



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 8th March 2013  
7.30 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

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### PRESENT:

Alex MacDonald (Chair), Bob Smith (Vice Chair), Isabel Smith (Secretary), John Russell (Treasurer), Gordon Langlands (Minutes Secretary), John Bruce, Gary Cummins, Christine Dewar, Morag Douglas, Ian McKenzie, Bruce Stuart, Zoe Williamson, Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz), PC Jez Graves, Cllr Peter George.

ATTENDING: 7 members of the public.

### **1. Chairman's Opening Remarks and Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed the meeting that apologies had been received from Cllr Susan Leslie.

Prior to the meeting there was a very well attended and successful 2013 Burntisland Community Award presentation to Olive Grayson and Bob Main followed by a buffet for family and friends. Many thanks to Isabel and Bob Smith, John Bruce and John Russell for helping to organise this. The Chairman intimated that there would be a private meeting of Community Councillors at the end.

### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (8<sup>th</sup> February 2013)**

There were two changes to 10.8 in the Minutes.

It now reads:

"Due to the February BCC meeting having been held so soon after the delivery of the Burgh Buzz, it was proposed to wait till the March meeting to elect 2 replacement members. This was voted on and passed by a majority of the BCC (11:2)."

The minutes were agreed, proposed by Bob Smith and seconded by John Russell.

### **3. Notification of Community Concerns for A.O.B. (Item 8)**

No extra items.

### **4. Police Report – PS Jez Graves.**

Rachael Burns has a new post as Chief Superintendent McEwan's staff officer.

Sgt Stuart Davidson has been appointed as the new Station Sergeant at Burntisland and is due to take up his new position in a couple of week's time.

Acting Sergeant Martin McGovern will be covering in the meantime and can be contacted on the following e-mail address: [martin.mcgovern@fife.pnn.police.uk](mailto:martin.mcgovern@fife.pnn.police.uk)

PC Graves indicated there had been 187 calls since the last meeting (including Aberdour / Auchtertool / Kinghorn / Burntisland). 26 crimes in Burntisland with 20 detected (84%).

Parking Initiative ended with 31 tickets issued.

Women's Safety Event will be advertised shortly.

Drug warrants executed for cannabis and cocaine.

Community Engagement Meeting held at Pettycur Bay.

Three priorities: ASBO, speeding and dog fouling.

PC Graves noted the concern raised by a member of the Community Council regarding motor bikes in the Docks Area (private land).



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### 5. Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports

- 5.1. The Secretary stated all correspondence was up to date and there was nothing to report.
- 5.2. The Treasurer indicated a free balance of £1,734.02. See Appendix 1.
- 5.3. The Treasurer is investigating whether it is possible to close the RBS BCC account and move it to Lloyds whilst also opening a sub account for the Burgh Buzz.

### 6. Environment. (Refer to Appendix 2 for summary).

#### 6.1. Environmental Report J.Bruce.

- 6.1.1. 20/02/13 Received report from Derek Abbott Countryside Ranger stating he has met the site agent and engineers to review this area and will be investigating the drainage problem they may consider placing grass turf on the banking but this will be subject to planning permission if they go ahead with the turf this will certainly help to keep the pathway cleaner. Further up-date will be provided by Derek Abbott.

8.03.13 received confirmation from Derek Abbott that engineers will be on site on Monday 11.03.13 to examine the drainage issue and will report back with an up-date as soon as possible

- 6.1.2. Chewing gum on pavements along High Street.

This has been a concern but now notice that some action is being taken to clean this up.

- 6.1.3. Dog fouling is still a major concern, have had a number of individuals complaining about the state of the pavements. Maybe more bins and signs around the town (one at the top end of the lane leading down from Craigkenochie). It is the irresponsible dog owners who are to blame and hopefully we can get through to these people that they are creating a bad name for Burntisland and to clean up after them.

- 6.1.4. The seat at the King Alexander Monument badly needs replaced. This is the responsibility of Kinghorn.

**Action: Cllr Peter George to bring up at next Kinghorn Community Council meeting.**

#### 6.2. Morag Douglas gave an update on behalf of Cllr Susan Leslie.

- 6.2.1. Chewing gum - getting done.
- 6.2.2. Grit bin in Links Car Park should be there.
- 6.2.3. A resident of Ferguson Place has been reported for Dog Fouling.
- 6.2.4. Fly tipping at the Docks (asbestos behind blue shed) is the responsibility of Forth Ports. Gas Main at Toll Park is to be upgraded.

