



Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council  
Draft Minutes.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
7.00pm Burgh Chambers.

Present:

John Bruce, Christine Dewar, Gordon Langlands, Alex MacDonald, George McLauchlan, Bruce Stuart, Bill Symington, Leslie-Anne Cronin.

Attending: Cllr. Peter George, Cllr. Susan Leslie, Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz). 6 members of the public.

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

- 1.1 The Chairman announced with regret the resignation of Vice Chairman John Bradshaw. John has resigned both from his Office position and from the Community Council. The Chairman offered his thanks to John, both for his work with the Community Council and the assistance provided to himself.
- 1.2 Apologies for Absence: Ben Barron, George Kay, Morag Douglas, Leslie Backhouse, Tim Hailey.
- 1.3 The Chairman asked members to stay behind for a closed meeting to discuss the vacancy of Vice Chairman.

**2.0 Minutes from Previous Meeting (9<sup>th</sup> September 2016)**

The Minutes were approved by Leslie-Anne Cronin and seconded by Christine Dewar.

**3.0 Police Report**

- 3.1 See Appendix 1
- 3.2 Gordon Langlands read through the report and expressed his hope to members that the information provided would lead to the creation of a useful data-base.
- 3.3 Gordon drew members' attention to the Police Scotland, [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk), 'Your View Counts'. The Community Council as a group has submitted their views, but it was felt that individuals should also respond.

**4.0 Secretary's Report**

- 4.1 The Secretary asked for members' reaction with regard to applying for charity status and the addition of Section 10 on Heritable property to the constitution. George McLauchlan thought that it would be more helpful to have wider objectives. Alex MacDonald thought that perhaps alterations may be needed to Section 8 and Environmental objectives. It was agreed that members would be happy for the Secretary to make the necessary changes to the constitution and submit them to Fife Council for approval, before placing the application with OSCAR (The Office of the Charity Regulator in Scotland).
- 4.2 ROW Kinghorn Road. The Secretary read out the email submitted to Fife Council in support of early opening of this Right of Way. Bob Wilkie, acting as agent for the owners, and speaking from the Public Benches, assured members that he had followed all procedures and that as the area is designated a 'construction site', he cannot allow public access. Mr Wilkie also informed members that he has a permit to close part of the road and pavement in front of the site. The Chairman advised Mr. Wilkie that the Community Council were only expressing the concerns of the community and looking for clarity on how long the ROW is likely to be closed. Mr. Wilkie advised members that he hoped to be complete by March 2017, weather permitting. Christine Dewar and Cllr. George expressed concern with closure of the pavement and partial closure of the road. Mr. Wilkie said that

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the pavement would be closed for as long as he determines it needs to be closed; if the public need to pass they will have to cross the road to do so. Cllr George expressed concern with this and asked Mr. Wilkie if he would be happy with him contacting Transportation Services in Fife Council to confirm. The Chairman said that it would be helpful if Cllr. George did this.

- 4.3 Burgh Chambers Meeting June. The Secretary read out the main points with regard to this meeting which mainly dealt with the heating of the complex. No further date has so far been arranged for a follow-up meeting.

*Actions:*

*Secretary to continue with alterations to Constitution and submit to Fife Council for approval before coming back to members.*

*Cllr. George to contact Transportation Department with regards to pavement closure at Kinghorn Road.*

## 5.0 Treasurers Report

- 5.1 The Treasurer is awaiting transfer of accounts and has not submitted a breakdown. No income or expenditure has been transacted in the past month.
- 5.2 Exiles Reception Expenditure. Submission of receipts for payment from the Common Good Fund Grant was objected to by John Russel, and Bob Smith from the public benches. They felt that the Exiles Reception was covered by a donation from Burntisland Showmen and should not be a burden on Common Good; this was supported by Christine Dewar. George McLauchlan did not agree and felt that the grant applied for should cover all expenditure incurred by the Community Council in holding public events. The Chairman said that the money received from Burntisland Showmen was given on a purely voluntary basis and was not guaranteed. The reason for applying for help from the Common Good, was that income for the various events supported by the Community Council was not guaranteed and that the grant would provide more stability. The Chairman agreed that he would approach a representative of the showmen and ask for more clarity on the purpose of the donation.
- 5.3 The Chairman confirmed that any outstanding balance from the monies received for the Community Action Plan must be submitted to Fife Council. Cllr. Leslie advised members that it could be re-applied for should a suitable project emerge.

