

**CHARLESTOWN, LIMEKILNS AND PATTIESMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT GELLET HALL, LIMEKILNS ON 28th AUGUST 2018**

1. **Present:** Sue Hamilton, Callum MacInnes, Geoff Cartwright, Peter Curry, Mandy Littlewood, Jo McFarlane, Martin Mulube, Rob Thompson,
2. **In Attendance:** Cllr Steele, Cllr Verrecchia, Cllr Orton, Douglas Chapman MP, Tom Leatherland, Fiona Philp, Don Briggs, Andrew Aldous, Jim and Margaret Leiper, Laurence and Sendra Smith, Malcolm Hamilton,
3. **Apologies:** Alex Hill, Lorna Wilkie, Lesley Scott (belated), Jasmine Bazazi, Broomhall Estate, Sheila and Robin Hutton
4. **Minutes of the meeting of June 26th 2018.** Approval of the minutes was Proposed by Martin, Seconded by Rob
5. **Matters Arising from meeting of June 26th 2018**
 - a) Charlestown Playpark. Clare Hill from Fife Council had apologised for the failure to have the swings installed in August. She assured secretary that a 'pre-meeting' was happening imminently. The 'inclusive swing at Limekilns is fenced off and would seem to have been condemned.
 - b) Variable signs A985. Work now apparently complete. Signs are working in both directions, but not really helping us!
 - c) War memorial path works. Stone had been transported up and laid, with help from the Lime Centre and others. Different stone colours will be redistributed and mixed. Fabric edges will be covered. Thanks Rob and squad for all hard work. Ken Walker and Lime Centre are interested in working to secure the coping stones on the wall surrounding the site.
 - d) Inner Forth Landscape Initiative. The installation of 'totems', 'beacons' and granite setts has yet to begin.
 - e) Airport Noise Forum. Tom Leatherland reported that the group had identified flaws in the proposed flight path proposals and communicated their findings to Edinburgh Airport and the Civil Aviation Authority. The Airport are not following the CAA guidelines. The plan for flightpath redesign may be called in by the Minister at Westminster. (Flightpaths are a reserved matter). Douglas Chapman reported that there were no longer MOD safeguarded areas which would preclude flying further east over the Forth. The group represents communities who wish to ensure that any flightpath redesign is carried out with due regard for the people living in communities whose lives could be blighted by noise.
 - f) Ferrytoll - proposed parking charges. Following discussions with Stagecoach, it has been found to be no longer necessary to levy charges.
 - g) Residents for Responsible Development Money. This fund (currently £1074) arose from an appeal for funds to challenge the 'Bridgehead 2000' proposals (in 1986!). It has, since then, been reserved for expenses which might be incurred by the Community Council investigating the potential impact of a planning application upon our community. It has, for several years, been held in a separate account at RBS. RBS deemed it dormant, and, after some persuasion, have eventually released our money back to us with interest of 63p. The funds have been transferred to the general Community Council account at Bank of Scotland.
 - h) Overhanging hedges. Secretary had had several more complaints about hedges. There is a mention of it on the CC page in this month's Village Link
6. **Police.** No communication.
7. **Record of a decision taken outwith the meeting cycle.**
 - a) The planning application for revised alterations to the Bistro was finally posted in late July.
 - b) When the Community Council requested Statutory Consultee status, we were informed that the deadline for our response was 8 days earlier than the 16th August deadline for public responses.

- c) As this entire process fell outwith the meeting cycle, members of the Community Council discussed the issues in an exchange of emails. Members agreed unanimously to send a letter of support for the application.
- d) A complaint has been made against the Community Council. This matter will be on the agenda of the next meeting of the Community Council.

8. Community Council Elections.

- a) The deadline for submission of nominations is 6th September
- b) Martin read a letter from Mike Melville of Fife Council emphasising the importance of submitting nomination papers in good time.
- c) Currently only one nomination paper for this Community Council has reached his office!

9. APRS.

- a) Secretary explained that, historically, this Community Council has paid a membership subscription to the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland. APRS is an excellent campaigning organisation and has recently persuaded the Scottish Government of the merits of introducing a Deposit/return system for drinks bottles. It is also campaigning for the better protection of Green Belts.
- b) The meeting agreed that we should renew our membership of APRS.

10. Broomhall Estate.

- a) Fly-tipping. Bad case of fly-tipping last Saturday night near junction with A985. It had been reported online to Fifiedirect. Apparently there were incidents elsewhere on the Estate. Please help with any sightings of miscreants
- b) Broomhall Estate Office has moved to a building at The Brickworks on the Estate.
- c) Jim Leiper informed the meeting that a good job seems to have been done to deal with erosion of the sea wall at Red Row. The eroded cement parapet has yet to be repaired.
- d) No information from the Estate about attention to potholes at Soapworks and Red Row.
- e) Cllr Orton observed the continuing unsatisfactory situation concerning the potholes in the unmade road at Pattiesmuir.

