilities)	P.U. to object: Traffic, over development and detriment to house and setting
47 North Castle Street	Rear extension and alterations	N/C
13 Greyfriars Gardens	Replacement window	N/C
60 Hepburn Gardens	Internal and External Alterations	N/C

Appendix D – Letter to Planning objecting to Grange Road revised application

06/03453/E Full Revised Application For Grange House, Grange Road, St Andrews

The Planning Committee of the Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council wishes to lodge an OBJECTION to this application.

The present development plan consists of the Structure Plan (2002) and the Local Plan (1996). The Draft Local Plan has not yet been approved. It is therefore only a material consideration and is not a basis for decision on applications.

It is difficult to understand why this amended application has been accepted. The previous application was refused on 27th June. The decision letter was dated 25th July, and the present application was lodged on 3rd October – nine weeks after the decision letter was sent out. Is this a record?

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 says that:

‘A planning authority may decline to determine an application for planning permission for the development of any land if –

(b) in the opinion of the authority there has been no significant change since the refusal or, as the case may be, dismissal.

Can the omission of a swimming pool, the reduction of timeshares from the 12 to 10 and alterations to the exterior of the hotel and timeshares be said to be ‘significant’?

A requirement of the Structure Plan (2002) was that a landscape capacity assessment should be commissioned by Fife Council. The result, which should therefore be a material consideration, is the Alison Grant Landscape Capacity Assessment and Proposed Green Belt Study of St Andrews. The Grange House site falls into Category 5, where ‘development is inappropriate because of its potential impact on the landscape character, scenic quality or visual attributes of St. Andrews and its setting’.

The site is in the prospective Green Belt. According to former Chief Executive Mr Sinclair and former Head of Planning Mr Rae in 2002, development would be premature. St Andrews residents have waited 12 years for this Green Belt. If it is going to be eroded by development which is unnecessary and

unwanted in the town, it will only be big enough to cover a snooker table. As noted above, development is premature to the setting of the boundaries of the Green Belt, which will be decided in the forthcoming Local Plan.

Councillors may have to decide between protecting the landscape setting of St Andrews, which has already been marred by three golf complexes and then hospital site, and handing some of it to another commercial enterprise outside the settlement, which may or may not benefit the town.

Policy E15 of the Local Plan (1996) requires new buildings to be located within settlement boundaries. The developers acknowledge this, but feel their application is justified in requiring a countryside setting. In other words, they want the town boundary to be extended to accommodate the application. In support of this they refer to 'the success of the St Andrews Bay development' – which two years ago declared debts and losses of £67 million before being sold to the present owners.

It is believed that the occupancy rate for hotels in Fife during 2005 was 60%. This leaves plenty of room for more visitors without further building.

Even with the reduction in the number of timeshares, the proposed building would represent over-development.

At a time when Transportation are planning to charge considerably more for parking in the town, and to extend parking charge areas, can there be any justification for increasing car and bus traffic through the town, thus adding to the present congestion? Assessments by developers of future traffic are rarely accurate.

Appendix E – Sources of Funding

From David Henderson, Team Leader (Administration), Fife Council.

As you may recall from previous communications, queries arise from time-to-time regarding the eligibility of Community Councils and other community groups for sources of funding, both internal and external to Fife Council. Colleagues from the Council's Policy & Organisational Development Service have prepared summary details, which I am now transmitting as enclosures with this letter.

With regard to grant schemes internal to Fife Council, please find enclosed a double sided document composing a project description form for any initial enquires regarding financial support (for completion and return to the Funding and Monitoring Team at Fife House), together with a schedule summarising the eligibility or otherwise of Community Councils for the Council's various Community Grant Schemes.

In relation to potential sources of external funding, the intention is that (in due course) a full information sheet will be provided by the Funding and Monitoring Team. In the meantime, Sheena Kenny from that Team has drawn attention to the Big Lottery Fund's 'Breathing Places' grant programme, which has a closing date for applications of 13th December.

