



# Royal Burgh of Burntisland Community Council. Draft Minutes.

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015  
7.00 p.m.  
Burgh Chambers.

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## Present

Benjamin Barron, John Bradshaw, John Bruce, Christine Dewar, Morag Douglas, Gordon Langlands, Alex MacDonald, George McLauchlan, John Russell, Bill Symington.

## Attending

Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz), 4 members of Rotary Club of Burntisland & Kinghorn, 2 members of the public.

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

- 1.1 The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year.
- 1.2 The Chairman explained the workings of the new sound system to members and advised that he would write to Mark Kisby on behalf of the council to thank him for his firm's donation of the equipment.
- 1.3 Apologies from Bruce Stuart, Tim Hailey, Councillor Peter George and Colin Fraser.

**Action:** Chairman to offer Mark Kisby & The AV Dept. Ltd., our thanks for donation of audio equipment.

### **2.0 Minutes from previous Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

- 2.1 Benjamin Barron pointed out an error 3.1 of the previous minutes, this should have read 21 crimes reported and 17 detected. This was agreed.
- 2.2 Minutes were proposed by Benjamin Barron and seconded by John Bruce.

**Action:** Secretary to amend 3.1 of Decembers' Minutes.

### **3.0 Police Report**

- 3.1 No member of Police Scotland were present, however, crime figures were later emailed and can be seen in Appendix 1.
- 3.2 A general discussion ensued with many members of the Community Council voicing concern with regard to the cut in the number of officers available for Burntisland. Bill Kirkhope voiced his concern that the "police appear to be washing their hands of the community", and that it appeared that Fife was being used as an experiment, by Police Scotland. Gordon Langlands wondered how they would manage with only two officers in the town and that there appeared to be a lack of community engagement. Alex MacDonald thought that it appeared to be more reactive, rather than proactive policing. Councillor Leslie said that she was reserving judgement, that there were positives in the new set-up, that the two officers based in Burntisland were dedicated to the area and could not be called on for operational duties. Councillor Kay did not think that it was something to be afraid of. No officers were being cut, only re-deployed. Councillor Kay advised that we should contact Chief Superintendent McEwan, who would arrange for a senior officer to address the Community Council; they would be better able to address operational concerns. This was agreed.

**Action:** Alex MacDonald to contact Police Scotland to arrange for a senior officer to address the Community Council.

### **4.0 Secretary's and Treasurer's Report.**

- 4.1 The secretary reported that the website, Facebook and all Community Council email correspondence were up to date.
- 4.2 For Treasurer's report see Appendix 2.



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### 5.0 Environment Report

- 5.1 John Bruce reported that so far nothing has been done with regard to re-locating the bench taken from the top of Kirkton road and re-locating it in the Rose garden at the beach.
- 5.2 Billy Symington advised of a dog being killed on the railway line at the beach. Councillor Kay said that he would inspect the fence for any damage.
- 5.3 John Russell reported on general complaints with regard to dog dirt on the prom and on the beach, and with the general state of the beach and prom area.  
Councillor Kay said that he would ensure that regular inspections of these areas would be carried out.
- 5.4 Christine Dewar again asked on the progress being made by the operators of the car wash on Aberdour Road, in replacing the missing spray panel. Councillor Leslie advised that the operators were doing their best to locate and install a replacement.

### 6.0 Review of Local Planning Applications

- 6.1 In the absence of Tim Hailey, the Chairman advised that the only item of note in the applications received was that for the old primary school. He commented that it would have been good to have had comments from local residents, particularly those living in Ferguson Place.

Councillor Leslie advised that comments were required by 29<sup>th</sup> January.

The broad consensus of the meeting was that the plans were in principle good.

Alex MacDonald proposed that he and Tim Hailey would give the plans a closer examination and reply to the council with their broad support by the closing date.

Action, Tim Hailey and Alex MacDonald to examine plans for old primary school and reply to Fife Council Planning department by 29<sup>th</sup> January.

### 7.0 Burgh Buzz

- 7.1 Bill Kirkhope advised that the Burgh Buzz has changed to a local printer. Although the actual printing will be done in Edinburgh, the firm is local and it will be slightly cheaper.

