



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

### PRESENT:

Alex MacDonald (Chair), Bob Smith (Vice-Chair), John Russell (Treasurer), Gordon Langlands (Minutes Secretary), Gary Cummins, Christine Dewar, Morag Douglas, Hazel McGraw, Ian McKenzie, Bruce Stuart, PC Graves and Cllr Peter George.

ATTENDING: 10 members of the public.

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

Prior to the meeting PC Graves distributed a short Police Survey which he collected at the end.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed the meeting that apologies had been received from John Bradshaw, John Bruce, Tim Hailey, Isabel Smith, Cllr Susan Leslie and Cllr George Kay.

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (9<sup>th</sup> August 2013)

There was one correction. In 8.2, Kirkcaldy Road should read Aberdour Road.

The minutes were agreed, proposed by Christine Dewar and seconded by Hazel McGraw.

### 3. Notification of Community Concerns for A.O.B. (Item 8): Three new items 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3.

### 4. Police Report – PC Graves.

It was reported that Police Sgt Stuart Davidson had left and his replacement was Sgt David Snowdon. There were 615 calls.

	Crimes	Detected	On-going
Auchtertool	0	0	0
Burntisland	98	63	35
Kinghorn	29	18	11
Total	127	81	46

Detection rate: 63%

2 drug busts in Burntisland.

Understaffed due to holidays.

There are 5 response officers, 3 community officers and 1 sergeant.

Usually there are 2-3 officers on duty at any one time.

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

5.1. There was nothing to report from the Secretary.

5.2. The Treasurer indicated a balance available of £1889.38.

The Burgh Buzz contingency of £500 was questioned in light of the Buzz setting up their own account. Refer to appendix 1.

**Action: Secretary to put on agenda for discussion at next meeting.**



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

### 6. Environment.

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

6.2. Cllr George Kay sent a note indicating:

The benches at the library were now secured.  
Work on the Burntisland to Aberdour Road has started.  
He has visited the Old Cemetery.

6.3. Morag Douglas indicated that owners must agree to have their shop fronts painted and that Andrew Walker of Fife Council is working with Burntisland Unlimited.

6.4. Christine Dewar thanked Cllr Peter George for arranging the cutting back of trees and bushes on Aberdour Road but commented that unfortunately the cuttings were just left strewn around.

6.5. Cllr Peter George indicated:

Bins at bottom of High Street are to be moved.  
Signs for the beach are underway.  
A resident from Russell Grove had complained of rats. The vermin officer has attended but saw no signs of them. Cllr George wants the burn to be cleaned out.  
He will phone to enquire about top soil for graves and remedial work on chip paths.  
He will also check about sand on the promenade.

6.6. Ben Barron indicated that there are plans to improve the burn to allow school kids to observe wildlife etc.

6.7. FAB achieved a Silver medal in Beautiful Scotland competition. In the Fife Beautiful Garden competition Patricia Henderson won the Kirkcaldy area prize and also a Silver award for Fife for her Hanging Baskets and Container Garden at the Jubilee Tavern.

**Action: Alex MacDonald to write on behalf of BCC congratulating both parties.**

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

### 7. Burgh Buzz – Bill Kirkhope.

No update.

### 8. Any Other Business.

8.1. Mossmorran / Braefoot Bay Liason group.

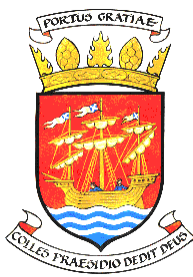
Fife Council has taken away the admin service which took minutes. The companies involved are not willing to provide admin. Cllr Leslie took the minutes as a one off. There will be an emergency planning exercise in October at Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay. The Fife Council Emergency Planning officer will observe and report. Exxon pointed out that Ethane from the North Sea will decline in the next 10-30 years and they are exploring alternative sources e.g. importing via Braefoot Bay (extra 25 ships / year). This could extend the life of the plant. Ethane is a by-product of Fracking however Exxon will not be getting involved in Fracking. Shell who process North Sea Gas did not comment on their plans for prolonging the life of the plant.

