



# Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council Draft Minutes.

Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> August 2015  
7 p.m. Burgh Chambers

Present:

John Bradshaw, Leslie Backhouse, Christine Dewar, Morag Douglas, Colin Fraser, Gordon Langlands, George McLauchlan, John Russell, Lesley-Anne Cronin, Tim Hailey, Alex MacDonald, Bill Symington, Leslie Backhouse.

Attending:

Cllr. Leslie, Cllr. Kay, Cllr. George. Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz) 10 members of the public.

## **1.0 Chairman's Opening Remarks and Apologies for Absence.**

- 1.1 Chairman Alex MacDonald wished to express his appreciation to The Secretary for forwarding emails and carrying on the business of the committee during his short absence.
- 1.2 The Chairman welcomed new member, Leslie Backhouse, to her first full meeting.
- 1.3 Apologies from Bruce Stuart, John Bruce, Ben Barron.

## **2.0 Minutes from previous meeting (12<sup>th</sup> June 2015)**

- 2.1 The minutes were proposed by Christine Dewar and seconded by John Bradshaw.

## **3.0 Police Report**

- 3.1 See appendix 1
- 3.2 Bill Kirkhope asked if it was now police policy that they would not attend Community Council meetings and only send in a report. Cllr. Kay advised that since the introduction of Community Engagement meetings, more than 5 years ago, it was no longer policy to send a police representative and they attended at their own discretion. It was generally agreed that members would like a representative of the police to attend. The Chairman said that he would contact Police Scotland to advise on members wishes.
- 3.3 Leslie Anne Cronin asked if there was any truth in rumours that the police station was closing. No members or councillors could comment on these rumours.

Action- Chairman to contact Police Scotland to request a representative attends Burntisland Community Council meetings on a regular basis.

## **4.0 Secretary Report.**

- 4.1 The Secretary advised that there was there was still a vacancy on the Scottish Resilience Seminar if any members were interested. He also advised members to look at the Spaces Funding website, where grants are available. Members were also asked to respond to all consultations with regard to the Library. See Any Other Business.

## **5.0 Treasurers Report**

- 5.1 The Treasurer advised that due to computer problems, he was unable to provide a report for the previous two months. However, an audited set of accounts for the previous year was presented. These were proposed by Leslie Anne Cronan and seconded by Tim Hailey. See appendix 2

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**6.0 Environment Report**

- 6.1 In the absence of John Bruce, Chairman Alex MacDonald read a report compiled by John.
- 6.2 Pick n Fix. This project is progressing well and permission from Fife Coast and Countryside Trust has been received to attach the boxes to their notice boards. A pro-forma Invoice will be required from Burntisland Community Council to release the money from sponsors, required to purchase the necessary equipment. It is hoped that this project can be launched before the end of the summer in conjunction with an anti dog fouling drive.
- 6.3 Tree branches have been removed from the Broomhill garages area and it is hoped to have shrubs and trees in this area pruned some time in October.
- 6.4 An improvement in the standards at the cemetery has been noted. However, two pot-holes remain at the entrance. Cllr Kay has noted these and will report to the appropriate department.
- 6.5 Floral Action Burntisland has again entered the town in the Beautiful Fife Competition, this was judged on 13<sup>th</sup> July and results should be known by the end of the month. Mrs Henderson has again won a Silver Award for her work on The Jubilee Tavern and garden.
- 6.6 Investigation is still ongoing with regard to the poisoning of the ivy at the station.

Action- John Bruce to discuss with the treasurer the nature of the pro-forma invoice for the Pick n Mix boxes.

Cllr Kay to follow up on the pot holes at the cemetery.

The Chairman, to send a congratulatory letter to Mrs Henderson at the Jubilee Tavern.

**7.0 Review Of Local Planning**

- 7.1 Tim Hailey advised that there was nothing of concern pending.

**8.0 Burgh Buzz**

- 8.1 Bill Kirkhope advised that the latest editions had been distributed. He apologised for the error which slipped through on the crossword.
- 8.2 Leslie Anne Cronin thanked Bill for including her article on the Dollar Road Neighbourhood watch Scheme.

