

Cowdenbeath Community Council – Minutes for 21st June 2018

1. PRESENT

Community Council Members

A Haddow, C Gourlay, A Stott, A Dziennik, P Lockhart, I Cuthbertson, I Burt, A McGillivray, D McLean, L Rae,
(TEN COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)

Co-opted Members

A Dunlop (Civic Week)

Elected Members

Cllrs A Campbell, D Watt, A Bain and G Guichan

Police

Inspector G Cameron

Members of the public

2. APOLOGIES

Community Councillors

A Lockhart, A Munro

Elected Members

Co-opted Members

W Aitchison (Street Pastors)

Police

PC F Menzies and C McDougall

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Proposed : L Rae Seconded: I Burt

4. MATTERS ARISING ... no matters arising.

5. POLICE UPDATE –

WW1 memorial. 4 youths charged. Age range between 12-14.

Thistle Industrial Estate – 3 youths charged

Aldis – 1 youth charged

Fire raising at the back of Rascals.

Issues with Valley House – now that it is no longer occupied

Police are attending the schools – trying to get message across about missing school.

Explanation of the Hard Knocks project

Cowdenbeath Primary – every year the school gets targeted. On police schedule for walk about

General discussion on what members of the public can do to help. Keep reporting crime. Phone 101. Let Fiona and Calum (community police officers) know whats going on.

Question asked about what happens to those charged. They will go through the Youth Offenders System (in front of the Childrens Panel) with perhaps a referral to Restorative Justice System. No one wants to criminalise youngsters, hope is to give them a chance to change.

Orange Walk on 30th June

Official notification from the Police which will be placed on our Facebook Page.

The Annual County Grand Lodge of East of Scotland District parade will be taking place in Cowdenbeath on Saturday 30 June.

There will be disruption to traffic on streets in and around the town.

The parade will begin from Beath High School, Foulford Road at 1:15pm and will take an anti-clockwise circular route finishing back at Beath High School at approximately 3.30pm.

Rolling road closures will be in place from 12:30pm on Foulford Road, Old Perth Road, Sinclair Drive, Westburn Avenue, Broad Street and the High Street. In addition the slip roads from the A92 at the Cowdenbeath Junction will be closed from 12.30 pm until the conclusion of the parade.

Police Officers will be assisting stewards with traffic flow. However, motorists are asked to find an alternative route if travel is necessary. Drivers should allow extra time for journeys. There will also be disruption to bus services in and through the town.

Chief Inspector Tom Brown, Area Commander for West Fife said: "The safety of the public, be it those attending, spectating, or the local community in Cowdenbeath, are my main priority for the event.

"We are anticipating that thousands of people will be in and around the town and I would ask that the public adhere to stewarding instruction and those officers who will be assisting with traffic management and the movement of the parade.

"We have been working closely with the event organisers and local partners to ensure that disruption is minimal, however, delays are likely and we ask that everyone plans their day and journeys accordingly.

"I would ask that all those attending the event behave in a responsible manner and would remind everyone attending the event that all forms of hate crime are unacceptable and will not be tolerated."

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5. POLICE UPDATE –

The community councillors have been canvassing residents about the walk (probably a few hundred people between them) and there was a discussion on the outcome of the canvass. In short, there was a difference of opinion within the town – some people were happy with the march taking place, some people were not and some people weren't fussed either way. However the majority of people spoken to accepted that we live in a society that allows people to have the right to organise and participate in public processions. (see extract from EU Legislation). The organisers of the Parade have been liaising with multi agencies (including both Fife Council and the Police) and have followed the correct and proper protocol required for a march this size.

There is a stock car meeting on 30th June also. Messages have been sent to those attending the stock meeting that they should not arrive before 4pm.

There will be an extra 100 police on duty on the day. There is no charge to the organisers for these additional officers according to the inspector.

Article 11 of Human Rights Legislation: Your right to freedom of assembly and association

Everyone has the right to associate with others and gather together for a common purpose.

Article 11 is fundamental to keeping us free. It lets us protest peacefully, join trade unions and hold the powerful to account.

Article 11 of Human Rights legislation is closely linked to freedom of expression as it applies to protests, marches and demonstrations, counter-demonstrations, press conferences, public and private meetings and more – but it does not protect intentionally violent protest. People turn to Article 11 when public authorities stop a demonstration going ahead, take steps in advance to disrupt a demonstration or store personal information on those taking part.