11. CLP Nature Group

- a) Next beach clean 15th September. (Volunteers contact Katie katie_m_strang@hotmail.co.uk) More frequent mini-cleans are also to be organised.
- b) Strathclyde university research on nurdles is being shared.
- c) Fife College students have an 'eco' element in their courses. It would be worth contacting them (via Fiona Philp)
- d) Plastic-free status. Village businesses, groups, and the school are working on eliminating single-use plastics.
- e) Gala purchased 1500 reusable cups which are available for purchase or for hire by individuals during events
- f) A motion on introducing a Fife Council policy on plastics will be put to the full Fife Council meeting on 4th October.
- g) Arranging a Plastic Awareness week in October – with showings of 'Plastic Ocean' film. If you would like to volunteer at events across plastic free awareness week, please email Jo on joannamcfarlane12@gmail.com

12. Treasurer's Report.

- a) £598 grant from Fife Council received. £1074 transferred from RFRD RBS account (see 5(g) above).
- b) Balance in account is £4149

13. Secretary's Report.

- a) Anne Aldridge of Charlestown had wrtitten a strong and heartfelt letter to Stagecoach about the very poor state of the buses on our route and their propensity to break down. Timekeeping is bad enough, without buses breaking down. She had around 20 fellow-users sign the letter and has had an initial response from the operations manager, who will meet her at Costa this

Thursday for further discussion of the actions they propose to take.

- b) Several residents of Main Street have complained about vehicles and bicycles going the wrong way along Main Street. Secretary has arranged for Scott Blyth of Traffic Management to attend and discuss possible deterrents.
- c) Beacon Ceremony MOD Caledonia 11th November. The organisers of this event have invited four members of the Community Council to attend. We don't know who our Community Council members will be by then. The event clashes with a similar event which the Scouts are arranging at Limekilns Pier.
- d) Adopt a Street. Fife Council are encouraging residents and community groups to 'Adopt a Street' for the purpose of keeping it tidy and litter-free. Secretary would write to tell them of our beach cleaning activities. Maybe the school could adopt Limekilns Park?

14. Parking in the villages

- a) Parking is one of the most contentious issues, both between neighbours and when events are being held in the villages.
- b) We are each and all responsible for using road space considerately.
- c) Parking at the school causes hazards for other drivers and potential danger to children.
- d) Parking for Sunday football can be unbelievably thoughtless.
- e) Parking on pavements is virtually essential in some parts of the village, but may soon become illegal!
- f) Emergency services (and the bin lorries) would not get through if everyone parked on the road.
- g) Do we want double yellow lines? If you have them in one place, the problem will just move up the road. Yellow lines are no good without enforcement.
- h) 'H-bars' can be useful, but they are not legally enforceable.

15. Councillors.

- a) Grit bins still a contentious issue. If crucial ones are removed, it will be necessary to appeal for their reinstatement.
- b) Scottish Water had responded to the issues raised at the meeting in Rosyth in April. They have undertaken to carry out regular inspections of the Lyne Burn.
- c) Fife Education have published a lengthy report on school catchment areas. Martin said that a response would be sent from Limekilns School Parent Council.
- d) The decision that will be announced on 18th September will be valid for 5 years at best. What then?
- e) Cllr Orton recalled that, when a decision was made to close Crombie Primary School, an undertaking was given that the Limekilns Nursery facility would be upgraded. Nothing has happened thus far.

16. Douglas Chapman MP

- a) Douglas thanked the Community Council for all the work it does.
- b) Westminster resumes on 4th September. A parliamentary question from Douglas on the situation in Yemen has been selected to be addressed.
- c) He has dealt with 200 cases in 3 months concerning the consequences of the roll-out of Universal Credit.
- d) Concern about the Government's withdrawal of their pensions Information web site.
- e) Was on the beach at North Queensferry this week, with a film crew looking at nudles.
- f) Involved in a group looking to resolve 'teething' problems with the Queensferry Crossing.
- g) Continuing to explore opportunities for restoring a ferry service from Rosyth.
- h) Working with Devonport MP on the submarine dismantling project. (Cllr Orton said that he sits on the Rosyth Nuclear Safety committee)

17. AOCB

- a) Bin at Limekilns Green. Resident reported to Secretary that birds are spreading the rubbish around. Secretary will request photos.
- b) CC use of The College. College Club is now responsible for financial matters relating to Hall usage. CC members agreed that we should make a rental contribution for our annual use of the Hall.

- c) Through her work, Mandy is involved with Social Bite who organise the annual Big Sleep-Out event that raises funds and awareness of homelessness. This year, there is a proposal to organise local 'Wee Sleep-Out' events for 8 – 16 year-olds around the country. She hoped the Community Council would support such an event in the villages.

Date of Next Meeting: Tues 25th September 2018 7.30pm: The College, Pattiesmuir