8.2. Official opening of new football pitch and play park at Toll Park.

Christine Dewar commented that she had not seen any invite for BCC to attend this opening and that the BCC had been criticised for not attending. Alex MacDonald said that there had been an invitation from Alistair Drummond of Fife Council asking for a representative from the BCC to attend. Alex in turn asked Gary Cummins and Morag Douglas who represent the Community Council on the Stakeholders Liaison Group to attend. Morag did actually attend and Gordon Langlands also attended to take a photo for the BCC web site.

8.3. Remembrance Day.

Remembrance Sunday will be the 10<sup>th</sup> of November. The application for the parade has been made and Ian Wallace has been invited to lead the parade.



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

### 9. New Business Items

#### 9.1. BCC vacancy.

Hazel McGraw has volunteered to be the joint minute secretary.

There were 2 applicants for the vacancy on the BCC – Damien Purcell and Fiona Wearmouth (Burrell).

Each received 5 votes so rather than toss a coin it was decided to defer any decision to the next meeting when additional members will be present.

#### 9.2. Kirkton Graveyard.

George McLaughlin has written to The Burgh Buzz about the condition of the Kirkton Graveyard. Ian Archibald has sent a copy of the Historic Scotland 1999 report identifying work required by Fife Council to bring it up to the standard for grant support. This work was never done.

George McLaughlin was present and indicated that:

The buildings are 800-900 years old and covered in ivy and bushes.

Fife Council is ignoring the Historic Scotland report.

Ideally this graveyard could be an asset to the community with descriptive plaques and a possible connection to the Coastal Path.

Cllr Kay, Ian Archibald, John Burnett and Fife Council have met at the graveyard.

Cllr George has phoned Douglas Spiers, the archaeologist at Fife Council, who has confirmed that action will be taken to bring it up to standard. The BCC believes this is a valuable asset.

**Action:** Alex MacDonald to write to Douglas Spiers supporting this activity and asking for a work schedule.

#### 9.3. Dog Fouling Poster.

There is a Links and Beach cleanup organised for the 28<sup>th</sup> September.

A dog fouling survey will be done at the same time.

There is also a P7 beach cleanup organised.

There is a possible school poster competition supported by the Parent Council and BCC.

Morag Douglas asked what would be done with the poster. Ben Barron was hoping Fife Council would print and distribute it. The Scots Verse competition could possibly be on 7<sup>th</sup> December so the poster prize giving would have to be October/November. Catering would be £150-200. The BCC could ask for sponsorship or divert money left in the “chimes” account. It was decided that the BCC would support the poster competition, donate prizes and host a presentation, and await a possible contribution from the Parent Council.

#### 9.4. Proposal for Wind Turbine at Balbie Farm.

This application is by the landowner and Kingdom Housing Association.

It would generate £3,700 / year for local communities. Proportionally this would be £450 / year for Burntisland. There has been no contact from the landowner with BCC.

Mr Potts gave a verbal submission as per his email submission. Refer to Appendix 4.

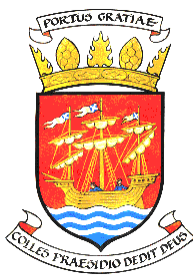
There was a general discussion with nobody present supporting this application.

**Action:** Alex MacDonald to write to Fife Council planning objecting to this planning application as it is contrary to Fife Council guidelines.

#### 9.5. Gas Fracking in Fife.

BCC has received an invitation for 2 representatives to attend a meeting on the subject of fracking which will include a presentation by Friends of the Earth at 7.30 p.m., Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October in Glenrothes.

**Action:** Hazel McGraw and Morag Douglas to attend.



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

### 9.6. Common Good Application.

There is an application from the Events group for funds to purchase new fencing. Fencing is required to go around the site of the fireworks and bonfire. This fencing is also to be used for the Highland Games. Some of the older fencing has been thrown out whilst the remainder has been given to Cardenden. The Events group receives a grant from the Area Budget for fireworks. Posts (£500) have already been purchased. The cost of new fencing is £2000, this application is for £1000 with the other £1000 coming from the Events groups own funds. Lee Mahady kindly offered steel fencing free of charge, however this was declined by Morag Douglas as being unsuitable.