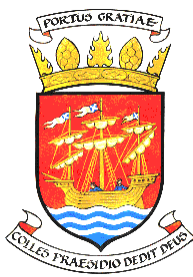
#### 6.3. Cllr Peter George reported:

- 6.3.1. Safety fence erected at Putting Green hut. Hut to be demolished soon.
- 6.3.2. A dog bin is required at Colinswell Road / Kininmonth Av.
- 6.3.3. There is a meeting with Payback team to see what can be done with Monks Walk. Possibly in stages.
- 6.3.4. Fife Council is looking into a special machine for removing chewing gum.
- 6.3.5. On the right of the Dive Bunker there is an area that belongs to Fife Council which could accommodate parking for 100+ cars.
- 6.3.6. Steps at Red Tunnel are worn and need repaired.
- 6.3.7. Something needs done where the seats have been taken away opposite the Porte. The bolts are sticking up and are dangerous

#### 6.4. A member of the public reported:

Two caravans at Ross Point for almost 1 year. One has been vandalised.

**Action: Cllrs George and Leslie to pursue above issues with the relevant Fife Council officials.**



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### 7. Burgh Buzz – Bill Kirkhope.

The deadline for the next issue is 15<sup>th</sup> April. Any submissions are required a week before this date. BCC requested 1 page for a follow up on the Survey.

### 8. Any Other Business.

#### 8.1. Burntisland/Kinghorn Sports Hub – Bob Smith.

##### 8.1.1. Sports Group: At the Steering Group Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March at the Toll Centre.

SportsScotland stated they would rather support a 60x40 pitch with 3m run off rather than 40x40. Previously the total cost for project was £450k with Fife Council and the Sports Group funding £115k for 40x40 and £10k for MUGA. Fife Council and SportsScotland would finance the 60x40. Fife Council and Sports Group would fund the MUGA. The 60x40 pitch proposed will conflict with Network Rail access and will take up the whole of the car park.

##### 8.1.2. Sports Hub: Update on Action Plan – Bob Smith.

- a) Promotion: Logo and other material.
- b) Active Fife: website.
- c) Open event: Joint marketing at Civic Week in June.
- d) Information Request: contact list etc.
- e) Audit of facilities.
- f) Summer holiday activity: 1 week summer promotion.

#### 8.2. Royal Bank of Scotland:

MSP Claire Baker, Morag Douglas and Bob Smith met with RBS to try and put forward alternative options. Despite their arguments RBS re-iterated that the decision had been taken to close the Branch. The ATM will still be operational. This was not a fruitful meeting and the attitude of RBS was reported as “poor”.

#### 8.3. Burger van on the Links:

The van was open on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March for business.

**Action:** Awaiting an update from Cllr Susan Leslie.

#### 8.4. Beacon Centre:

8.4.1. For notes on meeting with Fife Sports Leisure Trust refer to email in Appendix 3.

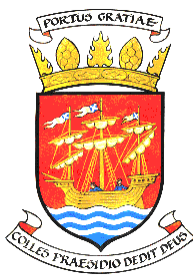
8.4.2. Since this meeting there has been a proposal to close catering facilities. Fife Council cannot continue the subsidy and are redeploying staff. The Vending machines will be upgraded.

8.4.3. Members of the Trust have indicated that they are available to attend a BCC meeting.

8.4.4. General discussion followed with following comments:

- a) The cafe is not advertised.
- b) Would Fife Council be prepared to run the Cafe as a franchise?
- c) Kid for a Quid (£1 to swim). Promotion on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March.
- d) Is Beacon a “welcome port” on the Coastal Path?
- e) The new sports facilities could make the cafe busier.
- f) Kirkcaldy Pool opens in June and its group booking are already full.

**Action:** Alex MacDonald to invite Fife Sports Leisure Trust to attend next BCC meeting.



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### 9. New Business Item

#### 9.1. Potential Sale of Water Bowser – Report from John Bruce.

This is regarding the water bowser which is presently lying in the grounds of the Police Station, this bowser was purchased in 2006 at a cost of around £2100.00 for the use by the Burntisland in Bloom team who were responsible for the planting and maintaining of all the hanging baskets and troughs throughout the town. I believe the funding was obtained from the trust fund from British Alcan however in 2010 the Burntisland in Bloom team disbanded and in early 2011 a new group named Floral Action Burntisland were formed to take over all the responsibilities of maintaining and watering the hanging baskets and troughs this group are a volunteer group but do not have the facilities to operate the Bowser and therefore informed the Community Council that they as a group had no need to use this Bowser.

