



Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council
Draft Minutes.

Friday 12th February 2016
7.00pm Burgh Chambers.

Present:

Christine Dewar, John Bradshaw, Gordon Langlands, George McLauchlan, John Russell, Bruce Stuart, Lesley Backhouse. Tim Hailey, Lesley-Anne Cronin

Attending:

Cllr. George (until 8.00pm), Cllr. Leslie, Cllr. Kay (until 7.30pm). Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz, Ian Archibald (Heritage Trust) 3 members of the public.

1.0 Chairman's Opening Remarks and Apologies for Absence.

- 1.1 In the absence of Alex MacDonald, John Bradshaw took the chair.
- 1.2 The Chairman asked those present to observe a minute silence in respect for Alex Whitton, a founder member of BCC who passed away earlier in the month.
- 1.3 The Chairman extended his thanks to Mrs Langlands and Mrs Bruce for the help given at the Community Award presentation.
- 1.4 Apologies were received from Ben Barron, John Bruce, Alex MacDonald and Morag Douglas.

2.0 Minutes of previous meeting (8th January 2015)

- 2.1 The minutes were proposed by Christine Dewar and seconded by Tim Hailey.

3.0 Police Report

- 3.1 The chairman read out a report received from local police indicating a slight rise in crimes last month from 29 the previous month to 35 last month although detection rates had improved with 25 having been detected i.e. 74%. There had been an increase in the number of complaints with regard to speeding. Local police will be out more frequently with speed gun, carrying out mobile speed monitoring.
- 3.2 Gordon Langlands reported that the next police community meeting will be held in Burntisland Primary school at 9.30am on Tuesday 23rd February; this was done to accommodate people who found it difficult to get to Pettycur Bay, and also to allow public agencies to attend within normal working hours. No set venue has been chosen for future meetings.

4.0 Secretaries Report

- 4.1 The Secretary read out a letter received from David Torrance MSP, congratulating the group on receiving £10,000 in funding for the East Links Play facilities.
- 4.2 The Secretary reminded members that there was a seminar being held by Digital Fife on Monday 15th Feb. in Glenrothes.
- 4.3 The Secretary is trying to arrange a site meeting with Scottish Water with regard to flooding at Haugh Road. Cllr Kay pointed out that the local Ward Meeting is being briefed on this matter and it is likely that Scottish Water will arrange a meeting with the Community Council after this. Bob Smith from the public benches reminded members that he had been advised that there was no money available in the capital budget until after 2015. He felt

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that we should ascertain from Scottish Water if an allocation had been made for future years.

- 4.4 The Secretary asked members if they had any objections to him applying to Fife Council for improvements to the kitchen in the Burgh Chambers. The Secretary felt that the present arrangements were dangerous as well as being inadequate. This was unanimously agreed.
- 4.5 The Secretary reminded members that the annual Palm Sunday walk will be held around the town on 20th March.
- 4.6 The Secretary asked members to consider whether they could think of any buildings that would benefit from applications to “Climate Challenge Funding for Community Buildings”; this would cover insulation, solar panels, new boilers etc.

Action- Secretary to report back on arrangement of meeting with Scottish Water re Haugh Rd. and report back on Burgh Chambers Kitchen.

5.0 Treasurers Report

- 5.1 See Appendix 1
- 5.2 George McLauchlan advised that an application had been made to The Common Good Fund for £500, to assist with the cost of the four main events held by BCC.
- 5.3 The Treasure advised members that the new badges given to present and past winners of the Community Award had been well received. Once past winners had received theirs this would leave approximately 7 badges.
 - 5.3.1 Christine Dewar drew members’ attention to the badge she received whose clasp had broken.

Action- George McLauchlan to report back on Common Good Application and also progress on fund raising.

6.0 Environment Report

- 6.1 In the absence of John Bruce, John Bradshaw drew members’ attention to several points raised by John.
- 6.2 Dog /waste bins on the Low Road. It was generally felt by the meeting that we had exhausted this subject and as none of the agencies would take responsibility for either providing or emptying we should take this no further.
- 6.3 The wreaths at the War Memorial had been removed to a more sheltered position.
- 6.4 Imposition of fines for fly-tipping. The imposition of fines by Fife Council on eight individuals over the festive period was extensively discussed. John Russell felt that it was unfair that travellers get away with leaving rubbish after vacating a site yet people who try to dispose of rubbish properly but are prevented because of inadequate facilities are fined. Cllr Leslie advised that it is difficult to get fines withdrawn after they have been imposed, especially after so much publicity. Lesley Backhouse said that she had found Fife Council quick to respond if advised that re-cycling sites are full. The Chairman asked if members thought that he should write to the Fife Council on behalf of those fined. George McLauchlan said he did not think

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that this was something the Community Council should become involved in. Members agreed and it was decided that no further action should be taken.

