



Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council

Final Approved Minutes

Friday, 10th April 2015
7 p.m. Burgh Chambers

Present:

Ben Barron, John Bruce, Christine Dewar, Colin Fraser, Tim Healey, Gordon Langlands, Alex MacDonald, George McLauchlan, John Russell, Bruce Stuart, Bill Symington.

Attending

Cllr. George, Cllr. Kay, Bill Kirkhope, 10 members of the public.

1.0 Chairman's Opening Remarks and Apologies for Absence.

1.1 Apologies from John Bradshaw, Lesley-Anne Cronin, Morag Douglas, Cllr. Leslie and Police Representative.

1.2 The Chairman thanked those members who attended Burntisland Primary School visit on 24th March 2015.

2.0 Minutes of previous Meeting (13th March. 2015.)

2.1 The minutes were proposed by Ben Barron, seconded by Tim Hailey.

3.0 Police Report

3.1 The chairman read out a report supplied by the police. 31 crimes were reported in the previous month, 17 had been detected and 14 not.

There were 5 positive lines of enquiry.

There had been several reports of youths causing minor vandalism in the High Street area and also reports of minor thefts. The police continue to work with the traffic wardens in policing parking on the High Street although, this is made difficult due to the 'type' of yellow lines currently used. These allow for loading and unloading. Further restrictions may have to be considered.

3.2 George McLauchlan was concerned that there had been no Community Police presence at the past two Community Council meetings. A member of the public voiced concern at the lack of a visible police presence, and hoped that the number of police would increase in the summer months. Alex MacDonald thought that this was unlikely. John Bruce was concerned that the number of crimes being reported has risen. Tim Hailey advised that people must phone the police when they have concern, if no one contacts them they assume that everything is OK. Tim Hailey also pointed out that attendance at the Community Engagement meetings is poor. Alex MacDonald advised that he would report our concerns to Police Scotland.

3.3 Cllr. George reported that he had complaints from residents on Kirkton Road with regard to cars belonging to the Kirkton Garage being parked in residents' spaces. Cllr Kay replied that this was not a council matter as Kirkton Motors was not breaking any laws. Christine Dewar read a reply from the Council to a letter that she had sent with regard to the same problem; the Council could see no discernible problem. It was agreed that Cllr. Kay would speak to the Council and Alex MacDonald to the police to see if any resolution can be reached.

Actions-

Cllr. Kay to speak to the Council about Kirkton Motors parking on Aberdour Road; Alex MacDonald to do the same with the Community Police.

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4.0 Secretary and Treasurer's Reports.

- 4.1 All correspondence and websites are up to date. Most of the information previously available on the website is now available on Facebook.
4.2 For Treasurers' report see Appendix 1.

5.0 Environment Report (John Bruce)

- 5.1 Rossend Castle Residents Association has arranged a 'litter pick' for the Seamill area on Saturday 18th April, and for the Castle / Monks Walk area on Sunday 19th April. Refreshments will be provided thanks to Greggs in Kirkcaldy. This has been arranged by Ben Barron.
5.2 Pick-N-Fix, this is progressing, Paul Dow will be supplying the boxes and it is hoped that this will be up and running soon.
5.3 John Bruce is in discussion with the council's transportation department with regard to a safety barrier being erected between Colinswell Park and Aberdour Road.

Actions-

*Anyone interested in helping with the litter pick, please contact either Ben or John.
John/ Ben to continue to liaise with Paul Dow on Pick-N-Fix boxes.
John to liaise with council with regard to safety barrier.*

6.0 Local Planning Applications (Tim Hailey)

- 6.1 Tim advised that there was little to report with no major proposals.
6.2 Tim advised that the substitution of house types for the Grange development was with regard to size and not style, however he would continue to monitor this.

Action- Tim Hailey to continue to monitor any changes to the Grange development.

7.0 Burgh Buzz (Bill Kirkhope)

- 7.1 Copy deadline is 15th April. Space is filling up so people should be quick to get their copy in.
7.2 Bill advised that The Buzz website is in the process of being redesigned, should people be experiencing difficulty in accessing.