As a committee member of FAB I therefore approached Burntisland Community Council and informed them that FAB had no need to use this bowser and that FAB had been approached by Suzanne Gilfeather project manager of Falkland in Bloom Community Enterprise and also a member of Kinghorn in Bloom stating that they would be interested in viewing this Bowser for the purpose of buying. Both Suzanne and myself called at the Police Station on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2013 to view the Bowser Suzanne informed me that she would consult with Falkland in Bloom and get back to me she then forwarded me an email on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2013 indicating that Falkland in Bloom were interested in purchasing this Bowser and offered a price of £575.00 subject to the Bowser being seen to operate.

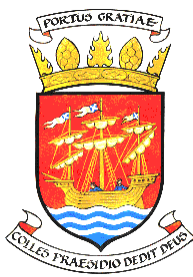
I approached Alex McDonald Burntisland Community Council Chairman informing him that I had requested a figure of £1100.00 for the Bowser which would include a battery and Battery Charger it was agreed that this figure was a bit high and that we should go back and ask if Falkland in Bloom would be prepared to increase their offer this was done and I received a further increased offer of £650.00. I referred this back to Alex McDonald Burntisland Community Council and it was decided that we discuss this matter fully at the next Burntisland Community Council Meeting on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013 to enable all councilors to examine and to make a decision to sell. Suzanne Gilfeather is aware of this and is now waiting on Burntisland Community Council to respond.

Floral Action Burntisland have only made Burntisland Community Council aware of the situation and at no time have they requested any monetary funding due to the sale of the Bowser but as they are a voluntary group within the town destined to make Burntisland a cleaner environment which will benefit the town I would suggest that we consider offering FAB the full amount that we receive from the sale of the Bowser or a donation from BCC to show our appreciation for their efforts In their first year as a group FAB have won the "Its Your Neighbourhood Award" which is run by Beautiful Scotland this was a great achievement they have now entered this year for "Beautiful Fife" and "Beautiful Scotland" all to make Burntisland a nicer place to stay.

**Action: John Bruce to approach Falkland in Bloom to accept their offer of £650.**

Should the sale go ahead, the proceeds will go to FAB on condition that FAB produce a proposal indicating what they would do with this money.

**Action: Alex MacDonald to write to FAB to explain any condition for receiving the proceeds.**



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### 10. Ongoing Business Items

#### 10.1. Review of Local Planning Applications.

Tim Hailey indicated that there was a planning application in for a 60x40 pitch and MUGA at the Beacon Centre. Refer to web page:

<http://planning.fife.gov.uk/online/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=MIXOC PHFT8000>

#### 10.2. Strategic Projects Group: War Memorial.

The Funding Organisations have confirmed their Grants can be used for the reduced scope Project. Total budget available is £54,300 including £3,600 from the War Memorial Trust for the railings.

**Actions:** Bob Smith to get preferred contractor to confirm quotation and schedule for reduced project prior to awarding contract.

#### 10.3. Improving Communications.

The Survey has now closed. Written responses are being collected and will be entered into the electronic web survey for analysis.

#### 10.4. Outline Planning Application Approval for New School on Toll Park.

10.4.1. Fife Council has responded that they intend to proceed with the appropriation of the land. They also state that they believe the land is not inalienable Common Good land and as such no compensatory provision of alternative land is applicable.

10.4.2. Fencing is now being erected around the park. St Joseph's Church is being paid to store materials.

10.4.3. Cllr George had asked Fife Council for the Kirkton Burn to be cleaned up as part of the development work but this was refused. Fife Council did make assurances that a new screen would be put in place at the culvert and that it would be regularly maintained. Repairs to the damaged culvert are the responsibility of Fife Council if the damage is under the road but damage under any properties may be the householder's responsibility.

10.4.4. Alex MacDonald has copied correspondence between the Community Council and Fife Council to Audit Scotland and asked them to satisfy themselves that due process has been followed with respect to the financial management of Common Good assets.

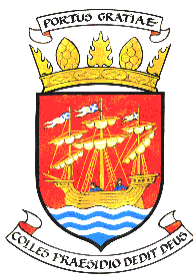
#### 10.5. Burgh Chambers Clock Tower Repair/ Common Good Fund Property Review.