### 8.0 Any Other Business

- 8.1 Alex MacDonald advised that he had received tickets for the Dalgety Bay Players' pantomime on the 27<sup>th</sup> January. Christine Dewar requested members to help taxi those attending.
- 8.2 George McLauchlan pointed out the gender imbalance within the Community Council, and wondered if anything could be done to address this. Alex MacDonald pointed out that the general mix does tend to change from time to time. Councillor Leslie said that she would rather encourage female membership rather than having positive discrimination. It was agreed that Alex MacDonald would write an article for the Burgh Buzz in which he would welcome membership applications from under represented groups.
- 8.3 Councillor Kay advised that work to remove the stump of the ticket machine in the links car park would entail more disruption than initially thought. Live electric wiring had been found and this would have to be removed back to Link Street.

Action: Any members willing to ferry people to the pantomime on the 27<sup>th</sup> January to advise Christine Dewar.

Action: Alex Macdonald to write article for Burgh Buzz, to encourage more underrepresented groups.

### 9.0 New Business

- 9.1 John Minhinick, of the Rotary Club of Burntisland and Kinghorn, provided a presentation on the work carried out by the Rotary Club.  
His objectives were to:



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- a) Make the public more aware of rotary International and the Rotary Club of Burntisland and Kinghorn.
- b) Understand how the projects undertaken by the Rotary Club fit the needs of the local Community.
- c) Investigate the opportunities for future cooperation between the Rotary Club and the Burntisland Community Council.

After the presentation, John Bruce and Christine Dewar both praised the Rotary club on the help they provide throughout the town. It was agreed that the Community Council would keep in mind Rotary, when tackling projects. Alex MacDonald thought that the Strategic Projects Group would be something that the local Rotary Club would be interested in. The Chairman thanked Mr Minhinick and his three accompanying members.

9.2 The presentation of the Community Award 2015 was confirmed for 6<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 7.00pm in the Burgh chambers.

9.3 Councillor Kay advised that all of the small bequests and funds that had accrued over the years within the town had been gathered together into a Settlement Fund. This has taken several years to accomplish and has been carried out throughout Fife. The Settlement Fund for Burntisland amounts to £21,976. This will be controlled by trustees made up of the elected representatives for the town. This money should generate approximately £400 annually. Forms will be available for applications to the fund. Terms for application are not too tight and can be accessed for the right projects.

Action, Alex MacDonald to inform the Secretary Of Burntisland & Kinghorn Rotary Club if he thinks their involvement in any projects planned by the Community Council would be helpful.

### 10.0 Ongoing Business

10.1 Police Liaison with Burgh Buzz. Nothing to report.

10.2 Parking on Cowdenbeath road. Nothing to report.

10.3 Councillor Kay advised that the steps at the red tunnel on the links had been examined, and it was not thought that they were in need of repair.

10.4 Community Assets. Councillor Kay had managed to gather together, with the help of Jonathan Miles of Fife Councils Asset Management Department, a vast amount of information on the building assets within the town. Photo copies of a few of these were handed out. Alex MacDonald advised that because of the quantity, he would ensure that they were distributed to each member electronically. Alex MacDonald thought that the information made available was invaluable and that members should be given time to digest it.

10.5 Town Steeple. Councillor Kay advised that he has been in contact with Fife Council Administration to ensure that funding for this project is included for consideration.

10.6 Mossmorran/ Braefoot Bay. Alex MacDonald has been in contact with Shell/ Exxon to advise that we would require 6 to 8 places in any visit. No date has as yet been agreed.

10.7 Emergency Action Team. John Bradshaw to contact all members to ask for support.

10.8 Community Notice Boards. John Russell has examined one of the locks on the main notice board. Councillor Leslie has advised that Fife Council has still to examine the notice board at the Burgh chambers with a view to refurbishment. She is unsure if a second board here will be possible.

10.9 Youth and Criminal Justice Survey. John Bruce has taken the thoughts of the last meeting on board and will make his submission.

10.10 letter from America. See Appendix 3.

Action: The Secretary to distribute electronic copies of the reports from Fife Council.

John Bradshaw to contact members to solicit support for the Emergency Action Team.

Action: John Bruce to submit Youth and Criminal Justice Survey.



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## 11.0 Awaiting Update

### 11.1 Kirkton Cemetery Funding application.

Nothing to report

### 11.2 High Street Resurfacing

Councillor Leslie confirmed that this is due to go ahead on the 19<sup>th</sup> January, and that Fife Council are in contact with all interested parties. The street will be closed for 2 weeks. Councillors Leslie/Kay, advised that Fife Council were willing to re install the sets removed from the High Street, to the War Memorial area. However, it was not known who was to fund this. Councillor Kay will bring this up at the weekly ward meeting and report back. Councillor Kay also suggested that the skimmings taken from the High Street, could be used to infill the pot-holes at Seamill. He will look into this possibility. Councillor Leslie was also worried about the possibility of the sets removed from the High Street being put into storage. She would rather the whole thing was decided before work started. It was decided that Alex MacDonald would send Councillor Kay a copy of the original proposals for the landscaping of the War Memorial.