6.5 Kirkton Burn. Cllr. Kay advised that Mr Williamson had cleared his part of the burn and that he was in contact with Fife Council to have the section that runs under the Kirkton Road examined. Cllr George advised members that he had been along the burn and that it was “Flowing Sweetly”.

6.6 The Half Moon. Cllr George advised members that he had received word from Fife Council with regard to ownership of the ‘Half Moon’ (strip of ground adjacent to Sailors Walk). As there is no specific title to this area it is in Fife Council ownership by virtue of the Burgh Charter. Cllr George advised that funding had been identified for this area and that work would start shortly on repairing the railings and that work on the pathway should be completed by late spring early summer. George MacLauchlan drew Councillor George’s attention to funds available through ‘Community Paths Grant’, and that this could be used to tidy up the Monks Walk area. Tim Hailey drew attention to the Hurd Rolland proposal from 2008. This covered the area being talked about and could be developed into a staged development. Ian Archibald (Burntisland Heritage Trust) was in favour of the proposals but said that it would require a ‘champion’. George MacLauchlan felt that proposals should be looked at further.

Action- Cllr. George to report on progress with Half Moon/ Sailors walk.

7.0 Planning Applications

7.1 Tim Hailey advised that one application for a house plot on Fleming Way may be of concern due to its sighting.

8.0 Burgh Buzz

8.1 Bill Kirkhope advised that the current issue, although slightly late is in process of being distributed.

9.0 Any Other Business

9.1 Network Rail. Cllr. Leslie advised members that essential work to the trackside was continuing between Aberdour and Kirkcaldy. Network Rail were cutting back trees and stabilizing rock faces. Very few complaints have been received with regard to noise. Network Rail was sending letters out to wider neighbourhood to inform them of the ongoing work. Network Rail is refusing to involve Community Councils with the ongoing work.

9.2 Pharmacy Application. The Chairman advised members that the application for a new pharmacy had been refused. It was felt that the grounds for refusal were unclear and had more to do with planning than with the business case. Tim Hailey felt that we should support the appeal on the grounds that the town needs additional pharmacy facilities. It was unanimously agreed that the Community Council should support the appeal.

Action: Alex MacDonald to submit BCC support for the appeal on the pharmacy application.

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10.0 New Business Items

- 10.1** Emergency Planning Meeting. John Bradshaw attended this meeting and felt that the whole project required being re-thought. He felt that communication was poor and that with only 4 groups within Fife, it should be re examined.
- 10.2** Focus Group. John Bradshaw attended this seminar with Fife Council, which examined several communities experience in promoting local projects. John presented BCCs experience on bringing forward Burntisland Futures plan for a Local Development Plan.
- 10.3** Fife Council Artefacts. Cllr Kay brought to member's attention to the sale by Fife Council of surplus artefacts. Gordon Langlands explained the list provided was of unwanted paintings none of which were related to Burntisland, the exercise was simply prudent housekeeping by Fife Council.
- 10.4** Council Office. Cllr Leslie advised members that the Council Office had now vacated the Town hall building and was now located in the Library. This move had been spoken about for over 10years. No further tenant was being looked for while the Burntisland Futures Group was examining possibilities for various Common Good properties. Gordon Langlands felt that the current state of the property should be examined, that Fife Council should leave the property in a reasonable state of repair. Cllr Leslie said that she would arrange a site visit with someone from Fife Council and representatives of the Community Council. Cllr Leslie reiterated the need for progress on finding an alternative use.
- 10.5** Andrew Young Paintings. Ian Archibald (Burntisland Heritage Trust) reminded members that the Trust had purchased and been gifted a number of paintings by local artist Andrew Young. The Trust would like to hang these in The Magistrates Room in the Burgh Chambers, where Andrew Young's Bridge of Life already hangs. Unfortunately due to early morning sunshine, blinds will need to be purchased to prevent damage to the paintings. Ian has received a quotation for blinds and would like to apply to the Common Good Fund for £250-£300 to cover the cost of the blinds and the hanging of the paintings. Asked about insurance, Ian said that the paintings would be covered by the Trusts own insurance and that there was not a great deal of monetary value attached. It was unanimously agreed that The Community Council would support this.