Nothing to report.

#### 10.6. BCC Membership Vacancies:

There were 6 nominations of a very high standard for the two vacancies.

Each BCC Councillor had 2 votes and the successful candidates were: John Bradshaw and Hazel McGraw.



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### 11. Awaiting Update

#### 11.1. Links Community Trust.

There is a meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March with the Small Town and Rural Development Group who work on Community Development plans.

**Action:** *Tim Hailey, Bruce Stuart, John Russell and Alex MacDonald to attend.*

#### 11.2. Burgh Chambers Furniture.

Unfortunately it now appears that the firm who volunteered would be using students under supervision. It's possible we could ask for a trial on one piece of furniture or ask for Common Good Funding to pay for a company to refurbish the furniture.

### 12. Date of Next Meeting

BCC Meeting - Friday, 12th April 2013 at 7 p.m. Venue: Burgh Chambers.

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#### **In private:**

In the absence of the Secretary and Treasurer, and with the Vice Chair declaring an interest, it was agreed to review the honoraria paid historically to successive Secretaries and Treasurers. After discussion it was agreed to award £220 to the Secretary and £120 to the Treasurer.

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### APPENDIX: 1

<b>Burntisland Community Council</b>			
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>			
<b>8th March 2013</b>			
<b>Details</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Balance Carried Forward 31/03/12	£3,898.17		
BCC Accounts to 08/03/13 (See Notes)	£7,032.92	£8,322.42	<b>£2,608.67</b>
<b>Notes:</b>			
The overall Community Council Account Balance includes balances held for the individual projects listed below,			
<b>Floral Enhancement</b>	£714.00	£1,200.17	-£486.17
FP balance held in BCC Account 31/03/12	£486.17		
<b>Total Floral Project Balance @ 08/03/13</b>			<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Burgh Buzz</b>	£4,715.00	£5,713.00	-£998.00
BB balance held in BCC Account 31/03/12	£1,042.45		
<b>Total Burgh Buzz Balance @ 08/03/13</b>			<b>£44.45</b>
<b>Exiles Reception</b>	£250.00	£302.86	-£52.86
Exiles Reception balance held in BCC Account 31/03/12	£21.99		
<b>Total Exiles Reception Balance @ 08/03/13</b>			<b>-£30.87</b>
Chimes balance held in BCC Account 31/03/12	£330.20		<b>£330.20</b>
<b>Total held on Account for Projects</b>			<b>£374.65</b>
Burgh Buzz contingency			£500.00
<b>Total held on Account</b>			<b>£874.65</b>
<b>Balance available to Community Council @ 08/03/13</b>			<b>£1,734.02</b>
<b>Outstanding Income/Invoices</b>			



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### APPENDIX: 2.

Issue	When Reported	Description	Current Status	When Resolved	Who Responsible
1	October 2012	Tunnel and area leading from links to Beacon Centre	Has been cleaned up.	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	Peter George
2	August 2012	Hut at Crazy Golf has fallen into repair and needs demolished as it has become dangerous.	Safety fencing erected. Demolition imminent.		Peter George
3	December 2012	Area outside of Jubilee Tavern leading to Kirkton Burn needs a new, higher fence.	Ken Halley of FC has taken photos and is pursuing who owns this.	No update.	Peter George
4	October 2012	Palais Stairs and surrounding area.	Has been cleaned up.	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	Peter George
5	November 2012	Stairs from James Park to Dallas Avenue needs cleaned and weeded.	No progress.	No update.	Peter George
6	November 2012	Rubbish lying at Dock area near the Beacon and asbestos near Blue Shed.	Still there. Forth Ports need to give permission. In hand.		Peter George
7	December 2012	Gritting of pavements and car parks	Pavements in the High street are now being gritted. Cllr Leslie is having discussions with traders about installing discrete grit boxes. A grit bin has been installed at the car park.	January 2013  March 2013	Susan Leslie
8	June 2012	Dog Fouling. Dog bins requested for Colinswell Road / Kininmonth Av. and Craigkennochie.	Still receiving complaints. One resident from Ferguson Place has been reported.	On-going.	Peter George, Susan Leslie
9	December 2012	Middle Tunnel on Links. This appears to be rusting. It belongs to Rail Track.	The 3 tunnels were inspected by RailTrack and are in "fair" condition. The middle tunnel will have some work done on it in 2013.		Susan Leslie
10	December 2012	Coastal Path near Colinswell Alcan estate has deteriorated. It is very wet and muddy.	Engineers from Fife Coastal and Countryside Trust will visit on 11 <sup>th</sup> March.		John Bruce
11	January 2013	Shipyard Steps	Still closed to the public.	No update	Peter George
12	January 2013	Graffiti outside Co-op on High Street.	Cllr George to contact appropriate department of Fife Council.	No update	Peter George
13	February 2013	Stairs at Harbour Place need attention.		No update	Peter George
14	February 2013	Overgrown branches on West Broomhill Road.		No update	Peter George
15	March 2013	Chewing gum on pavements.	Payback in process of removing.	New	Peter George Susan Leslie.
16	March 2013	Red Tunnel needs stairs repaired.		New	Peter George
17	March 2013	Seats opposite Porte have been removed for maintenance.	Bolts are sticking up and are dangerous.	New	Peter George
18	March 2013	Gas main at Toll Park.	To be upgraded.	New	Susan Leslie.
19	March 2013	Two caravans at Ross Point.	Have been there for up to a year. One is vandalised.	New	Peter George