Further details of the advice and guidance available from the Council's Funding and Monitoring Team can be found by searching under "Grants and Funding" on the Fife Direct Website.

Name of Grant Schemes from which Community Councils can obtain grants:

1. Environmental Grants – If there is a need in their area and their constitution allows them to carry out such projects
2. Community Safety Projects – If there is a need in their area and their constitution allows them to carry out such projects
3. Floral Enhancement – Open to any organisation including Community Councils that want to visually improve localities
4. Community Events – If there is any need in their area and their constitution allows them to carry out such projects

The Big Lottery Fund

The Big Lottery Fund has launched phase 2 of the small grants programme – Breathing Places. The Breathing Places grants programme has two aims:

1. Increase participation and access to local breathing places by encouraging people to become actively involved in them, and by supporting activities that are open and accessible to everyone.
2. Make a lasting improvement to the local environment by supporting activities that develop existing breathing places or help create and sustain new ones.

A breathing place is a green space that benefits wildlife and the local community. It may be a local woodland, roadsides, parks, local nature reserves or wildlife areas, ponds, green corridors and wildflower meadows.

Phase 2 of the programme will distribute £5 million to a wide range of organisations that are involved in the creation of new breathing places, particularly woodlands.

Grants between £300 and £10,000 will be awarded to cover a range of costs including plants and trees; signage, pathways and other aids to access; equipment to help you create and maintain your breathing place. The closing date for applications is 13 December 2006.

Voluntary and community groups, schools, statutory health bodies and community councils can apply.

You can find more information about the Breathing Places campaign on the BBC Website www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces or contact Sheena Kenny, Policy Officer, Fife Council, on 01592 413266

Appendix F – Conference on Middle sized old European university towns

From Bo Larsson, Architect, PhD, docent in Urban Planning, Urban Planning Consultant, Project Technical Assistant of the European Commission, FP5. Plan- och Byggnadskonst i Lund AB, Stora Södergatan 25, SE-222 23 Lund.

At the University of Lund, Sweden, the idea has come up to arrange a conference next year concerning relations and interplay between University and City. It will be financed by a special local fund. All costs including travel, accommodation and meals will be covered by this fund. I have been asked plan this conference. University Rector Magnificus Göran Bexell and Vice Rector Björn Wittenberg, Lund University agree with the conference plans. The conference is planned in co-operation with Professor Kerstin Barup, head of the hosting department, of Architecture and Built Environment, at Lund University.

In many cases the university tends to be a world of its own somewhat introvert and separated – physically and/or mentally – from the rest of the city. The question arises: How could co-operation and interchange between university give best possible benefits for both? On one hand, the university contributes to urban life and on the the other hand urban life and atmosphere contribute to the university life – education and research environment. A strong identity and cultural and historical heritage contributes to enforcing the attraction of both city and university. How can existing and potential qualities be developed and utilized in the best way? Which role has urban planning?

The aim is to discuss these questions at the conference together with representatives of university towns that have worked with this questions or where the interchange town/university is traditionally strong. We are especially interested in smaller/middle-sized, old university towns, with a strong cultural heritage and a town centre of high historical value. Typical examples of towns of this type are Leiden, Leuven, Göttingen, Coimbra and of course Oxford and Cambridge, but there are also many others. Now I am making a preliminary investigation of university towns that could be interesting for presentations at the conference and of researchers – not necessarily from these towns – who had worked with this issues and could give interesting contributions at the conference. The university towns could be represented by municipal authorities and planners as well as university authorities and researchers.

St Andrews is a middle-sized university town, with a university, integrated in the historic centre.

Would it be possible to find representatives from the municipality of St. Andrews and the urban planning system in St. Andrews, who could give a contribution about the interchange between the university and the city of St Andrews? Have questions of interchange university/town been actively discussed? Are strategies for this theme developed? Do you know persons at the municipal offices or at the university that have worked with these themes? Or would it be possible to inform about how town and university is functioning together today? It would be very interesting to have your city represented at our conference.