**Action: Cllrs Leslie / Kay, to make enquiries with regard to funding of replacing granite sets at War Memorial area.**

**Action: Cllr Kay to make enquiries about use of High Street skimmings to infill at Seamill.**

### 11.3 West Links Play Area

Nothing to Report.

### 11.4 War Memorial Wrap-up.

The architects have reported 3 areas of re-pointing requiring attention, after which a Certificate of Final Completion will be issued, enabling the project to be closed and lessons learned to be identified. Upholstery of Burgh Chambers Furniture.

Gordon Langlands reported that an application for £300, has been made to the Common Good Fund.

### 11.5 Community Action Plan Strategic Projects.

Alex MacDonald confirmed that a meeting will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, to give the members who have visited various projects in Fife an opportunity to present their findings.

### 11.6 Royal Burgh Branding

Nothing further to report. Still awaiting official paperwork.

**Action: John Bradshaw to follow up on Royal Burgh branding.**

*Date of Next Meeting February 13<sup>th</sup> 2015  
Burgh Chambers  
7.00pm*



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Appendix 1

**GPMS Classification: NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

Good Evening

I was asked by Sgt Ewing to email you the crime figures for Burntisland Community Council tonight as no Police Officers will be able to attend.

From 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014 to 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015 there were a total of seven crimes recorded in Burntisland, three of which are detected and four are currently undetected.

The three detected crimes include two assaults and one anti social behaviour offence.

The undetected offences include two thefts at the old Alcan site, theft of a pedal cycle and vandalism. Enquiries are continuing in to these offences.

Kind regards

Andy

**Andrew Pearson PC1008  
Community Constable  
Burntisland, Fife Division  
Police Scotland**

60 High Street

Burntisland

Fife

KY3 9AS

George D. McLauchlan, Minute Secretary 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015



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Community Council				
Treasurer's Report for				
11				
9 <sup>th</sup> January 2015				
Details	Income	Expenditure	Balance	
Balance Carried Forward 31/03/14	£10,145.09			
BCC Accounts to 09/01/15 (See Notes)	£47,095.98	£55,135.95		<b>£2,105.12</b>
<b>Notes:</b>				
The overall Community Council Account Balance includes balances held for the individual projects listed below.				
Burgh Chambers Furniture	£0.00	£7,020.00		-£7,020.00
Burgh Chambers Furniture balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£7,722.00			
Total Burgh Chambers Furniture Balance @ 09/01/15	£0.00	£0.00		<b>£702.00</b>
Exiles Reception	£260.00	£187.14		£72.86
Exiles Reception balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	-£55.19			
Total Exiles Reception Balance @ 09/01/15				<b>£17.67</b>
Chimes balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£330.20			<b>£330.20</b>
War Memorial Project	£45,275.64	£46,845.62		-£1,569.98
War Memorial balance held in BCC Account 31/03/14	£1,500.00			
Total War Memorial Balance @ 09/01/15				<b>-£69.98</b>
Total held on Account for Projects				£1,084.51
Total held on Account				<b>£1,084.51</b>
Balance available to Community Council @ 09/01/15 (See Notes)				<b>£1,020.61</b>



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Appendix 3

Dr Daniel W Stowell »  
Director, Center for Digital Initiatives  
Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum  
112 North Sixth Street  
Springfield  
Illinois 62701  
US

Dear Dr Stowell,

Many thanks for your timely reminder of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Abraham Lincoln.

In their expression of sympathy, our predecessors noted that he had been "able, high-minded and enlightened." These were qualities which had been evident in abundance only 18 months earlier when he delivered his Gettysburg address.

There are few expressions of principle which stand the test of time. However, his reflections on "government of the people, by the people, for the people" provide an ethical and political perspective as vibrant and relevant today as in 1863.

Our own statutory role is to ascertain, co-ordinate and express the views of our community and to ensure those views are adequately represented in the wider sphere. There is a strong convergence between the constant challenges which are thereby generated and the principled aim which Abraham Lincoln so eloquently expressed.

Thank you for the opportunity to refresh our awareness of his legacy. Yours

sincerely,

Alex. MacDonald. Chairman