**Action:** Alex MacDonald to write to Fife Council supporting this application for funding.

### 10. Ongoing Business Items

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

The Ged's Mill retail units and the ECO village have been refused by Fife Council. The conversion of the Inchview Hotel is underway.

#### 10.2. Community Emergency Planning.

A draft has been circulated. Briggs and BiFab have been approached and are happy to help.

**Action:** BCC members to give John Bradshaw feedback on the Draft.

#### 10.3. Proposed Community Action Plan.

STAR so far has been unsuccessful in applying for funding on behalf of BCC. BCC needs to decide whether to seek funding separately.

**Action:** Alex MacDonald to organise a meeting with Hazel McGraw.

### 11. Awaiting Update

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

No update.

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

#### 11.2. Burgh Chambers Furniture.

As per Cllr Kay's suggestion this was split 50/50 between the Area Budget and the Common Good Fund. The Kirkcaldy Area Committee has approved 50% from the Common Good Fund but unfortunately Ken Hailey of Fife Council has only just got the Area Budget application. It appears to have been misplaced within Fife Council. He has apologised and will get back to us as soon as possible.

Cllr Peter George confirmed that Ken emailed him and that he in turn replied supporting this application.

#### 11.3. Burntisland/Kinghorn Sports Hub.

The cost of the MUGA has increased and the funding application has been amended accordingly.

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

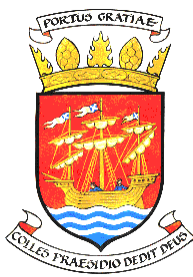
It is now deemed too late to have the work done for this Remembrance Day. Bob Smith to contact the Quantity Surveyor to ensure the contractor fully appreciates the scope of work and arrange for the work to commence after the current Remembrance ceremony, taking due care of any wreaths laid.

#### 11.5. Consultation on Licensing Policy.

Morag Douglas has read the policy. The main changes are in the clarification of "promotions". There are no comments required for Fife Council.

### 12. Date of Next Meeting

BCC Meeting - Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 7 p.m. Venue: Burgh Chambers.



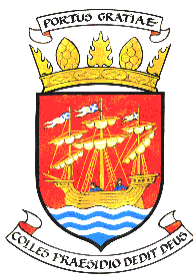
# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

### APPENDIX 1: Treasurer's Report.

<b>Burntisland Community Council</b>			
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>			
<b>13th September 2013</b>			
<b>Details</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Balance Carried Forward 31/03/13	£2,216.12		
BCC Accounts to 13/09/13 (See Notes)	£3,595.04	£3,036.39	<b>£2,774.77</b>
Notes:			
The overall Community Council Account Balance includes balances held for the individual projects listed below, as well as a Burgh Buzz contingency fund. This is currently £500.			
Burgh Buzz	£1,640.00	£2,164.45	-£524.45
BB balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	£524.45		
<b>Total Burgh Buzz Balance @ 13/09/13</b>			<b>£0.00</b>
Exiles Reception	£260.00	£284.32	-£24.32
Exiles Reception balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	-£30.87		
<b>Total Exiles Reception Balance @ 13/09/13</b>			<b>-£55.19</b>
Chimes balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	£330.20		<b>£330.20</b>
<b>Total held on Account for Projects</b>			<b>£385.39</b>
Burgh Buzz contingency			£500.00
<b>Total held on Account</b>			<b>£885.39</b>
<b>Balance available to Community Council @ 13/09/13</b>			<b>£1,889.38</b>
<b>Outstanding Income/Invoices</b>			



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

---

### APPENDIX: 2

#### BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### Environment issues for meeting Friday 13.09.13

##### Refuge Bins

Noticed that refuge bins at the seating area bottom of the High Street requires attention one bin there is no base or bin liner resulting in litter lying on the ground the other Bin no bin liners this matter was raised at a previous BCC meeting but nothing done.

Also I would recommend a refuge Bin is placed at the Toll Park near the play area and additional benches hopefully this can be done as soon as possible to ensure this area is kept clean and tidy. 31.08.13 Noticed two Bins have been placed at the play park should make a difference.