**9.0 Any Other Business**

- 9.1 Library Review- Gordon Langlands drew everyone's attention to the ongoing Library Review; he thought that consultation ended on 28<sup>th</sup> August; however, Cllr. Leslie advised that consultation was ongoing until November. Cllr Leslie said that, although Burntisland was identified as a 'Hub Library', everyone should be on their guard with the core hours that it will open. Cllr Kay said that he had written to Fife Cultural Trust to make clear what was being consulted on; was the core hours in Burntisland to be 20hrs or 40hrs. He awaits a reply. All three councillors reiterated the need for everyone to get involved in the

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discussion and to reply to the consultation. Colin Fraser said that to make the target cuts identified, the core hours of the Hub Libraries would have to be cut. Cllr Leslie said that although current savings have been identified, she is not optimistic about the future. The Chairman thought that it would be dangerous for the Community Council to say nothing and that while encouraging individuals to participate in the consultation, The Community Council should send a letter of support for the library to Fife Cultural Trust. This was unanimously agreed.

Action- Chairman to send letter of support with regard to Burntisland Library to Fife Cultural Trust.

**10.0 New Business**

- 10.1 Aileen Paterson: Ben Sharland, a member of the public, drew the Community Councils' attention to local born children's author, Aileen Paterson being awarded an MBE. Ben thought that it would be nice for her to be recognised in the town of her birth. Cllr Leslie thought that this may be an ideal opportunity to involve the local library and show that we have active public involvement. It was also thought that the Heritage Trust may be interested in recognising her achievements. The matter was left open.
- 10.2 Play Streets: Ben Sharland also introduced to the meeting the concept of 'Play Streets', which he has been involved with in Bristol and Edinburgh. The idea is for designated streets to be blocked from traffic on particular days and allow children to reclaim them for themselves and encourage them to take 'ownership' of their play. Cllr Leslie thought that this was more something that should be done at a local or street level and not something the Council should be involved in. Bill Symington thought that feelers should be put out, see if any parents are interested. Cllr George and Cllr Kay both thought that this was a bad idea; we should be ensuring that our children have a safe environment in which to play and not encouraging them to play in the streets. Leslie Backhouse advised that there is information out there for anyone interested. No further action.
- 10.3 Exiles Reception & Market Day: the Secretary extended his thanks to those who volunteered their help at the reception. He also extended his thanks to John Russell who was left to direct the coaches at Scott Timber/ Docks. John pointed out that we had been 'dumped-on', by both Fife Council and the police. He had been advised that it was the town's responsibility to ensure that the coaches were parked; it has since transpired that this was false information. This will not happen in subsequent years. The Secretary noted that although the reception was well attended, the parade was rather disappointing and he did not think that there were as many people around the Highland Games ring. It was also brought to members' attention that a few members of the public were unhappy with the small number of market traders. Cllr Kay advised that this could not be put down to the prices charged, as

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these had not altered in three years. Cllr Leslie said that it was not the responsibility of Fife Council to promote Markets; these can be expensive and take a lot of administration. Alex MacDonald said that there are many successful Markets and wondered if there was anyone who would be interested in doing this for Burntisland.

- 10.4 Chimes. Gordon Langlands brought to members' attention that although we do not have a Town Clock, we do have the equipment to produce the chimes. He has been approached by people during the Town Survey, to say that they miss the chimes. Would it be possible to introduce the chimes? It was generally agreed that this could be a good idea. The local Councillors agreed to bring this up at the next ward meeting.

Action- the Chairman to write to Mrs Bruce and Mrs Langlands to thank them for their help at the Exiles Reception.  
Local Councillors to bring up the subject of re-introducing the Town Clock chimes.