In the next weeks it is my aim to make a draft plan of the conference – a preliminary choice of towns, researchers and lecturers. The conference could probably be arranged in autumn next year, or if possible already in May or June. For our time planning I would be glad to know, as soon as possible, which time that would suit you best.

I enclose a preliminary programme of the conference. I hope to hear from you soon!

Appendix G – Implementing the National Standards for Community Engagement

Supporting Best Practice – Exchanging Learning

Scottish Community Development Centre is organising four regional events that will enable those actively involved in promoting and applying the National Standards to share and develop learning.

Each event is designed to focus on issues identified in practice and will enable participants to:

- Hear some local stories
- Select from a menu of workshops drawing on participants' experience.
- Explore issues of evaluation of progress using the Standards

The four events will be:

7 December	Inverness
12 December	Dunfermline (In partnership with Fife Council)
23 January	Dundee
25 January	Glasgow

Workshop topics:

Each participant will select 3 workshop topics from the following:

- **Community engagement in community planning** – what makes a partnership fit for purpose?
- **Rural practice** – how do the national standards work for remote communities?
- **Capacity building 1** – How are we helping people in our neighbourhoods to engage?
- **Capacity building 2** – How are we helping communities of interest to engage?
- **Capacity building 3** – How are we equipping people in our organisations to implement the standards
- **Equalities** – How are we ensuring that community engagement practice is anti-discriminatory?

(Over the programme of events, the contributions of participants in the workshops will help us to build up further advice notes to support practice.)

Programme

10.00 Welcome, introduction to the programme.
 How is it going? – Options Finder exercise
 The Standards in Practice – a story of local action
 1st Facilitated workshop
 2nd Facilitated Workshop
 Lunch
 13.30 3rd Facilitated workshop
 14.15 Coffee
 14.30 Prove it! – how can we evaluate the impact of the Standards?
 Reporting on national and local developments
 Discussion groups – how can we using the standards to evaluate our community engagement?
 15.30 Round – up and Option Finder review
 16.00 Finish

Appendix H – onlinestandrews.co.uk

From Chris Dunkerley, Smart Community Ltd, Mobile: 07779 782 986. E-mail: <chris.dunkerley@smartcommunity.co.uk>. Website: <http://www.smartcommunity.co.uk/>

I just wanted to inform you about the new community website that has been set up in St Andrews. This website is different from any other. Everybody can take part and submit items to the site, not just one webmaster. It has been set up to raise money for local good causes. 50% of the advertising revenue goes back into the community. The website address is <<http://www.onlinestandrews.co.uk/>>www.onlinestandrews.co.uk

We need as many local people as possible to provide content for the site. All content submitted to the site is approved before being displayed. I am contacting the Community Council because I believe you can provide perfect content and at the volume, the site requires to keep going. Please add as many items as you can as this helps to encourage advertisers and then more money is donated back to the community.

If you are interested in hearing more about the concept and the website please let me know. I would be happy to come to the next community council meeting and discuss it in more detail.

Appendix I – Eastern Community Division Newsletter Extracts

November 2006

Superintendent Bill Lawrie.

It has been a very busy time for the Force recently with three murders and other serious crime in the past month or so. The Northern Ireland Political Process was held at the Fairmont Hotel in St Andrews last month, the ex president of Iran Mohammed Khatami visited St Andrews University last week and the Dunhill Cup, all events resulted in extra resources being used in Eastern Division. Additionally the tragedy of the Meridian fishing boat being lost in the North Sea thrust the East Neuk into the national media once again.

The serious crime and high profile visits don't detract from the fact that 'routine' police work still has to be done and we are always looking at ways of maximising the resources that we have. Anti-social behaviour continues to be a problem throughout the area quite often fuelled by alcohol and resulting in mindless vandalism.