*Action:*

*Chairman to contact member of Burntisland Showmen for clarification on use of donation.  
Treasurer to confirm balance on account of Burntisland Futures and report to members.*

## 6.0 Environment Report (John Bruce)

- 6.1 See Appendix 2
- 6.2 Dog Fouling. A member of the public inquired if it is possible to get the council to clean up any dog mess. Gordon Langlands advised that it was quicker to go onto the Fife Council website and report the problem there. Leslie-Anne Cronin advised that a number was attached to all dog fouling posters. A member from the public benches asked if there was any information on the number of people prosecuted or issued with fixed penalty notices; he also expressed concern that he had not seen any Environmental Wardens in town. John Bruce said that he was hoping to meet-up with enforcement officers to discuss the problem.

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Alex MacDonald said that there was little that could be done if people do not phone in and report the culprits. Cllr. Leslie agreed that enforcement officers need to know where and when the fouling occurs.

- 6.3 Letter of Congratulations to FAB. Chairman is attending to.
- 6.4 Letter to school re Safety posters. Chairman is attending to.
- 6.5 Shipyard Steps. Cllr. George advised members that refurbishment of the steps should be completed by the end of the month. New hand-rails have been installed and all overhanging growth removed. Street lighting is in the process of being repaired and it is hoped to have benches installed. The gates at both ends are open so members of the public can have access. Gordon Langlands expressed hope that signage could be installed at the High Street and Castle end. Cllr. George assured Gordon that this was in hand.
- 6.6 Edinburgh Airport Consultation. The deadline for submissions has past. The Chairman confirmed that Burntisland Community Council had made a submission.
- 6.7 Scott Timber. Cllr. Leslie has made Scott Timber aware of the public's concern with the increased lorry traffic, particularly during school opening and closing. As already stated, Scott timber will try and control movements where they can, but with suppliers' lorries they have little control.
- 6.8 Dunfermline ECO conference. John Bruce reported that he and Ben Barron had attended this conference in the Carnegie Campus. John felt that they had successfully flew the flag for Burntisland, with a number of people commenting on the 'Community Action Plan'
- 6.9 Fife Communities CAN. Gordon Langlands felt that this was a more suitable project for the Community Action Plan 'Steering Group'. Ben Barron is leading on this and we should await his report.

**Actions:**

*John Bruce to pursue meeting with Environmental Wardens re dog fouling.*

*Alex to send letters to FAB and to school.*

*Ben Barron to report on CAN.*

**7.0 Planning**

Nothing of relevance this month.

**8.0 Burgh Buzz (Bill Kirkhope)**

- 8.1 Bill advised members that Octobers' issue was in the process of completion and it was hoped that it would be delivered in the week prior to Bonfire Night to ensure that all relevant information on the night was made available.

**9.0 New Business**

- 9.1 Parking Problems. Carried Forward. (Cllr. Kay)
- 9.2 MUGA. Carried Forward. (Cllr. Kay)
- 9.3 Town Bus Route. Carried Forward. (Leslie Backhouse)
- 9.4 Heat Map/ Energy Plan. Gordon Langlands reported on the meeting held in the Burgh Chambers on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 16. Gordon explained that this was an initiative supported by Fife Council and hoped to 'map' energy use, and look at alternative sources of energy. Accompanying this will be a 'Green Travel Route' plan looking at safe school routes and

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cycle ways. It was felt that the 'steering group', following up the 'Action Plan', should take the lead with this.

- 9.5 Remembrance Day. George McLauchlan reported that most of the arrangements were in hand. John Bruce confirmed that he had managed to source a Bugle player. John wondered if a small remuneration should be considered. The Chairman advised that in most cases, travel expenses are offered. Any consideration other than for expenses, should be left to a closed meeting.
- 9.6 Pharmacy Application. Alex MacDonald confirmed that he had attended the meeting of the Pharmacy Practices Committee, considering the re-application. The application was refused, which Alex said had left him 'gob-smacked'. He has still to receive the written report, detailing reasons for refusal. Cllr Leslie said that she would be very grateful for a copy of the report. Cllr. George wondered if a petition should be started, the Chairman advised awaiting the report. Billy Symington thought that we should complain at Fife Health Trust board level.
- 9.7 Community Emergency Plan. John Bruce reported that with the departure of John Bradshaw and John Russell, he was left alone on the committee. John Russell from the public benches, pointed out that although he had resigned the Community Council, he would be continuing with the Emergency Committee. The Chairman felt that it was important to keep this committee going. Cllr. Leslie pointed out that anyone in the town could volunteer, not just Community Council members! John Russell thought that lack of or poor communication was a problem, not just within the town but throughout Fife. The Chairman said that he knew there had been several changes within Fife Council, but hoped that things would settle down.

