



BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

FRIDAY, 14th March 2014
7.00 P.M.
Burgh Chambers.

Draft Minutes.

PRESENT:

Alex MacDonald (Chair), Bob Smith (Vice-Chair), John Russell (Treasurer), Isabel Smith, (Secretary), John Bradshaw, Christine Dewar, Morag Douglas, Gordon Langlands (Joint Minutes Secretary), Hazel McGraw (Joint Minutes Secretary), Bruce Stuart, Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz), PS Neil Ewing, Cllr Peter George and Cllr George Kay.

ATTENDING: 11 members of the public.

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

The Chairman welcomed PS Ewing and members of the public to the meeting and asked all those attending to sign the attendance sheet.

Apologies were received from John Bruce, Tim Hailey, Ian McKenzie, Damien Purcell, Cllr Susan Leslie and Cllr Neil Crooks.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (14th February 2014).

There were no corrections to the minutes.

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

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

4. Police Report – PS Neil Ewing.

23 recorded crimes in Burntisland, 14 detected. 9 undetected giving a 64% detection rate.

Undetected crimes included 3 vandalism, 1 house break in, 1 theft from a motor vehicle and a shoplifting at the Beacon.

Last Friday there was a special deployment of extra police. Cllr Kay and Tim Hailey attended.

Fortunately / unfortunately it was one of the quietest Friday's ever. There was however 1 arrest on the High Street. There will be an increased police presence at weekends (Fridays and Saturdays) and speeding is being monitored in the town.

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 balance of £881.38 but cheques for £400+ had just been signed.
Please refer to Appendix 1.

6. Environment.

6.1. Environmental report by John Bruce.

a) Pettycur Dunes Clean Up.

This clean up is being organized by Kinghorn Community Council in conjunction with Fife Coast & Countryside Trust. Burntisland Community Council is supporting this project and is presently looking for volunteers to assist.

The date of this project is Sunday 6th April 14 and volunteers from Burntisland will be asked to meet at the old beach tearooms for 12.30pm for a briefing and then walk towards Pettycur Dunes for the clean up this should last until around 3pm when tea and coffee will be supplied. Posters will be circulated throughout the town and a small article will be placed in the Fife Free Press in an attempt to attract volunteers.



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- b) Coupar Kirk West Leven Street.
This old structure requires some maintenance weeds are growing out of brick work and it is generally untidy. This is an historical building and part of our heritage must not be allowed to deteriorate further.
- c) Pathway from Yellow Tunnel to Skatepark Area.
This pathway requires some attention; it is always very wet and muddy and could do with some gravel being laid on the path to clean it up.
- d) Dog Fouling Poster.
We have received a large number of posters which have been designed by the children of Burntisland Primary School. These Posters will be judged by the Burntisland Community Council and the best three will be picked out and a prize will be presented to the individual children they will then be laminated and placed around the town in an effort to show these irresponsible dog owners that we as a community care about our town and want to have our streets and parkways clear of this horrible MESS. The presentation will take place shortly and the prizes will be presented by Frances Allan, Community Award Winner.

The dog fouling posters were reviewed at the end of the meeting.

6.2. Cllr George Kay identified non FAB items which are now in hand this week:

- a) Painting the railings around the crazy golf not done this year.
- b) Excellent new fence around the huts.
- c) Painting of huts.
- d) Painting of Bollards at West end of Links.
- e) Work beginning this week on esplanade.

Together with the wonderful work carried out on the War Memorial by the Community Council we should have a much brighter Burntisland for Easter.

6.3. Cllr Peter George:

The middle tunnel and the Coupar Church have been inspected by Fife Council and will be attended to soon.

Part of the path to the Beacon belongs to British Rail.

The trees at the war memorial are to be cut back.

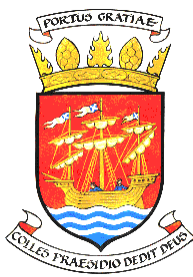
6.4. Ben Barron:

Reported that 5 picnic tables have been purchased for installation on the Links near the new play park.

There may be a byelaw which forbids this.

Action: Cllr Peter George to contact Andrew Ferguson.

A Summary of issues and updates are included in Appendix 2.



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7. Burgh Buzz – B.Kirkhope.

The next copy deadline is 14th April.

It's hoped that there will be an increased number of coloured pages.

8. Any Other Business.

8.1. Mossmorran / Braefoot Bay Liason Committee.

Exxon have donated £29k to a variety of local organisation including ECO centre and RNLI. There is an emergency exercise planned for 20th April and 18th May. A site visit for locals to Exxon/Shell is planned for August/September. SEPA have reviewed the Little Raith Turbines and concluded they have no adverse effect on benzene levels in the Cowdenbeath/Lochgelly area.

Shell have donated to RNLI.

8.2. Signage.

There was a walk about with Andrew Walker of Fife Council, Cllr Kay, Heritage, FAB, Burntisland Unlimited and Walkers around the Station/Beach/Kirkgate/Church etc. There is another walkabout on 19th March. Anyone wishing to comment – please contact elected Councillors.