8.0 Any Other Business

- 8.1 **Forth Place parking.** The Community Council has been advised that the parking spaces available on Forth Place belong to Kingdom Housing and they are deterring users of the station from parking there. Cllr Kay thought that availability of public parking may be difficult. Cllr Kay advised that he is in consultation with Council Transportation officers, with regard to getting proper station parking facilities.
8.2 **Parking on The Links.** See Appendix 2. John Bruce brought up the problem of cars parking indiscriminately on the Links over the Easter weekend. Gordon Langlands concurred, saying that people are ignoring the signs. John Russell pointed out that this had been talked about numerous times; the no parking on the grass sign is poorly positioned, it should be removed and then the Council would be responsible, should anyone be injured. Cllr Kay advised that this had been talked about numerous times and that not everyone thought that parking on The Links was a bad idea, he said that he was in discussion with the Parks Department about installing bollards. Alex MacDonald advised that it was not illegal to park on the links. Billy Symington pointed out the need for adequate parking. A member of the public, who

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has brought this subject up numerous times, said something must be done before a child is seriously injured or killed; he wanted to know who was the appointed Health and Safety Officer responsible. John Bruce agreed, saying that, 'this is a safety issue. Would this be allowed anywhere else in Fife?' The Chairman called for a vote on the proposal that "there should be no parking on The Links by members of the public and that there should be adequate provision elsewhere in the town". This was agreed unanimously with a show of hands by members.

8.3 Meadowfield Units. Christine Dewar expressed concern that she had heard of a local business being refused a lease on a property in the Meadowfield estate, and wondered if there was criteria for letting these. Cllr Kay pointed out that these were commercial decisions and not the responsibility of the elected members of Fife Council. It was pointed out that there had been premises in the estate vacant for a number of years and that a further tenant was in the process of moving. The Chairman agreed with the members that he should write to the Council, expressing our concern about the availability of industrial units within the town and also asking if there is a policy on letting the units at Meadowfield.

Actions-

Councillor Kay to continue discussions with Transportation with regard to adequate parking at the railway station.

Alex MacDonald to write to the Parks Department expressing the Community Councils unanimous agreement that there should be no parking on The Links, and that action should be taken to prevent this; also that adequate parking should be provided elsewhere.

Alex MacDonald to write to the appropriate department in Fife Council to express our concern about the lack of vacant industrial premises for small business in the town. To also enquire about letting policy at Meadowfield estate.

9.0 New Business

9.1 **N.H.S. Fife** (Alistair Robertson), continued to May meeting.

9.2 **Disposal of Common Good land at Rossend Castle.** See Appendix 3. John Russell expressed concern that what was being sold as parking land may be used for housing. Alex MacDonald said that the value of the land would be calculated on present use.

9.3 **Public Notice Boards.** John Russell advised that the locks on notice boards at the east end were now working. The notice board at the Burgh Chambers was being dealt with by Cllr. Leslie.

9.4 **Replacement Map Panels.** Ian Archibald from BHT advised that the present map panels in the town were coming to the end of their life, and needed to be replaced. The present ones had been in place for more than ten years and were beginning to fade and the information contained in them needed updating. BHT were applying to The Common Good fund for assistance and asked the Community Council for a letter of support. This was agreed.

9.5 **Fingerpost Signs.** Ian Archibald also advised that he had received funding to erect fingerpost signs within the town. Although a walkabout had been done last year to identify possible sites he asked for assistance from anyone interested in either project. Colin Fraser, George McLauchlan, John Bruce and Bruce Stuart said that they would be available.

9.6 **Use of BCC Coat of Arms.** A request has been received from Burntisland

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Highland Games Committee to use our coat of arms on their correspondence, this was agreed.

9.7 **Shaleworks/ Pathways Booklets.** Alex MacDonald produced several copies of two new publications produced by Kinghorn Pathways Group & Craigenalt Community Trust, for members to peruse.

9.8 **Post Office Opening Hours.** Gordon Langlands said that he has received several enquiries about the erratic hours being kept by the local Post Office. This was backed up by Ben Barron and Bruce Stuart. The Chairman said that this was a commercial concern but that he would contact Post Office Counters.

Actions-

Cllr Leslie to pursue update on notice board at Burgh Chambers.

Chairman to write letter of support on map panels to Common Good Fund and to inform Highland Games Committee of our approval for their use of coat of arms.

Chairman to write to Post Office Counters about our concern with regard to opening hours in Burntisland.

