

Cowdenbeath Community Council

Minutes for 15th August 2019

1. PRESENT : L Rae, A Stott, C Gourlay, A Haddow, A Dziennik, P Millmore, A McGillivray, S McGillivray, D McLean & A Lockhart (TEN COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS)

Co-opted Members J Young
Elected Members Cllrs A Campbell, G Guichan & D Watt
Police
Members of the public B Kay, M Stokes
Guests R McCabe

2. APOLOGIES

Community Councillors I Burt, I Cuthbertson and W Aitchison
Elected Members Cllr A Bain
Co-opted Members
Police F Menzies, G Gardiner

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Proposed: D McLean Seconded: P Millmore

4. MATTERS ARISING - Clarification on consultation on Establishment Scheme. The current exercise is for ideas to be put forward for the proposed consultation with regard to the Establishment Scheme for Community Councils. Once Fife Council has collated/considered all the ideas/ comments, they will then issue a draft form of the Establishment Scheme proposals and consult with all Community Councillors across Fife.

5. POLICE UPDATE - Report produced by PC Gardiner and sent into CC.

New addition to the team who will be working alongside PC Gardiner as the Community officer for Cowdenbeath, Hill of Beath and Crossgates - PC Louise Wallace 268. Louise has 8 years Police service in the West Fife area mostly on response as well as some experience dealing with anti social behaviour and violence reduction. Statistics : a total of 555 calls made to Police Scotland for the Cowdenbeath area. 111 calls were for Police information or to assist members of the public with no further Police action required. 20 Domestic incidents, 34 ongoing disturbances and 74 Road Traffic matters including collisions and complaints about driving. Of these calls there were 49 crimes recorded ranging from 10 Thefts, 9 assaults, 1 robbery and 2 sexual offences. It must be stated that there is absolutely no threat to the public on the back of any of these offences. No issues raised with PC Gardiner in last month. But he is aware of parking issues at Stock Cars. He has conducted a number of patrols whilst the stock cars are on and will make contact again with the organisers and see if we can come to some sort of solution. Hopefully some education to the punters make some sort of difference and he will get back on to the enforcement officers to try and get them out on a Saturday.

6. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY FIFE – Presentation by R McCabe (Fife Health & Social Care Partnership)

Very informative presentation. Aim is to Try to make Fife a more dementia friendly place – 2 year project to try and make communities more dementia friendly. Businesses and individuals can go through training. Aim of the training is to help people be more understanding. A number of businesses in the Town have already become dementia friendly (eg Uptown Girl, Altyre Models, Co op funeralcare, Leisure Centre). Would be good to get more people involved. Members of the Community Council and Civic Week were keen to become 'dementia friendly' trained. Let CG know the numbers and she will liase with R McCabe to set up a joint session.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- **Beautiful Fife Campaign 2019** – Judges spent 2hrs in the Town on 23rd July. Route took in Bridge Street (met Env Group reps), Community Woodland at Woodend, Millenium Garden, High Street, Maxwell Centre, Rosebank Allotments. Photos of last years flower show were shown to the judges as well as various other developments. Good feedback received from Judges...very positive. Results of judging will be known in September. Last year Cowdenbeath received 150 points. To achieve gold, we require at least 170 points out of 200. Thanks were given to all volunteers who helped in lead up and on the day and also to staff at Parks and Open Spaces.
- **Mossmorran Windfarm Community Fund** – This fund is available to groups within the Cowdenbeath, Hill of Beath and Crossgates & Mossgreen community council boundaries. Applications can be submitted until 20th September. We have publicised on Social Media and in CFT. Community Councils should 'spread the word' as well. Applications can be downloaded from : <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/mossmorran-community-fund/>

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- **CORRESPONDENCE (continued)**

- **Planning Notification:** Consultation request re Land At Thistle Industrial Estate (19/00909/PPP)
Thistle Industrial Estate. Concern was raised with this application about the potential for excessive traffic at the Church Street entrance/exit. It's already a difficult entrance/exit to get out of. Assumption is that traffic management will be part of the overall application. Also asked what's to happen with the existing businesses who are based at the location. According to discussion, some of the businesses have no idea about the proposed development. This application has been on the go since Oct last year. Consultation was held last year in the Thistle Estate. Was in the Central Fife Times too. You can access the current application which contains all the documents/consultees on our website: www.cowdenbeathcc.org.uk