Bruce Stuart commented that Kinghorn has Royal Burgh branding after contacting the Lord Lyons for permission. The BCC supports this in principle.

Action: John Bradshaw / Bob Smith / Bruce Stuart to contact Kinghorn Community Council and report back at next BCC meeting.

8.3. Right of Way to West of Burntisland (Sandy Road).

Following on from the consultation by Fife Council there has been no feedback.

Action: Isabel to send out email to Alison Irvine of Fife Council what is happening.

9. New Business Items

9.1. Community Council Vacancy.

Resumes for George McLaughlan, Geoff Robotham and Fiona Wearmouth were read out.

George McLaughlan was elected by a majority of votes from BCC members.

9.2. Burgh Chambers Clock Tower.

Unfortunately Cllr Neil Crooks was unable to attend.

The BCC has received an answer to the question raised with Fife Council.

£309k is required for reconstruction. The BCC is adamant that Fife Council have a legal requirement to rebuild the tower. The only question is when.

Cllr Kay stated that the application from elected councillors for £77k to Historic Scotland has been rejected. There is no money in the 2014 budget for this so BCC needs to put pressure on Fife Council before October to have funds included in the 2015 budget.

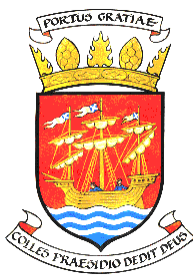
To progress he recommends we need to decide what uses we can put the buildings to.

Meanwhile the purchased stone is being worked on in Markinch.

John Russell commented that we need something such as a Museum / Cafe / Heritage Centre which would benefit the community.

Cllr George suggested we invite Cllr Neil Crooks to the next meeting.

Action: Alex MacDonald to send out an invite.



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9.3. Common Good Fund Application – Sustainable Communities Initiative.

The SCI have applied for £1600 from both Burntisland and Kinghorn Common Good Funds for Earthship tours, workshops etc. They currently have reserves of £5k. The Burntisland Common Good Fund currently has a deficit of £33k. A motion was raised not to support this application. The motion was passed by a majority.

9.4. Disabled Access Burntisland Station / Platform 1 Project.

Ben Barron gave a history of this project to date and explained that the committee had lost its Chairman and now consisted of only himself and Gary Cummins.

Ben needs assistance from the BCC to pursue disabled access at the station.

The BCC may be able to look at this under the proposed Community Action Plan.

Action: Ben to email all the details to BCC so we can discuss this at the next BCC meeting.

9.5. Ecology Centre Consultation Discussion – 19 March 2014.

At 6.30 and 7.30 as part of necessary consultation exercise to support their funding applications.

Action: Bob Smith to attend on behalf of the BCC.

9.6. Review of Byelaws Prohibiting Consumption of Alcoholic Liquor in Designated Public Areas.

The signs have disappeared.

9.7. Proposed Floral Containers at New School Entrance.

Cllr Kay advised that the "School Liaison Committee" is seeking £800 for 6 floral containers for the railings at the new school. Both Cllr Kay and Cllr George have given a personal donation of £100.

The Parent Council have contributed £50. All contributions should be made out to FAB.

Bob Smith proposed a contribution of £100 with the understanding any excess could be used for other similar initiatives at the school. This was agreed by a majority of the BCC.

Christine Dewar commented that people are getting confused by the different school initiatives.

Julie Anderson (Primary School Head teacher) was present and clarified the school initiatives concerned the East Garden and Nursery Garden. Separately Maxine Walker is raising money for a garden area with seating in memory of ex teacher Margaret McCormick. Although discussed with Ms Anderson the school is not directly involved in this initiative.

10. Ongoing Business

10.1. Review of Local Planning Applications.

Renewal of planning permission for 3 houses on the site of the old Binn House.

10.2. Proposed Single Wind Turbine at Balbie.

A formal planning application has now been submitted with the blade size reduced by 10%. Comments included:

The Fife Council guidelines state that this location is unsuitable.

The turbine will be more noticeable than those at Raith Lake.

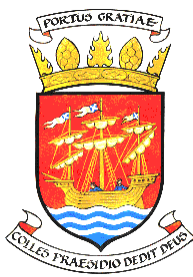
It will be seen for a very long way on the other side of the Binn.

£2 million will be raised for the homeless in Fife. Balbie is a working farm.

There is a very large TV aerial on the Binn, why should we be concerned with this turbine?

BCC agreed by a majority to object to this application.

Action: Alex MacDonald to write to Fife Council objecting to this application.



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11. Awaiting Update.

11.1. Common Good Fund Property Review Report.

The old Burgh Yard at Meadowfield and the Roundhouse car park have not been administered as part of the Common Good Fund. Andrew Ferguson of Fife Council has asked for any additional information as to the intended use of these areas.

John Russell insisted that these properties belong to the town.

Ian Somerville's book has information on these including an interview with Charlotte Haddow. Isa Duncanson, Tom Allan both ex Burntisland Town Councillors and Jim Edminston (ex KDC) could also be sources of information.

Cllr George a Burntisland Town Councillor between 1970-74 commented that there must be minutes from meetings in the Fife Council archives.

Action: Alex MacDonald to check these sources and answer Andrew Ferguson.

