



BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 8th November 2013
7.00 P.M.
Burgh Chambers.

Draft Minutes

PRESENT:

Alex MacDonald (part-time), Bob Smith (Vice-Chair), John Russell (Treasurer), Isabel Smith, (Secretary), Gordon Langlands (Joint Minutes Secretary), John Bradshaw, John Bruce, Gary Cummins, Christine Dewar, Morag Douglas, Tim Hailey, Hazel McGraw (Joint Minutes Secretary), Damien Purcell (part-time), Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz), Acting PS David Snowdon, Cllr Peter George, Cllr George Kay, Cllr Susan Leslie

ATTENDING: 9 members of the public.

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks and Apologies for Absence

The Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed the meeting that apologies had been received from Ian McKenzie, Bruce Stuart and that Alex MacDonald (Chairman) was delayed. He welcomed Julie Anderson the new head teacher of Burntisland Primary School to the meeting and congratulated the Events Group on another very successful Bonfire night which raised £1955.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (11th October 2013)

There were no corrections to the minutes.

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

3. Notification of Community Concerns for A.O.B. (Item 8): Two new items 8.1 and 8.2.

4. Police Report – Acting PS David Snowdon.

Acting PS David Snowdon indicated that he was being replaced by PS Neil Ewan and that he himself would return to being a Community PC.

There were 9 new, undetected crimes.

The most disturbing of which were the break in and theft at the Toll Centre shed, phone box vandalised and most seriously the break in and vandalism at Burntisland Primary School in Ferguson Place.

There were 19 detected crimes including the incident of 10 cars being vandalised at Kiirkton Road. A cannabis plantation has been seized.

Comments:

One member of the public complained about continuing disturbances by a gang of youths in the High Street area and the lack of a police presence.

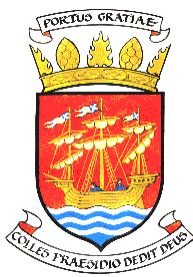
Another member commended the actions of the Police.

5. Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports

5.1. All mail was up to date and there was nothing to report from the Secretary.

5.2. The Treasurer indicated a total balance of £6078.11.

With £3861 set aside for renovation of Burgh Chamber furniture and some other smaller items this leaves £1,831 available.



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6. Environment.

6.1. Environmental Issues by John Bruce. See Appendix 2.

6.2. Cllr George Kay:

a) Shipyard Steps.

There has been a meeting in which the £63k price of restoration was questioned. This price appears to be the cost of closing the steps. He has asked officials to find how much it would be to open the steps given that we don't need a Rolls Royce job.

b) Shipyard Path.

This has not been adopted so no lights can be installed.

c) Cemetery.

He has been addressing concerns at Auchtertool, Kirkton, Burntisland and Kinghorn. Work is ongoing at Burntisland and the red chip paths are due to be done by Christmas. He will make sure no graves are cordoned off (as happen last year).

d) Next week there is a meeting in Heritage Centre regarding the Kirkton cemetery and how to fund any work required.

6.3. Cllr Susan Leslie:

There is a common grave in Burntisland Cemetery which is unmarked. She is looking at ways to mark this.

6.4. Christine Dewar:

a) Asked the elected Councillors about who tells the Council what to do.

Cllr Kay stated that elected Councillors alert Council Officers on what needs done, they do not instruct them as to what to do.

b) Only ¾ of weeds have been removed to date between the Chapel and Aberdour Road.

c) It has been done in such a way that the new flats are now exposed and the owners may require extra fencing for privacy.

6.5. A Summary of issues and updates are included in Appendix 3.

7. Burgh Buzz – Bill Kirkhope.

The autumn issue has been delivered. The next issue will be a special 50th.

Bill Kirkhope will be on holiday for next 2 meetings and Paul Briscoe will deputise.

There was a concern raised about the "Published by Burntisland Community Council" at the top of front page. Bill would like this to remain as the Buzz responds to the BCC and gives priority to any of its issues.

Action: Alex Macdonald to discuss this with Bill outwith the meeting.