##### Warning Signs Along Beach

More warning signs are necessary to be placed along the beach to discourage Dog Owners to keep them off the Beach during May – September there is only one sign at the yellow tunnel which is not sufficient. Hopefully this will be done for next year

##### Burntisland Cemetery

Up-date on visit to Burntisland Cemetery by Cllr Kay, Liz Murphy Fife Council and myself on Tuesday 20.08.13

We noticed that the grass had not been cut on a regular ten day cycle basis and expressed our concern to Liz Murphy she apologized and stated she would contact the appropriate department to have the grass cut immediately.

I asked if it would be possible to have some top soil delivered to the cemetery maybe from the Toll Park as there is some soil lying there this could be to placed round the grave stones which would make it more respectable she stated that she would enquire but this kind of work is done during the winter programme starting October.

We have agreed to meet again in October a date has still to be arranged will provide a further report after our visit.

##### Empty High Street Shops

There are quite a number of empty shops on our High Street with some boarded up and others just left with dirty windows and paintwork peeling off they make our high street look really untidy pressure must be placed on these owners to get their premises tidied up to make our High Street more respectable.

I have noticed a number of existing business owners have taken the effort to paint up there frontage and this makes a difference I would suggest that Fife Council contacts the owners of these empty shops and requests that they ensure their premises are kept in a better condition which will go a long way to improve the overall environment in our High Street. I have noticed an article in the courier 2<sup>nd</sup> September about this very matter



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

### 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.	On going.	Cllr 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.		Cllr George
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.		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 <sup>th</sup> 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.		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.
23	April 2013	Fly tipping near Monks Walk			Cllr George
25	April 2013	Old Admiralty ground needs cleared.			Cllr George.
27	April 2013	Manhole cover at Haugh Road.	Temporary repair awaiting permanent repair.	New cover. Sept.	Cllr Leslie.
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	Chip paths are still a disgrace.		John Bruce Cllr Kay.
32	June 2013	Palais Stairs	Needs weeded.		Cllr Leslie.
35	June 2013	Path from Starley Hall to Burntisland along Aberdour Road.	Large weeds and soil reducing width of footpath.		Cllr Leslie.
36	August 2013	Path from Glebe Place to Meadowfield.	Lamp post needed		Cllr George.
37	August 2013	Kirkcaldy Road	Brambles need cut back.	Done.	Cllr George.
38	August 2013	Safer route to school	No update.		Cllr George
39	September	Kirkton Cemetery	Requires significant maintenance.		Cllr Kay.
Issues highlighted in GREEN as completed will be removed in the next Summary.					



# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

---

### APPENDIX: 4

#### Submission to Burntisland Community Council Ref Planning Application 13/01624/Full 74m Wind Turbine at Balbie farm

I refer to the above planning application for a commercial scale (74m) wind turbine at Balbie Farm which is in the area of responsibility of Burntisland CC.

I understand that CC members have had access to the applicants supporting documentation for this development. The documentation submitted by wind energy developers is, almost universally, written in language which strongly supports the application.

I am one of a number of residents living within 2km of the turbine site and have prepared this brief submission in order that Burntisland Community Council members have an opportunity to review the proposal from a local resident's standpoint. The visual impacts of such a large turbine on nearby properties would be overbearing. There are however a number of equally important issues why I feel this is not an appropriate location for a commercial scale wind turbine.

Wind energy developments are driven by two main factors, one is Scottish Government policy and the second, and by far the most important for developers, is the very generous subsidy regime in place for renewable energy proposals.

In this proposal the lasting damage to the landscape will not be offset by any benefits the development may bring. In this case the judgements for acceptability should be based on local impacts as the project is too small to have any meaningful impact on CO2 emissions reduction or electricity generation. Whilst I accept that KHA will benefit financially from the project, there is no sense of balance to the proposal as the disadvantages are significant.

I believe that the proposed location is inappropriate for a commercial scale wind turbine of this size for the following main reasons.

1. The proposed location is in the Cullaloe Hills Local Landscape Area. There are only a few LLA's remaining in Fife and these are offered protection from wind energy developments by Regional and Local Plan policies, in order to maintain the landscape character of these areas.