Actions-

Cllr. Leslie to arrange for a meeting with Fife Council Estates Department and representatives of the Community Council on site at old Town Offices.

Ian Archibald to keep BCC informed with regard to Common Good application and installation of blinds and paintings.

11.0 Awaiting Update

- 11.1** Royal Burgh Signage. John Bradshaw advised that the proofs given to him with the information were correct and that we just have to wait for money from the 2016/17 budget to get the go-ahead. John advised that he had been approached by FAB, who have offered to plant-up containers around the new signs if these can be attached. John thought that this could be arranged once the signs were in place.
- 11.2** Dalgety Bay Pantomime. Christine Dewar said that everyone involved had

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- had a wonderful time and would like the Chairman to thank the organizers.
- 11.3** East/West Links Play Area. In the absence of an update report from Morag Douglas, Gordon Langlands listed the number of applications for funding of the projects and those that were awaiting response. Gordon felt that the projects had not been very well controlled. He praised the work put into applying for funding the East Links project and the efforts attached to the West Links but he felt that more control was needed to bring both projects to a successful conclusion. Presently the Community Council is not in possession of copies of the funding applications made in its name. This could result in problems reconciling funds passing through its accounts and may lead to confusion should we get into a dispute with any contractors or funders as per the recent War Memorial project. Cllr. Leslie said that he was right to be cautious, that funding applications were required urgently for the West Links project. She suggested that members should offer additional help to the project where required.
- 11.4** Harbour/Castle Area NDP. Gordon Langlands advised members that the Community Council had been trying to get involved with this project for some time. An invitation has now been received to a consultation on a car parking proposal for the Castle area, in the Library on Thursday 18th Feb, 2.30-4.00p.m. and 5.30 to 7.00p.m. Gordon wondered how an area with so many cars could be classified as deprived. He emphasised that this invitation was not to present our views on what was required to alleviate deprivation in the area but to comment on this parking proposal.
- 11.5** Burntisland Futures. John Bradshaw advised members that a provisional date of Tuesday 23rd Feb, 6.00pm at the Old Station building had been set by Lesley Campbell of STAR development to discuss the Development Plan. Members were in agreement in thinking that the Burgh Chambers should be used and not a building out with the Common Good. John Bradshaw said that he would convey this to Alex MacDonald.
- 11.6** Post Office. Cllr. Leslie advised members that Burntisland post office is not being actively marketed by Royal Mail. Cllr. Leslie advised that this may be one avenue to take with Royal Mail if complaining about the standard of service. This taken with the poor opening hours being offered may offer a more persuasive argument.
- 11.7** Kirkton Church. George McLauchlan told members that archaeologists had been on site in the last week surveying with the latest 3D laser scanners. The next stage will be partial removal of the ivy before architects examine the building to determine the extent of work required.

Actions-

Alex MacDonald to thank organizers of Dalgety Bay pantomime.
Morag Douglas to report back on progress of applications for East/West Links.
Gordon Langlands to report on Castle Car Park consultaion.
Alex MacDonald to report on meeting with STAR development group.
Alex MacDonald to contact Royal Mail about getting post office on market.
George McLauchlan to report on Kirkton Church progress.

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12.0 Date of Next Meeting 11th March 2016

George McLauchlan Minute Secretary 14th February 2016

Appendix 1:

Burntisland Community Council			
Treasurer's Report			
12th February 2016			
Details	Income	Expenditure	Balance
Balance Carried Forward 31/03/15	£824.07		
BCC Accounts to 12/02/16 (See Notes)	£34,582.32	£12,554.87	£22,851.52
Notes:			
The overall Community Council Account Balance includes balances held for the individual projects listed below.			
Burntisland Community Futures	£10,900.00	£10,992.00	-£92.00
Burntisland Community Futures balance held in BCC Account 31/03/15	£0.00		
Total Burntisland Community Futures Balance @ 12/02/16			-£92.00
Exiles Reception	£300.00	£149.04	£150.96
Exiles Reception balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£17.67		
Total Exiles Reception Balance @ 12/02/16			£168.63
Chimes balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£330.20		£330.20
War Memorial Project	£46,390.66	£47,980.64	-£1,569.98
War Memorial balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£1,500.00		
Total War Memorial Balance @ 12/02/16			-£69.98
East Links Playpark Project	£21,944.00	£0.00	£21,944.00
Total East Links Playpark Balance @ 12/02/16			£21,944.00
Total held on Account for Projects			£22,604.81
Balance available to Community Council @ 12/02/16 (See Notes)			£246.71