8. Any Other Business.

8.1. Common Good Properties.

Cllr Kay indicated there were problems with many of the properties.

a) Burgh Chambers (Bell Tower).

This was discussed by the 3 Cllrs at their Ward 10 meeting. There is Historic Scotland funding but this leaves a gap of £150-200k. Fife Council as yet does not know how to bridge this gap.

b) 215 High Street (Old Shipyard Club). Needs demolished.

c) Young Hall (See 9.4).

d) Ground at War Memorial is uneven and dangerous.



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Cllr Kay indicated that there needs to be approx £500k spent on these properties and has asked Ken Halley of Fife Council to arrange a meeting with all stakeholders. We need to know what we want to use these buildings for so that we can look for the appropriate funding.

Comments:

Christine Dewar criticised why these properties had been allowed to deteriorate.

John Russell asked how much responsibility Fife Council will take.

Bob Smith commented that we are where we are and need to discuss this at the stakeholders meeting.

A member of the public asked who surveys the buildings and came up with these numbers.

Cllr Kay answered that Fife Council Asset and Estate Management were responsible for arranging surveys.

8.2. Burntisland Town Twinning.

Twinning with Flekkefjord started in 1946 and included regular exchange visits and work placements. These stopped when in recent years due to members of the committee standing down.

Cllr Kay indicated that the association is back on track, alive and well with a committee of 9 people and a meeting arranged for next week.

9. New Business Items

9.1. Kirkcaldy Area Committee – Wednesday 23 October 2013.

This was held in Kinghorn and questions centred on Kinghorn with only 1 member of the public from Burntisland. The next 2 meetings are schedule for Kirkcaldy.

Bob Smith would support a future meeting in Burntisland.

Action: Isabel Smith to write to Fife Council asking for a future Area Meeting in Burntisland.

9.2. Remembrance Sunday.

The Burgh Chambers are open 9 a.m. for BCC members. 9.30 – 10 a.m. for invited guests.

The parade starts at 10.15 from Harbour Place and proceeds to St.Columba Parish Church.

After the service the parade will make its way along the High Street to the War Memorial for the laying of wreaths. Refreshments for members of the parade will then be served in the Burgh Chambers. The invited guest includes MSP Claire Baker, Cllr Susan Leslie, Ian Wallace, D. Primer (RN) and Police Superintendent Edminstone.

The PA system has been delivered and John Russell will deal with it on the day.

9.3. Fife Council Open Event at St. Bryce Church.

The Council will be hosting an open event at St Bryce Church, Kirkcaldy on Wednesday 27th November at 6pm when the Council's draft budget will be discussed.

There is also an opportunity before this to invite a council official along to a BCC meeting to discuss the £100m savings required and then feedback to Fife Council.

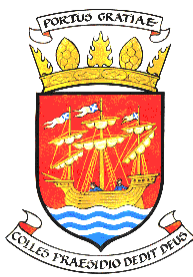
Alec MacDonald is willing to facilitate a BCC workshop to discuss and feedback to Fife Council.

He needs a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 20 people to attend for 1 to 1.5 hours.

Members of the BCC agreed to attend.

Provisionally arranged for Burntisland Primary School, Tuesday 19th November at 7 p.m.

Action: Alec MacDonald to confirm time and date with school and invite a Fife Council official



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9.4. Young Hall.

Last month Andrew Douglas from the Young Hall committee attended the BCC and asked for help to clear vegetation from the Fire Exit. Since then the Malala Topping-Out Ceremony appears to have highlighted some deficiencies with the Young Hall and triggered a reduction in its capacity to 50, resulting in the cancellation of the traditional, Christmas pantomime.

Cllr Peter George gave an update:

- a) Repairs are being completed imminently rather than several months as was previously thought.
- b) Fire exit door was too small and has been widened.
- c) Joiner has fixed the floor trip hazard.
- d) Under floor fire hazard cleared out.
- e) Vegetation at back door cleared.
- f) Co-op waste removed.
- g) Fire alarms tested OK.
- h) Early next week the hall capacity could be increased from 50 to 175.
- i) This is however still too late for the pantomime.