- **Volunteering Matters Action Earth Grant** Any group of volunteers can apply for Volunteering Matters Action Earth grants of between £50 - £500 to run environmental activities in Scotland's green spaces. This includes enhancing local biodiversity by creating or improving community gardens, wildflower meadows, ponds, woodlands or urban greenspaces. 50% of our grants are for areas where there is substantial social or economic deprivation. We also prioritise applications from volunteer groups who do any of the following:

- Improve and develop the health and wellbeing of their local community
- Involve disabled people, vulnerable people or those at risk of exclusion
- Organise events with mass participation (40 volunteers or more)

BACK TO SCHOOL - With thoughts turning to the new term, we would like to remind schools that we are happy to accept applications involving school pupils but CANNOT accept applications where the project is on school grounds.

We can support projects where pupils are working off-site in partnership with other local community groups and volunteers, are carrying out after-school or weekend work or are making a major impact to their local environment **Projects should complete by January 2020**. Grants are allocated on a first-come basis so don't delay – register today

- **Consultation of the Common Good Register. Runs till end of Sept**

Under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and following Scottish Government Guidance, Fife Council and other Local Authorities have a duty to publish a Common Good register.

Common good is property owned by a local authority which has been passed down, through local government reorganisation, from former burghs. Those burghs would have received it as a gift or purchased it. The definition of what is and what isn't common good is complex and relies on the interpretation of case law: not all former burgh property is common good. However, it includes land and buildings, and moveable items such as furniture and art. It will normally include a fund of cash, which is made up of investments and income both from rents and disposals of property. Part 8 of the Community Empowerment Act 2015 seeks to increase transparency about the existence of common good assets and to ensure there is community involvement in decisions taken about their identification, use and disposal. The common good register and consultation is available at FifeDirect (www.fifedirect.org.uk/commongoodregister). Action: Advise FC about art work at Town House. Ask question re Public Park

- **Fife Licensing Board** – Application for Variation (Major) Premises License – Iceland Foods. Application being considered at Council Chambers on 12th August. Community Councillors were emailed. No objections/representations made for this application. Although it did generate a discussion on the subject of how many outlets selling alcohol is necessary in a town the size of Cowdenbeath. Alcohol is an issue in deprived areas. Subject has been subject of discussion at Area Committee when NHS put forward statistics. It was felt though that these stats were flawed. How do you compare different towns. A feasibility study may be the way ahead. Charities/NHS/Outlets should work together.

- **Central Fife Prevention Panel. Central Fife Crime Prevention Panel** has been going for over 20 years and work in hand with the local police to improve, highlight and help local organisations in combating crime in the local areas. The panel is involved with the local schools as well as presenting the well received Elderly Forum annually, which offers advice and information from various organisations including Police, Fire Service and entertainment from the primary and secondary schools. The panel are looking for more people to get involved to carry on this important work. They are a friendly crowd and have fun as well as helping our local communities. Meetings are the last Wednesday of each month at the Maxwell Centre in Cowdenbeath at 7pm.

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CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

• Flaring at Mossmorran

Notification from Exxon Mobil and Sepa regarding the unplanned flaring at Mossmorran from 30th June SEPA has deployed monitoring equipment to capture air quality data. This is now operational at sites in Auchtertool, which are aligned with the forecast wind direction for the week so that local impacts are assessed. Noise monitoring is also being undertaken in Lochgelly and SEPA officers will attend the local area to assess impacts. SEPA will provide an update on the initial findings of the air quality monitoring once data has been collated & analysed.

Notification from Shell Fife about planned flaring at Mossmorran Planned maintenance and use of flare from 10th August. This weekend we will start our annual 'Turnaround' at the Shell Fife NGL plant, where we will reduce production over a 15-day period in order to carry out planned investment and maintenance on the plant. As part of this Turnaround, I would like to notify the local community of planned, intermittent, low intensity use of the Fife NGL flare stack during a period of 72 hours, beginning 10am on Saturday the 10th of August. We will use the flare to empty the pipes and vessels on Module 3, which then enables us to complete testing on our safety systems and maintenance on the Module's safety-critical valves. The plant preparation will be phased in order to minimise the flaring rates as far as possible.