The Fife Council Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Guidance states "**Wind turbine developments that would harm the landscape character of Fife's LLAs will be resisted.**"

The Development Plan describes LLA's as "**an area that the Council designates within its Development Plan to safeguard a locally important area of outstanding beauty**" and the Mid Fife Local Plan 2012, Policy E 19 Local Landscape Areas, states that "**development will only be permitted where it has no significant adverse effect on the identified landscape qualities of the area**".

The developers supporting documentation suggests that the impact on the LLA will be localised, they then however go on to say that "**Occupying a prominent ridge, the site is visible from many locations including across the Forth towards Edinburgh and from across parts of Fife and beyond**". Further they say "**Significant landscape effects are likely to be experienced on some parts of the Cullaloe Hills and Coast LLA within approx 2.5km of the turbine.**"

Given this high visibility and the distance over which the turbine will be seen the impact can hardly be localised.

If we are to preserve the integrity of landscapes that are important and cherished then I strongly suggest that this application should not be supported.

2. Within two hundred meters of the turbine site runs core path number 468 and close by are paths 479, 480 ( along the top of the Binn ) and 481. All these paths are well used by people with dogs, walkers, cyclists and runners. A small scale domestic turbine in the same location might well be acceptable, however a commercial scale 74m wind turbine will be the dominant visual feature of the area with its rotating blades and will overwhelm the path (and road) users.





# BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 13th September 2013  
7.00 P.M.  
Burgh Chambers.

## Draft Minutes

The application documents do not discuss the impacts on the core path network, which I find disturbing. The developer has either ignored the impact on the core paths because he does not like the answer or is unaware of the core path network. Either reason is inexcusable.

Every single person, to whom I have spoken, who uses these paths for recreation has agreed that a turbine of this size is totally unacceptable in this location, many have objected and all have stated their support to have the development refused.

3. Earlier this year the Council commissioned a public consultation review of wind energy policy in Fife and engaged landscape consultants to review the impact of wind turbines across Fife.

The conclusions of the consultants landscape review were that the southern part of the Cullaloe Hills was an area to be afforded **"significant protection"** from wind turbine developments and that a broad area stretching from Kinghorn to Inverkeithing had **"no capacity"** for wind turbines. This review has now been incorporated into the Supplementary Planning Guidance.

It is clear that this location is quite unsuitable for a wind turbine of this scale.

4. While the turbine will not be visible from Burntisland due to the topography of the landscape it will be highly visible from the surrounding countryside and will therefore impact negatively on the landscape and on one of Fife's landmarks, The Binn.

Even the developer's documentation admits that **"Within 5km of the site there are large scattered areas to the north predicted to experience views of the turbine. This includes most of the village of Auchtertool and parts of Kirkcaldy. Outwith 5km there is extensive theoretical visibility across most of the Firth of Forth towards Edinburgh including the entire north facing coastline and the majority of the Edinburgh hinterland."**

I believe that we should be very careful in protecting this part of Fife and if this proposal gains planning permission it may well be the thin end of the wedge. Already there is a scoping application for another turbine to the East of this location and more recently an application for a wind speed mast which was refused due to lack of information.

5. Such a large turbine is out of scale with surrounding land use and whilst we have to endure the Craiggelly mast this proposal will only add another significantly negative aspect to the surrounding area. The large rotating blades will become the focus of views from all the core paths, the Jawbane Road and the surrounding countryside. The SPG advises that, for this location **"discourage any turbines on summits of prominent landforms"**.

The developer states that **"The sense of containment and enclosure provided by the surrounding rising ground would also be affected to an extent and the turbine would be an uncharacteristic addition to the local landscape."**

6. At the time of writing there is an objection to support ratio against this development of 3:1 (120:41) by individuals concerned about the negative impacts of the proposal. The majority of people living within 2km of the site have submitted objection letters.

We are continually hearing from Government Ministers that wind energy developments will only be permitted in the correct locations. This is the wrong development in the wrong location.

I would ask that Burntisland CC submit an objection to this proposal for all the reasons above.

Thank you for giving your consideration to this submission;

Regards,  
David Potts  
Hatton Cottage