Cllr Kay commented:

He is Fife Council representative on the Young Hall management committee.

There have been no meetings of the committee for 2 years despite his promptings.

Health and safety wanted to close both the Co-op and the Young Hall.

There is an AGM scheduled for 11th December to address repairs, on-going maintenance and governance/management.

Christine Dewar commented:

The annual inspection had not been getting done.

Fiona Geddes of Fife Council is responsible for inspections on the Young Hall and other halls.

Failing this, the management committee should have instigated an inspection.

Burntisland Community Council urges all interested parties to attend this AGM.

9.5. Burntisland Station Regeneration Project.

Garry Cummins introduced how this group was trying to get disabled access to Platform 2. There had been several meeting with Benjamin Barron and Cllr Susan Leslie culminating in a formal committee being set up. Garry introduced the chairman Paul Gilzean who spoke about the project.

The main points were:

The disabled access for Platform 2 has become part of a bigger project to upgrade facilities.

Network Rail is not keen to use the underground tunnel and it has been re-boarded up.

Electrification of the line requires the current bridge to be removed

A meeting held with Network Rail and Rail Heritage Trust discussed:

Platform 1 waiting room: Historical presentation / Tourist hub.

Fife Cycle Network.

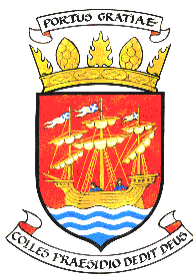
Platform 2 disabled access: Access for All government project.

The committee is putting together a proposal (phase 1 of 3) for submission next year and will be holding more meetings in the future.

Bob Smith commended the group on its progress to date and stated that the BCC is available and willing to support these activities.

Cllr Kay indicated that at the recent Ward 10 meeting a report on car parking on the South side between station workshops and dive bunker was discussed.

This area may be available as an overflow car park sometime in the future.



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9.6. Scots Verse Competition.

The presentation is to be on the 29th November at 7 p.m. in the Burgh Chambers.
The children will perform and prizes will be presented.

10. Ongoing Business Items

10.1. Review of Local Planning Applications.

- a) Nothing major.
- b) 2 small Wind Turbines at Whinnyhall.
The BCC was not made aware of this application. Cllr Kay was not aware of it.
This application was granted under delegated powers in October.
- c) 3 potential screening applications for turbines at Dunearn Loch, Kinghorn Golf Course and the Beacon.
- d) The MUGA and 3G pitch application goes to committee for approval on 13th November.

10.2. Community Emergency Planning.

Please read and feedback as soon as possible to John Bradshaw.

Action: John Bradshaw to review comments with John Bruce, John Russell and Alex MacDonald.

10.3. Facebook.

The single question survey on the recommendation by Police Scotland to remove counter services from Burntisland was viewed by 372 people and there were 29 valid responses. 59% of responses did not agree with this recommendation.

This concurs with the letter sent by Alex MacDonald to Police Scotland.

11. Awaiting Update

11.1. Burgh Chamber Clock Tower Repair / Common Good Fund Property Review Report.

As per 8.1 a meeting has been called by elected Fife Councillors.

No feedback from Fife Council yet on Common Good Fund Review.

Action: Alex MacDonald to write to Andrew Ferguson at Fife Council.

11.2. Burgh Chambers Furniture.

Both applications have been approved. Area Budget money has been received.

The Common Good money requires a pro-forma invoice to be sent in to Fife Council.

Bob Smith is contacting the cabinet maker to start work after Scots Verse presentation.

Action: Bob Smith to send pro-forma invoice.

11.3. Burntisland/Kinghorn Sports Hub.

Gillian Lowe has indicated that all the funding is now available for the pitch and sends her thanks to all who helped. Building is targeted for April next year. The funding of the MUGA is on-going. The planning application for this joint project is up for approval on 13th November with Fife Council Central Planning Committee.