The State can't interfere with your right to protest just because it disagrees with protesters' views, because it's likely to be inconvenient and cause a nuisance or because there might be tension and heated exchange between opposing groups.

Instead it must take reasonable steps to enable you to protest and to protect participants in peaceful demonstrations from disruption by others.

6. CORRESPONDENCE -

Future community council meetings – most cc's have seen the Maxwell Centre premises as possible venue for our future meetings. Suggestion is that we hold our August meeting in the Maxwell Centre and decide then where future meetings held.

Beath High – Junior Citizenship Award. This award is jointly sponsored by the Community Council and Civic Week Committee. LR attended the award ceremony at BHS on behalf of CC. Decision was taken by the school and the first person to receive the award was Lauren Watt. Well done to Lauren.

The senior award will be decided by the school soon and LR will attend the awards ceremony on behalf of the CC again (28th June)

Orange Walk – see Police Update

Data Protection Rules (GDPR). CG explained that the new rules effective from 25th May affect the CC. We need to be aware of how we use and store information received. A privacy statement should be drawn up.. Anyone interesting in helping – see CG. Information has been supplied by Fife Council and the Information Commissions Office (ICO).

WW1 memorial – Report issued about proposed remedial work to be undertaken on WW1 memorial. Additional comments received were about a) somewhere to attach wreaths to, b) some letters are missing on the soldiers names c) could lights be installed (may help with vandalism), d) what about CCTV

Will advise FC about wreaths, letters and lights (although not everyone in agreement with lights being installed. It may actually encourage folks to congregate. CCTV not able to be put on lamp posts – not tall enough. (inspector advised us)

Mossmorran – Flaring in June. Elected councillors attended cross party meeting. There were about 40 people in attendance. Number of questions raised (eg life cycle of the plant, How could it be decommissioned, what would it take to shut it down). There is an ongoing investigation in to all questions/topics discussed and a report will be available in approx 6mths. There will be a debate on Mossmorran in Parliament.

Accounts Commission – Reporting on Fife Council

A new report on Fife Council has been published by the Accounts Commission. This is the only report that provides an independent view across all aspects of your local council.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE -**

Democracy Matters - People across Scotland are being invited to join a conversation about community decision-making to help make public services more locally focused. The Democracy Matters conversation will identify new legal rights for communities which would place them at the heart of decision-making. The Democracy Matters conversation is a joint venture between the Scottish Government, COSLA and the community sector and will run over the next six months.

As part of the conversation people are being invited to consider a short set of questions on shaping local democracy. Community groups can also apply for grants of up to £300 to host their own events related to the project. To find out more about the grants, please visit Voluntary Action Fund's website: <https://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/democracy-matters-community-engagement-fund>

You can get involved by answering the questions contained in the document, Democracy Matters - Your Community. Your Ideas. Your Future: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/05/6780>

Scottish Government has also published the following supporting materials:

- guide explaining how decisions about Scotland's public services are made
- guide to help you hold a conversation in your community
- guide to facilitating a good conversation

To return your answers:

- email: democracymatters@gov.scot or
- send them to: freepost DEMOCRACY MATTERS (use capital letters)

You must include a completed respondent information form, available to download here: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2018/05/6780/downloads>

For those who can't attend a community event but want to join the conversation, you can get involved at Scottish Government's ideas.gov.scot platform: <https://www.ideas.gov.scot/local-governance-review/>

Have your say on South Fife subsidised bus services

Fife Council wants to hear from south Fife bus users.

We're looking for feedback on what subsidised bus services operating in south Fife are most important to you. We'll be consulting from 21st May until 30 June. All comments received will be considered when contracts for subsidised bus routes are renewed in August 2019. By taking a few minutes to complete the survey, you'll help us to know what services you need and rely on to get out and about.

The bus services that are currently subsidised or partly subsidised in South Fife are: 3/3A, 4B, 4C, 5, 5A, F6, 7D, 8, 8B, 17A, 17B, 20A, 28, 33B, 71, 81, 83, 87, 88, 89/89A.

During May and June, we'll be carrying out 'on-bus' surveys with passengers using these routes and will be analysing ticket machine data. Surveys are also available:

online at www.fifedirect.org.uk/bussurvey, at Dunfermline and Glenrothes Bus Stations, Or by phoning 03451 55 55 55 ext 444366

Draft Low Carbon Fife Supplementary Guidance (June 2018).