11.2. Burgh Chambers Furniture.

5 tables from Burgh Chambers have been restored, 3 more are out for restoration then it's the turn of the tables in the Court Room. It is to be hoped that all users will respect the furniture in future and refrain from placing hot food and drinks on the tables without using mats.

11.3. Burntisland/Kinghorn Sports Hub.

Stakeholders meeting on Wednesday to discuss how to get £3000 in local funding.

11.4. Strategic Projects Group: War Memorial.

Work progressing with the Central monument now being cleaned. The fitting of railings was questioned; however as this is part of the planning application this is too late to change.

Money is being released by the Common Good Fund to pay Interim Fee Invoices from the Architect and Quantity Surveyor. An Interim Valuation from the Contractor, based on the work completed to date is expected shortly.

11.5. Gas Fracking in Fife Meeting: No update.

11.6. Proposed Community Action Plan.

A Steering Group is required. The article in the Burgh Buzz had a poor response.

The question was raised as to whether we should continue with this.

Comments included:

This Plan could conflict with the Kirkcaldy Action Plan generated by Fife Council.

John Bradshaw indicated that it is expensive doing a professional survey.

The STAR funding for a survey has not been forthcoming.

Kinghorn Community Council recently held their own open meeting and drop in sessions seeking the views of the local community.

Hazel McGraw commented that we need community engagement.

Note that the present BCC terminates in October 2014.

Action: Alex MacDonald to set up a new Strategic Projects Group.

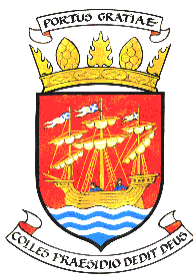
Cllr Kay indicated that the Town Twinning group was being resurrected and that there was a meeting on the 23rd April at Rossend Castle.

12. Date of Next Meeting.

B.C.C. Meeting - Friday, 11 April 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Burgh Chambers.

13. Private Session.

There was a private session to select a shortlist for the School dog fouling poster competition.



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APPENDIX: 1 – Treasurer’s Report.

Burntisland Community Council			
Treasurer's Report			
14th March 2014			
Details	Income	Expenditure	Balance
Balance Carried Forward 31/03/13	£2,216.12		
BCC Accounts to 14/03/14 (See Notes)	£11,437.04	£4,664.39	£8,988.77
Notes:			
The overall Community Council Account Balance includes balances held for the individual projects listed below.			
Burgh Chambers Furniture	£7,722.00	£0.00	£7,722.00
Burgh Chambers Furniture balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	£0.00		
Total Burgh Chambers Furniture Balance @ 14/03/14			£7,722.00
Exiles Reception	£260.00	£284.32	-£24.32
Exiles Reception balance held in BCC Account 31/03/13	-£30.87		
Total Exiles Reception Balance @ 14/03/14			-£55.19
Chimes balance held in BCC Account 14/03/14	£330.20		£330.20
Total held on Account for Projects			£8,107.39
Total held on Account			£8,107.39
Balance available to Community Council @ 14/03/14 (See Notes)			£881.38



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APPENDIX: 2 – Environmental Summary.

Issue	When Reported	Description	Current Status	When Resolved	Who Responsible
8	June 2012	Dog Fouling. Dog bins requested for Colinswell Road / Kininmonth Av., Craigkennochie and Coastal Path.	This appears to be getting worse. Public encouraged to report offenders School Poster competition.	On-going.	Cllr George, 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. To be resurfaced after April 2014.		John Bruce Cllr Leslie.
11	January 2013	Shipyards Steps	Community payback to clear steps. Hurd Rolland purchasing adjacent land, they may take responsibility for making the steps safe	Still on-going.	Cllr George Cllr Kay.
13	February 2013	Stairs at Harbour Place need attention.	Been reported.		Cllr George
16	March 2013	Centre Red Tunnel needs stairs repaired and a railing.	Inspected by Fife Council		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.	Planning permission for roof and windows.		John Bruce
31	June 2013	Cemetery	Verges and earth around graves improved. Red chip paths to be fixed. Much better but patchy in places. Currently work continuing into next year.		John Bruce Cllr Kay.
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 inspected. Funding being sought for renovation and signage		Cllr Kay.
41	October 2013	Haugh Road pavement.	Badly needs maintenance. Holes to be filled in meantime. New surface in 2014/15.		Cllr Leslie. Cllr George.
42	January 2014	Promenade - Areas needing resurfaced/ repaired	Is due to be cleared up w/b 13/01/14 Reported. Work started.		Cllr Kay
43	January 2014	High Street	Areas of High St and cobbled parking areas need re-surfaced'. Due pre- xmas Investigate		Cllr Kay
45	March 2014	Coupar Church	Weeds and graffiti. Inspected by Fife Council		Cllr George.
46	March 2014	Path from Yellow Tunnel to skatepark.	Wet and muddy. Needs some work done on drainage.		Cllr George.
47	March 2014	Area at War Memorial	Trees need cut back and surface repaired. After work completed on War Memorial.		Cllr George

Issues highlighted in GREEN as completed will be removed in the next Summary.