**11.0 Ongoing Business**

- 11.1 Neighbourhood Watch Dollar Road. Leslie Anne Cronin advised that the signs have been erected, leaflets distributed and wheelie bin stickers put out. Everything is up and running.
- 11.2 Seagulls. This is an ongoing problem, Leslie Anne Cronin was advised by Fife Council that it was not their problem and to contact Scottish Natural Heritage; they have advised that before taking action a licence must first be acquired by the person taking action i.e. Culling.
- 11.3 Parking on the Links. The Chairman advised that he has written to Fife Council passing on the views of the Community Council that no parking should be allowed out with designated areas; no reply has yet been received. It was noted that the chestnut fencing erected along Kinghorn Road, had stopped cars going on to the Links. John Russell brought to everyone's attention the damage being done to the Links by showmen's Lorries. It was generally thought that this was unusual as they normally abided by the rules and were quite careful.
- 11.4 Nursery School Garden. Cllr Kay has met with the Head teacher and after initial clearing up done by Payback, it was agreed to leave any further work until the start of the new term as there was no spare money to spend.
- 11.5 Haugh Road Recycling. Cllr Leslie has spoken with Fife Council who have agreed to go ahead with a Pilot of the glass recycling point. Funding is in place and it will be up to those using the facility to ensure that litter is contained and the Bins are not contaminated.
- 11.6 War Memorial. Cllr Kay has advised that the Parks department has completed work and that discussions are taking place with FAB, to decide on planting of flower beds.
- 11.7 Replacement Tree at Kinghorn Road. Cllr Leslie said that there was nothing further to report. Bob Wilkie, who was present, offered that Fife Council had agreed that a Sycamore tree would be too large for

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the site and that a smaller tree should be agreed upon. The Chairman interrupted to say that this was something that should be dealt with by Fife Council Planning.

- 11.8 Grass Cutting on Red Pond. Cllr Kay has assured everyone that grass cutting has resumed at the Red Pond and will continue until the Toll Park is playable.
- 11.9 Toll Park. Cllr Kay advised that there will be no football played on the Toll Park this season. Cllr Leslie said that the same pitch specifications that was laid on the Toll, has been laid elsewhere in Fife and that before the handover can be completed they must get it right. However, it is hoped that the smaller pitch inside the school grounds will be playable in the near future, thus relieving some pressure.
- 11.10 Railway Station Parking. The designated parking spaces in Harbour Place have been marked out. Cllr Kay reiterated that Network rail have no plans to increase parking at Burntisland and that Fife Council have no money for a new car park. Cllr Kay said that parking at Burntisland was on the agenda for the next meeting with Abellio, the new operator of Scotrail.

Action-

Fife Councillors to continue to monitor progress with the Toll Park.

**12.0 Awaiting Update**

- 12.1 Rossend Neighbourhood Action. As Ben Barron is still on holiday, this will be carried forward until the next meeting.
- 12.2 East/West Links Play Areas. Morag Douglas advised that funding applications are ongoing. Equipment has been identified and a detailed plan produced to identify where the equipment will be installed on the East Links site.
- 12.3 Strategic Projects Group. Alex MacDonald reported that over 400 local people had responded to the survey, over 200 visitors had been asked to respond and more than 30 groups had participated. It was anticipated that the survey would be closed in the next two weeks, to allow for analysis of the replies. The next meeting of the group will be on 27<sup>th</sup> August in the town Hall at 5.30pm.
- 12.4 Suitable Badge for Achievement. Alex MacDonald passed round photographs of several examples he had researched, along with prices. It was generally agreed that the enamel example with the coat of arms was preferred, but with an added addition of wording. Christine Dewar thought that the badge commissioned by The Highland Games Committee was a good example. Alex agreed to research further.
- 12.5 Kirkton Cemetery. George McLauchlan reported the successful outcome of Heritage Lottery Funding. Burntisland Heritage Trust was awarded £90,500, toward preservation of the Kirkton Church Ruins. This leaves a funding gap of around £10,000, which the group are confident can be gathered. Part of the conditions of funding is that the public have access to the site. Initially the site will be locked at night and opened again in the morning during the summer months. George

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McLauchlan has agreed to do this. During the winter months it is intended that a key will be made available at either the Kirkton Co-op or the Jubilee Tavern. Burntisland Heritage Trust has asked The Community Council to give their support for this arrangement, and to help out George McLauchlan, when he is unable to perform this duty. It was unanimously agreed that this was a good arrangement and John Bradshaw has agreed to assist George when needed.