Our Community and Beat Officers have seized 108 Litres of cider, 54 litres of fortified wine, 125 cans of lager, 19 bottles of vodka and 87 bottles of alcopop from youths in our division over the last two months. Overall twenty-two people have been charged in connection with selling alcohol to underage children as part of test purchase operations – operation 'Alcopop'.

I think many of us had hoped that the test purchase would reduce the flow of drink to youngsters. The amount of alcohol seized recently does concern me, not only from a police/anti-social behaviour perspective but also as a health/vulnerability issue for those youngsters involved. Our community officers have been targeting problem areas and have made some impact, however most of our success has been when children have been taken home to their parents or guardian. This seems to have more of a long-term effect, than the police dealing with the incident alone. Hopefully this engenders some parental (and individual) responsibility.

We intend to intensify our action in this area over the coming weeks and in combination with our 'Safer Scotland' activity will see significant numbers of police officers active around Eastern Division. We'll update you in coming newsletters with results.

Chief Inspector Derek Finnie has moved onto a new post at Police Headquarters after four years in Eastern and we wish him well in his job in Criminal Justice Department. John Pow is coming from Central Division to take over from Derek and many of you will remember John from his previous time at St. Andrews.

I apologise for the newsletter not being published in October but other commitments meant that it was the middle of the month before we could go to 'press' and by that time it seemed sensible to defer it.

PC Goldie

St Andrews University

As usual the Town remains busy with students and we are about half way through the first semester. The University, Students Association and the Police continue to work closely together to tackle any incidents of anti-social behaviour including noisy parties. The Fife Council Noise Nuisance Team have been attending calls in the St Andrews area and details are passed on to the Police so that repeat offenders can be identified and positive action taken when necessary.

Raisin Weekend is due to take place on the 19th and 20th November and strategies have been put into place to both educate students on unacceptable behaviour and the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption. The University and the Police will be taking a firm approach towards all participants and any person caught committing an offence will face being reported to The Procurator Fiscal and disciplined by the University. It is hoped by all, that the event will be enjoyed by those participating and spectating with the minimum of disturbance to the wider community.

St Andrews

A recent concern has been raised by residents in the area surrounding Madras School, South Street, St Andrews regarding the conduct of school pupils during the lunchtime break. A small number of pupils are in the habit of congregating in the closes and alleyways off South Street, consuming there sandwiches, soft drinks and sweets, discarding the wrappers and empty bottles where they stand. An incident came to light recently where a resident was verbally abused when challenging the children conduct. It is requested that residents who have experienced similar problems, contact the local Community Police Officer. Community Officers will be working along side environmental protection officers carrying out litter patrols.

Following the success of 2005 this years switch on of the Christmas Lights in St Andrews is to take place on the afternoon of Saturday 25th November 2006. Residents and visitors can look forward to a range of entertainment taking place with fairground rides situated in Market Street and South Street near to the Westport. There will be a number of street entertainers, a brass band and a pipe band and Santa is expected to make an appearance. Full details of the event will be published in the Local Press.

The Community Team are continuing to visit Licensed Premises as part of the Alcopop campaign to target the sale of alcohol to persons under the age of 18 years and any youths found drinking alcohol in the street will be taken home to their parents and reported accordingly.

Appendix J – St. Andrews Art for Mercy Charity Auction

My name is Danielle Johnson and I am a member of the University of St Andrews. I am helping to organise, along with a group of other students, a charity art auction, called Art For Mercy, in March 2007, to raise money for Tearfund, an international charity which helps people with HIV/AIDS.

I am in charge of publicity, and am trying to get the word out about the auction and also a launch party we are having on the 12th December. At the moment I am trying to come up with innovative ways of drawing attention to the events. One of the ideas I have come up with is using the pavement as a giant billboard. I am aware that other groups within St Andrews have done this in the past, using chalk to write on the pavement publicising their event.

I was wondering what St Andrews Council thought of this idea, and if it would be feasible to execute in a couple of locations around town?