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### APPENDIX: 3.

**From:** Alex MacDonald <alex\_mac@btinternet.com>  
**To:** 'Morag Douglas' <morag.davidson@btconnect.com>  
**Cc:** 'Isabel Smith' <jisabelsmith@btinternet.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 February 2013, 13:26  
**Subject:** Beacon operations

Hi, Morag,

Following the discussion at the last Community Council meeting, I had a very useful discussion this morning with the Fife Sports & Leisure Trust. The people I met were Ed Watson, Wendy Watson and Jimmy Dunlop (CEO, Operations Manager and Health & Safety Manager respectively).

It doesn't take us a lot further forward but the information they supplied was as follows.

#### **Christmas closures:**

The Trust is aware of pressure from parents for holiday opening. However, it's not borne out by attendances, which are typically well down in December. That pattern applies throughout Fife and is not specific to the Beacon. So when maintenance has to be carried out that is the least disruptive time for all concerned. In addition, tradesmen and their suppliers are virtually all on holiday themselves from Christmas through to New Year so a continuous programme of maintenance cannot be carried out at that time. All planned maintenance at the Beacon has now been completed so there are no further closures scheduled.

Before the Trust was formed, Fife Council removed £30k from the relevant budgets as an "efficiency" measure, as a result of which all leisure centres in Fife were closed over Christmas and the New Year. Since its formation, the Trust has taken steps to open two centres over that period – one in the East and one in the West – in order to provide some measure of continuity, particularly for competitive swimmers who need regular water-time.

#### **Contamination:**

There has always been a problem with contamination from swimmers who are ill or incontinent. That problem occurs all over Fife – it is not specific to the Beacon. There is no evidence that it is increasingly frequent.

However, the industry standards have moved on a lot in recent years, as a result of greater knowledge of the cryptosporidium risks. Formerly, solid material was physically removed and it was assumed that the chlorination would deal with any residual contamination. However, work with NHS Fife and also the progression in industry standards mean that the proper treatment of such contamination is now more rigorous. In particular, it requires 6 cycles of water change – typically taking about 24 hours – plus increased chlorination during that time.

Such incidents are very expensive for the Trust as they lose revenue, so they have taken steps to try to minimise the occurrence. There are disposable swim nappies on sale at the Beacon and parents do buy them. However, their use is not compulsory. In addition, the problem can arise as much with an ill adult or older child as with a toddler.

There are prominent signs on display in the pool, reminding all users of the hygiene protocols which apply – and the need to use swim nappies where appropriate.

The Trust will also use the Burgh Buzz as a means of educating pool users on how to be proactive in minimising the risk of contamination, so I will put them in touch with Bill Kirkhope.

#### **Kirkcaldy pool**

At the end of our meeting, we also discussed the potential impact of the new pool in Kirkcaldy. The Trust expects that there will be a similar pattern to when the Carnegie centre re-opened after refurbishment. That is, there will be a temporary shift in attendances from the Beacon to Kirkcaldy, after which the attendances will return to normal. They will plan opening times and shift patterns accordingly, which may mean temporary changes at the Beacon to reflect the short-term demand.

It was emphasised that if there are more questions from the Community Council the Trust would be more than happy to send a representative to one of our meetings.

Regards,

*Alex MacDonald*  
Chairman, Burntisland Community Council