Action- Ben Barron to report on Rossend Neighbourhood Action Group, Morag Douglas to follow up on the East/West Links Play area. Alex to report on The Strategic projects group and badges for achievement.

George McLauchlan to report on progress with Kirkton Church/Graveyard.

**13.0 Date of Next Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015, Burgh Chambers 7.00pm**

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**Appendix 1**

Police Report – Community Council Meeting Burntisland 14/08/2015

Crimes:

50 reported since June's meeting.

29 have since been detected.

21 are undetected, however the majority of these crimes do have outstanding enquiry which will hopefully lead to a detection.

Crimes of note for the community are a rise in theft by shopliftings, the majority of these have been detected but it would appear that there are couple of new faces appearing on the scene in Burntisland whether they are travelling through to commit their crimes from elsewhere or are new residents is yet to be established.

Trends/Issues

Youth problems began again in the month of July, this was partially due to one youth (from Kirkcaldy) who was constantly being reported as a missing person and sleeping rough with other youths in the area. This youth has now been put into secure accommodation out with Fife. During this time some vandalism occurred and enquiries are ongoing as it is believed these youths have been involved in some capacity.

The parking issues memo concerning the High Street is sitting with Ian Smith at Fife Council. There has been no update yet.

Lastly PC Michelle Murray has moved onto a new role and is being replaced by PC Michael Hunter who will join Ross towards the end of August 2015.

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Appendix 2

**Burntisland Community Council**  
**Income & Expenditure Account for year ended 31 March 2015**

	31/03/2015	31/03/2014
<b>Income</b>		
Community Council Grant	1,260.54	1,170.04
Floral Enhancement	-	-
BCC Exiles Reception	260.00	260.00
Burgh Buzz	-	1,800.00
Chimes	-	-
War Memorial	46,390.66	1,500.00
Grant (Christmas Lights)	-	-
Sundry	-	-
Bonfire Insurance	-	-
Burgh Chambers Furniture	330.00	7,722.00
Sale of Water Bowser	-	525.00
Scots Vase Donation	100.00	-
Beach Clean Donation	200.00	-
	<b>£ 48,541.20</b>	<b>12,977.04</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Floral projects	-	-
Web Site	-	-
Sundry Expenses (Insurance, Safe Custody, Hospitality etc)	1,335.92	1,827.00
Hall hire	421.71	412.30
BCC Exiles Reception	131.95	284.32
Burgh Buzz	-	2,244.45
Chimes	-	-
War Memorial	47,960.64	240.00
Burgh Chambers Furniture	8,052.00	-
	<b>57,902.22</b>	<b>5,008.07</b>
<b>Income Over Expenditure</b>	<b>- 9,361.02</b>	<b>7,968.97</b>
<b>Statement of Funds</b>		
	31/03/2015	31/03/2014
Balance B/F at start of year	10,185.09	2,216.12
Income over Expenditure	- 9,361.02	7,968.97
<b>Fund at 31.03.15</b>	<b>£ 824.07</b>	<b>10,185.09</b>
<b>Represented By</b>		
RBS Current Account Balance	556.72	
TSB Account Balance	1,299.35	
Chq No 000701	1 - 532.00	
Chq No 000004 (TSB)	- 500.00	
	<b>824.07</b>	

**Notes**

1. Cheque numbers 000701 and 000004 were cashed on 9th of April.

Signature  (Treasurer)  
Date 12/8/15

I certify that I have examined the accounts of "Burntisland Community Council". To the best of my knowledge and belief, and in accordance with the information and explanations given to me, the Accounts have been properly prepared from the records of the Community Council and are in agreement with these records.

Signature  (Independent Examiner)  
Date 10/8/15

IE Name EISE J. NICKSON  
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