11.4. Strategic Projects Group: War Memorial / Haugh Road.

Work starts 18th November for 3-4 months.

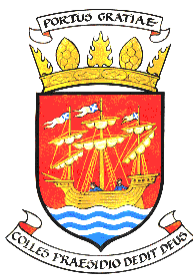
The Quantity Surveyor recommends a site meeting with the architect.

Action: Bob Smith to chase architect (Hurd Rolland) and check contract details.

Cllr Kay mentioned the Governments new War Monument initiative.

The BCC project is fully funded however this does not include any work to surrounding areas.

Action: Alex MacDonald to check this initiative.



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11.5. Gas Fracking in Fife meeting.

John Bruce and Hazel McGraw attended the Friends of Earth meeting in October. There were 20-30 people who attended. Currently there are 3 exploration licenses in Fife. Friends of the Earth want suspension of all operations, moratorium and 2km buffer per site. The recommendation is to wait and meet with the other side (DART Engineering) before forming an opinion.

11.6. Proposed Community Action Plan.

No update.

Cllr Leslie indicated that Kinghorn had held a successful community display event and compiled their own action plan.

Cllr Kay stated that Fife Council, Linktown and Gallatown have done something similar.

Action: Alex MacDonald to contact Chris Mitchell of Kinghorn.

11.7. Kirkton Graveyard

See 6.2.

11.8. Review of Public Service Counter Provisions – Burntisland Police Station.

The letter from the BCC has not yet been acknowledged.

There have been approximately 60 responses from all over Scotland.

The national press is campaigning against the removal of counter services in general.

12. Any Other Business. - Xmas Lights.

Morag Douglas indicated that the Burgh Chamber lights have been put up. More will be installed next week. Kirkcaldy4All have intimated that they will give Burntisland their old lights and expect Burntisland Unlimited to do this from now on.

13. Date of Next Meeting

BCC Meeting - Friday, 13th December 2013 at 7 p.m. Venue: Burgh Chambers.



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APPENDIX 1: Treasurer's Report.

Burntisland Community Council			
Treasurer's Report			
08th November 2013			
Details	Income	Expenditure	Balance
Balance Carried Forward 31/03/13	£2,216.12		
BCC Accounts to 08/11/13 (See Notes)	£7,496.04	£3,634.05	£6,078.11
Notes:			
The overall Community Council Account Balance includes balances held for the individual projects listed below.			
Burgh Chambers Furniture	£3,861.00	£0.00	£3,861.00
BB balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	£0.00		
Total Burgh Chambers Furniture Balance @ 08/11/13			£3,861.00
Exiles Reception	£260.00	£284.32	-£24.32
Exiles Reception balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	-£30.87		
Total Exiles Reception Balance @ 11/10/13			-£55.19
Chimes balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	£330.20		£330.20
Total held on Account for Projects Burgh Buzz contingency			£4,246.39
Total held on Account			£4,246.39
Balance available to Community Council @ 08/11/13 (See Notes)			£1,831.72



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APPENDIX: 2 - ENVIRONMENT ISSUES FOR MEETING FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2013

HAUGH ROAD PAVEMENT

I raised this issue at the last BCC meeting what action has been taken to resolve this matter

WEEDING AT HARBOUR PLACE/PAINTING OF BOLLARDS

I raised this issue on 21.10.13 with the local councillors this area was badly needing weeded and bollards painted in view of us approaching Armistice Sunday.

Cllr Kay responded and assured me that he had taken this matter up with the appropriate department and that the weeds would be dealt with however they may have an issue with the painting of the bollards but he would do all he could to have this work done on 22.10.13 I noticed that the weeding had been done thanks to Cllr Kay for his prompt attention to this matter much appreciated. Cllr Kay contacted me on 28.10.13 to inform me that the bollards were painted and this area is now looking great.