*Actions:*

*Cllr. Kay to report on any progress with parking problems and also repair to MUGA backboard and alternative tennis use at MUGA.*

*Leslie Backhouse to report on town bus to Collinswell estate.*

*Alex MacDonald to report back on reasons for pharmacy application being rejected, also to forward a copy of the written report to Cllr. Leslie.*

*John Bruce to pursue new members for Emergency Committee.*

**10.0** Awaiting Updates

- 10.1 ABC Routes. The Chairman confirmed that he had contacted the relevant department stating our support for this project.
- 10.2 East Links Play Area. Alex MacDonald advised members that work will get underway on 31<sup>st</sup> October.
- 10.3 West Links Play Area. Alex MacDonald advised that this has gone to tender. Gordon Langlands reminded members that a fund-raising car boot sale will be held in the Parish Church Halls on 29<sup>th</sup> October. Volunteers are asked to contact Morag.
- 10.4 Kirkton Church. George McLauchlan reported that members of the conservation group had met on site with an arboreal expert, to discuss the yew trees within the graveyard. His report is awaited. An onsite meeting is planned for Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. with prof. Fawcet, an authority on Scottish medieval churches. Work has not yet started on phase 2.

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**Actions:**

*Morag to continue reporting on progress of Links' play areas.*

*George to report on Kirkton Church*

**11.0 Date of Next Meeting- 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016. 7.0pm**

**12.0 Closed Session.**

It was unanimously decided that any vote on electing a new Vice- Chairman should be postponed until the November meeting, to allow more members to be in attendance.

**Appendix 1:**

<b>September 2016</b>		<b>September 2015</b>
Number of Crimes	Number of Detections	Number of Crimes
<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>38</b>
Includes:		Includes:
6 Assaults		12 Anti-social Offences
6 Dishonesty		11 Vandalisms
5 Anti-social Offences		4 Dishonesty
2 Vandalisms		3 Bail Offences
2 Road Traffic Act		3 Assaults
1 Misuse of Drugs		2 Road Traffic Act
1 Sexual Offences		1 Sexual Offences
1 Bail Offence		1 Communications Act
7 Named suspects still to be traced.		1 CYP offence

Analysis:

- Notable reduction in anti-social behaviour and vandalism likely due to a reduction in youth offending. In 2015 13 crimes (34%) related to youth offending, compared with only 1 (4%) in 2016.
- Noted increase in assaults, however 5 occurred within private premises and did not have or the potential to have an impact on the general public and all are detected.
- 2 crimes have been closed as undetected; no further lines of enquiry, 10 remain live enquiries with 7 named suspects outstanding.

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**Appendix 2:**

BURNTISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
ENVIRONMENT REPORT FRIDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2016  
DOG FOULING AND LITTER CONCERNS

We have been approached by a few concerned residents about the amount of dog fouling left on our pavements, Links, Beach Promenade and many other public places within the town.

Burntisland is no worse than anywhere else in Scotland but we want to be better we want the many visitors who come to Burntisland to notice that we as a community care about our town and want to be proud of our town. Most people do not drop litter and do clean up after their dogs, but there is a sizable minority who are irresponsible and spoil it for the rest of the community.

Burntisland Community Council have always been aware of this problem and have introduced various project schemes in an attempt to deter irresponsible individuals to stop dropping Litter or allowing their dogs to foul without picking it up and binning it.

We have launched the Pick N Fix project recently also ran a competition at the Primary School where children designed their own posters in an attempt to draw to the attention of our community the importance to clean-up afterwards, yes more has to be done and ideas such as larger glow in dark posters placed in various areas around the town, can be considered, at a cost, also we must look at other deterrents in an attempt to resolve this problem. We may consider organizing a major campaign in the Town and I will be discussing this issue with Floral Action Burntisland to get their thoughts on this matter as they also have an interest in the cleanliness of our Town

Anyone who does not immediately clean-up fouling by a dog is committing an offense under the DOG FOULING (SCOTLAND) Act 2003 and can receive a fixed penalty fine of £80.00

HALF MOON AND SHIP YARD STEPS

Cllr Peter George has informed me that work is nearly complete on both the Half Moon Pathway and Shipyard Steps both of which have been closed to the public for a few years the clearance and repair work has been carried out by the Payback Team and I must say what a transformation they have made to this area. I have taken some photographs to show the before and after, and they will be circulated for you to look at.

The official opening will be announced shortly I must on behalf of Burntisland Community Council thank Cllr George for his work and efforts in getting this work done and I am sure the whole Community of Burntisland will be pleased to see this historical foot path open once again for public use well done.

SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY POSTERS

Some of these posters have been places in various parts of the Town, Rossend Play Park, Haugh Road, Coastal Path and other areas in due course.

Community Council thank the effort of the pupils at the Primary School for designing these robust signs this is just another way to indicate to our community the importance of keeping safe

Please find some sample photographs of these signs which I have circulated around the chambers

BONFIRE NIGHT

The Bonfire night will be Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November on the LINKS music/entertainment from 6/6.15pm Bonfire lit 7pm fireworks 7.15pm The date has been altered this year due to supplier availability out with the control of Burntisland Events