10.0 Ongoing Business

10.1 John Bruce advised that a card had been signed and delivered to Martin Hunter on behalf of BCC.

10.2 Cllr. Kay advised that in line with all departments within Fife Council, Funeral Services will be affected. However as cuts will be larger to the Capital budget than to the Revenue budget, maintenance to the local cemetery should not be noticeably reduced.

10.3 A Neighbourhood Action Plan for the Castle area is being launched on 28th April. Cllr Kay will try and arrange that an invitation is sent to the Community Council to provide a representative.

10.4 Cllr George advised that the redistribution of benches in the Links area was continuing. Cllr Kay advised that benches had been repainted over the previous weekend.

10.5 Proposed Housing on Duncan's Field. Nothing further to report as this is only a tentative proposal for use of the land by the council.

10.6 Cllr Kay advised that the Binn Race Cup is presented to the winner every year, they keep it for 1 month and it is then returned to the Library.

10.7 Alex MacDonald asked that the subject of a suitable badge or medal for achievement be carried over to next month.

10.8 Cllr. George advised that the damaged street lighting on Aberdour Road had been repaired.

10.9 Cllr Kay is currently in discussion with officials with regard to the re-planning of the ground adjacent to the War Memorial and the costing of this. Due to the slope of the ground the placing of the granite sets will be more complicated. Discussions with officials are ongoing.

10.10 Cllr. Kay advised that the temporary pitches at the Seamill are progressing, this will provide 1 development pitch and 1 full length pitch. It is hoped that these will provide an adequate area until a permanent solution is found.

Actions –

Cllr. Kay to follow up on invitation for a Community Councillor to attend the Neighbourhood Action Plan on 28th April.

Cllr Kay to monitor progress on proposed changes at War Memorial ground.

Alex MacDonald to report on provision of badge/medal for achievement.

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11.0 Awaiting Update

11.1 Strategic Projects Group. The Chairman advised that a short meeting of the Projects Group had taken place on Thursday 2nd April and it had been agreed that the STAR proposal should go ahead once confirmation is received from Fife Council.

11.1.1 Ben Barron would like to see the scope of the questionnaire within the plan extended. It was agreed that this should be looked at, at some point.

11.1.2 Cllr. Kay expressed his concern with regard to the money being made available. He said that he had had no briefing about what the money was for and he felt that he was unable to attend the meeting on 2nd April if he had no idea of the scope of the proposed funding. He felt that the funding proposal was a political move and that the only agreement is a political one. He felt that we were a long way from getting this money as there was no framework, remit, scope or governance.

11.1.3 John Russell pointed out that the STAR proposal had been on the table for a long time. The Community Council had not agreed to it on a whim; now that it looks as if the money will become available, we should go ahead.

11.1.4 Concern was raised that should we go ahead and then Fife Council funding should not materialize, we would be left owing money to STAR. Tim Hailey pointed out we would not owe money, as we had not as yet told STAR to proceed.

11.1.5 Several members of the public voiced concern that we were using money that would be better spent in other areas. One member of the public thought that the money had been obtained dishonestly; the Chairman quickly pointed out that this was not the case. Fife Council had identified a specific area for this money to be used.

11.1.6 Gordon Langlands thought that we should not enter into the politics of the matter. The money had been offered and we should use it. What was being proposed was a feasibility study which would use only a small portion of the allocated amount.

11.1.7 Cllr. Kay asked the Chairman if he had anything in writing from Fife Council, the Chairman replied that he had the original email and also verbal confirmation.

11.1.8 The Chairman asked for a vote of approval to be taken for release of money for phase 1. The motion was passed Yes 8 votes, No 2 votes with 1 abstention.

11.2 Kirkton Church Project. George McLauchlan reported that a meeting of the group was held in the Heritage Trust offices on the 24th March. One application to the Big Lottery Fund had been rejected and redirected to The Headley Trust. Other applications had been posted and replies were awaited. Listed Building consent had not yet been acquired as an Environmental Walkover and Bat Survey were required. Other work on burial listings and historical research are continuing. A further meeting will be held on the 12th May.

11.3 West Links Play Area. Ben Barron reported that work is continuing on developing both the East and West end play areas. A public consultation will be held on 6th, 7th and 8th of May. Various funding proposals are being examined.