TUNNELS ON THE LINKS

I have noticed that the yellow tunnel at the west end of the links has flooded again is there anything that can be done to clean out the drainage at this tunnel to avoid repetition this causes inconvenience for people going to the beach areas I received a call from Cllr George stating that he has reported this matter to Scott Clelland and he will get this actioned and cleared. This tunnel has now been cleared thanks to Cllr George for his action

I have also noticed that the tunnel at the middle of the links has been painted and looks much better thanks to Cllr Leslie for her action in getting this job done.

DOG FOULING SIGNS

We are badly needing more signs placed along the beach and links in an effort to deter irresponsible dog owners allowing their dogs to mess up these areas.

I approached Cllr George regarding this matter and he has taken this up with Fife Council in an attempt to get these signs as soon as possible

BURNTISLAND CEMETERY

I am pleased to report that the cemetery is presently being maintained and cleaned up with the paths weeded and new gravel placed, grass edging added along with top soil what a difference this has made and is much more respectable for all who visit thanks to Cllr Kay for his attention to this matter



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APPENDIX: 3 – Environmental Summary.

Issue	When Reported	Description	Current Status	When Resolved	Who Responsible
3	December 2012	Area outside of Jubilee Tavern leading to Kirkton Burn needs a new gate.	Ken Halley of FC has taken photos and is pursuing who owns this. Reported	No longer required.	Cllr George
6	November 2012	Rubbish lying at Dock area near the Beacon and asbestos near Blue Shed.	Forth Ports need to give permission. In hand.	Done in October.	Cllr Kay.
8	June 2012	Dog Fouling. Dog bins requested for Colinswell Road / Kininmonth Av., Craigkennochie and Coastal Path.	Still receiving complaints. One resident from Ferguson Place has been reported.	On-going.	Cllr George, Cllr 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.	Done in October.	Cllr 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 th March. Some repair work carried out. Bank may be turfed.	On-going.	John Bruce
11	January 2013	Shipyards Steps	Still closed to the public. Estimate of £63k thought to be excessive.	Still on-going.	Cllr George Cllr Kay.
13	February 2013	Stairs at Harbour Place need attention.		Been reported.	Cllr George
16	March 2013	Red Tunnel needs stairs repaired and a railing.			Cllr George
20	April 2013	Coastal Sea Wall between Aberdour and Burntisland.	Work commencing shortly.		John Bruce.
21	April 2013	Old street lamp posts.	Need removed on Kirkton Road and Collinswell roundabout.		John Bruce.
25	April 2013	Old Admiralty ground needs cleared.	MoD land		Cllr George.
28	May 2013	Coastal Path from Alcan to Waterfall Dangerous for bicycles due to stones.			John Bruce.
29	May 2013	Older houses in Sommerville Street need maintenance.			John Bruce
31	June 2013	Cemetery	Two weekly visits in place. Verges and earth around graves improved. Red chip paths to be fixed.	Currently work continuing into December.	John Bruce Cllr Kay.
32	June 2013	Palais Stairs	Needs weeded.	Done.	Cllr Leslie.
35	June 2013	Path from Starley Hall to Burntisland along Aberdour Road.	Large weeds and soil reducing width of footpath.	Done in October	Cllr Leslie.
36	August 2013	Path from Glebe Place to Meadowfield.	Lamp post needed		Cllr George.
38	August 2013	Safer route to school	No update.		Cllr George.
39	September 2013	Kirkton Cemetery	Initial cut back completed. Walls can now be inspected. Another meeting imminent.		Cllr Kay.
40	October 2013	Yellow Tunnel on Links flooded.	Now cleared.		Cllr George.
41	October 2013	Haugh Road pavement.	Badly needs maintenance.	Has been reported.	Cllr Leslie.
42	October 2013	Harbour Place needs weeded and bollards painted.	Done in time for Remembrance parade.	Done.	John Bruce Cllr Kay.
43	October 2013	Young Hall	Needed bushes cut back at Fire exit. Subsequently H+S reduced capacity from 200 to 50.	Remedial work underway.	Cllr George.
Issues highlighted in GREEN as completed will be removed in the next Summary.					