The guidance covers the assessment of low carbon energy schemes; sustainable building measures; and air quality assessments.

The guidance aims to provide clear advice and detailed technical guidance on low carbon issues to support the policies in the emerging Fife Local Development Plan

This document will replace a number of existing guidance documents on wind energy and guidelines on renewable energy and air quality. The draft Low Carbon Fife Supplementary Guidance updates these existing documents and provides additional guidance to inform the assessment of all low carbon schemes, sustainable building, district heating proposals, and air quality assessments.

The guidance incorporates changes that are required in order to comply with Scottish Planning Policy 2014. It also updates the wind onshore wind energy cumulative impact assessment to take into account wind turbines which have been built and consented since the last guidance was published.

The consultation will run from now until 17th August. You can view it and make a comment online

If you have any queries about this consultation please contact Fife Council on 03451 551122 or via Fife.Devplan@fife.gov.uk

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6. COUNCILLORS REPORT - Cllrs Bain, Campbell, Guichan and Watt

- **Mossmorran** – Elected councillors were at meeting with approx 40 attendees. Looking at working in partnership with others. Hope is to identify issues and organise investigation. For example: what is the life cycle of the plant, how could it be decommissioned/shut it down?, what are the carbon emissions, is the flaring any more than previously. The investigation is ongoing and a report should be available in about 1 month. There will also be a debate on Mossmorran in Parliament
- **Lochore Meadows** – still in process of putting committee together
- **Cowdenbeath Leisure Centre** – gym upgrade, swimming lessons £1 a kid,
- **Skatepark** opened.
- **Area at back of Bus Station in Broad Street**– terrible for dog fouling. Has been reported to FC
- **Safer Communities** – keep encouraging folks to use safer communities teams

7. OTHER REPORTS...

Treasurers Report - Balance in CC's account as at **21st June 2018** is **£66,773.31**
(Spreadsheet issued to all CC's prior to the meeting)

Amount of	£40,352.00	ringfenced for FET – Heritage Garden at Brunton Square
	£22,000.00	ringfenced for project at Town House.
	£ 120.78	ringfenced for microgrants (to be paid back to Foundation Scotland)
	£ 662.94	ringfenced Beath Bulletin (still awaiting pay for adverts in June 18 issue)
SUB TOT	£63,135.72	

Balance **£ 3,637.59** available to the Community Council.
TOTAL £66,773.31

Nb: noted at AGM when accounts examined that ringfenced amount for FET should have been £40352 since Oct and not £38352. Amount in bank not affected.

• **Civic Week..**

Massive congratulations to Civic Week Committee for a job well done on this years Gala Week. The 'newbie' Tea Dance was a sell out and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Other events during the week all well attended and also went well. But even with the weather being dismal, the Committee managed to continue with the Parade and at very very short notice organise for the shows....etc.. to relocate to BHS. The rain did stop later in the afternoon and because the venue was BHS, it meant that folks could still enjoy the shows, stalls....etc A fantastic achievement.

- **Environmental Group** – Tubs/planters planted in advance of Civic Week. AGM held on 29th May. 4 members of group going forward. Beautiful Fife judging will be done on 23rd July.
- **Street Pastors** – The Clearing was well used on day of the gala parade. Drinks/snacks offered to folks on the street watching the parade. Rail Pastors started up.
- **Foodbank** - Looking for donations. Still well used.
- **Town Centre** - Work on Town Centre should be starting in the few weeks. Expect it to last approx 6 months.
- **4 winds trust** – A few Cowdenbeath groups were successful in their applications. Next meeting is August.
- **CACA** – finish up tomorrow for the holidays.
- **Mossmorran** – see correspondence item.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **TWAM** – Tools with a Mission. Just a reminder that if anyone has any old tools they dont need/use, they may be able to be refurbished by the volunteers at TWAM. They have a unit at Woodend.
- **Benarty Environment Group** – BEG are organising a Commemoration Service in the Miners Memorial Garden in Ballngry to recognise and pay tribute to everyone who was involved in the mining industry. Event will be on 26th August. Have asked to be kept informed of details (no one available to attend a meeting on 13th June)

10. NEXT MEETING Thursday 16th August @ 18.30 in the Maxwell Centre.