11.4 Live On The Links Colin Fraser reported that Colin Watson is keen to progress with this.

Actions - Alex MacDonald to contact Fife Council to request the release of funding so that we can progress with phase 1 of the Strategic Projects proposal.

George McLauchlan to continue with updates on the Kirkton Church project.

Morag Douglas to report on progress with The Links play area.

12.0 Next Meeting Friday 8th May 2015, Burgh Chambers 7.00p.m.

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Appendix 1

Burntisland Community Council			
Treasurer's Report			
10 th April 2015			
Details	Income	Expenditure	Balance
Balance Carried Forward 31/03/14	£10,145.09		
BCC Accounts to 10/03/15 (See Notes)	£48,541.00	£57,902.22	£783.87
Notes:			
The overall Community Council Account Balance includes balances held for the individual projects listed below.			
Burgh Chambers Furniture	£330.00	£8,052.00	-£7,722.00
Burgh Chambers Furniture balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£7,722.00		
Total Burgh Chambers Furniture Balance @ 10/04/15			£0.00
Exiles Reception	£260.00	£187.14	£72.86
Exiles Reception balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	-£55.19		
Total Exiles Reception Balance @ 10/04/15			£17.67
Chimes balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£330.20		£330.20
War Memorial Project	£46,390.66	£47,960.64	-£1,569.98
War Memorial balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£1,500.00		
Total War Memorial Balance @ 10/04/15			-£69.98
Total held on Account for Projects			£382.51
Total held on Account			£382.51
Balance available to Community Council @ 10/04/15 (See Notes)			£401.36

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Appendix 2:

BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL
PARKING ON LINKS BURNTISLAND
Comments from John Bruce

This is a concern and has been for sometime now especially at the busy times for example holidays.

Although it is great to see Buntisland busy in good weather and holiday periods it was concerning to see the amount of cars parked indiscriminately on the Links recently the cars were just driven right across the Links and parked anywhere.

Allowing this sort of parking is a real safety issue for the many people out walking on the Links including young children and must be discouraged would Fife Council allow this sort of uncontrolled parking in any of their other parks for example Beveridge Park Kirkcaldy or Dunfermline Glen. I do not think so.

There will soon be less parking areas in the town when the Roundhouse park area is closed for the building of the Muga Pitch.

If cars are being allowed to park on the Links on really busy periods this should be controlled to ensure they park in a responsible and safer manner and in a certain area on the Links next to the car park.

When this area is full drivers must be encouraged to park at other points in the town for example at the Seamill area at Rossend again this might be an issue once development goes ahead in this area.

We do have the shows every year coming to the Links this brings revenue to our town and helps our local businesses to improve their sales the showmen have their own vehicles and generally they are controlled where they park their vans and cars. I am against the indiscriminate parking of cars on the Links at all times and if Fife Council cannot control this situation cars should not be allowed to park on the Links at any time.

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Appendix 3

Cllr Peter George

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Jim Hannay 09 April 2015 11:52

Cllr George Kay; Cllr Peter George; Cllr Susan Leslie Hurd Rolland - Rossend Castle, Burntisland

File note Update.

A report was submitted to the Kirkcaldy Area Committee on the 25th March with respect to the proposed transfer of the Shipyard steps to Hurd Rolland. As part of this proposal there is a requirement for Hurd Rolland to reopen, and keep open, the steps. Additionally within this report there was a proposal to give Hurd Rolland an option to purchase an additional area of ground, east of the castle, at a figure to be agreed through the District Valuer. This area is currently held on the common good account, to which any income would be credited.

Since that time discussions have been ongoing with Hurd Rolland and in general the proposal is acceptable inclusive of the Council's requirement that the steps require to be reopened with a reasonable time period upon transfer. A three month time window has been discussed which is seen as "doable" by Hurd Rolland.

Formal terms and conditions will now be prepared and issued. It is proposed that the transfer of the steps and the disposal of the additional requested ground will be carried out under two separate transactions. Hurd Rolland have requested that the DV be instructed ASAP as the "valuation" of the additional area of ground requires clarification.

Disposal of the Common Good area will still be subject to formal process.

Hopefully the attached is sufficient at present but if anyone requires additional information please give me a call.

Jim Hannay

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Jim.

George McLauchlan, Minute Secretary 10th April 2015.