Notification received from SEPA

SEPA is aware that a very short period of elevated flaring occurred at ExxonMobil Chemical Limited at lunchtime today, 19 July 2019. This lasted for around 15 minutes and we have been informed by the company that the plant is back to routine operation. SEPA will be on the ground in the area over the course of the 72 hour period to assess any impacts being experienced and will continue to capture air quality data from our existing monitor in Lochgelly. Wind direction is due to change a number of times between Saturday and Monday, and SEPA will also carry out checks on air quality in different locations over the three days.

Members of the public who are concerned about a potential pollution issue are encouraged to contact our pollution hotline using our online reporting form at sepa.org.uk/report. This is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

General discussion on recent flaring. Isn't good enough. People are getting fed up with the continual noise and impact to their health. We have invited reps from Exxon Mobil along to our October meeting for a Q&A session. Community Councillors should use the next few months to chat to folks in the Town and come armed with questions they want answers as well as confirming the general feeling within the Town.

• **NHS Fife** is looking to recruit a new Non Executive member to join its Board as a Whistleblowing Champion. Poster with the details shared. Closing date for applications 12th August

• **Adult Support** and Protection newsletter emailed to community councillors.

• **Fife Development Plan** – update emailed to community councillors

8. COUNCILLORS REPORT

Opportunity taken by all councillors to wish the Environment Group well in relation to Beautiful Fife Campaign. They work tirelessly throughout the year to make Cowdenbeath a nice place to visit.

Roads: Zebra Crossing at Woodside. Could it be made into a puffin crossing. To be put on agenda at Area Committee.

Partners: Are lights on correct sequence. Cars seem to be getting caught 'in between' lights. If second light changes when 'in between', keep driving.

Mossmorran: SEPA going to make an announcement

Lochore Meadows: Cowdenbeath still to be represented on FOLM panel. PLockhart has stood down as our rep. Funding being made available to upgrade other facilities.

Grahams Dairies: issue with plant at Glenfield. Going to court. Cllr Campbell has been trying to help resolve issues. Congratulations on Cowdenbeath being nominated for Rising Star award for Great British High Street.

Issues at the Cemetery. Some gravesides not well maintained. Lots of complaints being received. Suggestion has been made that a 'friends of the cemetery' group be set up and work with Fife Council staff.

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9. OTHER REPORTS

Treasurers Report (spreadsheet distributed before meeting). Update on monies paid out/into account advised
Balance in CC's account as at **15th August 2019 : £22,062.04**

| | | |
|---------|--------------------|---|
| Amount | £ 14,935.00 | ringfenced for Community Futures Projects/CRT communications |
| | £ 1,000.00 | ringfenced for art sculptures (mossmorran wind farm community funding) |
| | £ 250.00 | ringfenced for Remembrance Day Services (<i>money recd from WW1 memorial sponsors</i>) |
| | £ 2,000.00 | ringfenced for Micro Grant Scheme |
| | £ 349.79 | ringfenced for Beath Bulletin |
| SUB TOT | £ 18,529.79 | |

Balance **£ 3,532.25** available to the Community Council.

TOTAL £ 22,062.04

NB Signatories updated. The three signatories for CC are I Burt, A Stott, C Gourlay. Received £50 in compensation from the bank as compensation for the 'hassle'.

Environment Group – see correspondence

Civic Week – AGM will be held on 10th September at the Maxwell Centre.

5k run scheduled for 8th September....working with Cowdenbeath FC, Jog Cowdenbeath and G Greig from Glenfield Storage. Has been issues with Transportation – could councillors help. 200 folks involved on the day. Will be inflatables. Proposal made that £100 be donated by Community Council towards the cost of the day. Agreed by all community councillors in attendance at the meeting. Expectation is that money raised will be used to fund a 5k next year.

Foodbank – Low in stocks at times but still as busy.

Street Pastors – no update available.

Mossmorran - see comments under correspondence

CACA – new bouncy castle purchase. Will be tested out in advance of youth club restarting.

4 winds trust – Next meeting will be September. Will also be their AGM. Waiting on Lochgelly Reps. Advised that Lochgelly CC have their reps....they are waiting on receiving trustee docs from Amelia who is now point of contact for 4 winds trust.

Maxwell Advisory Panel – AGM was held on 19th June. The CC needs to work more closely with new panel. LR is our representative on the Panel. LR waiting on next meeting being scheduled.

Town Centre Development - Work will begin on creating a mural on the gable end at the cobblers at the Green Square.

10. AOB

People who paint – new art group based at Maxwell Centre. Exhibition will be held on 12th October at the Maxwell Centre

Horticultural Show – Flower show will be on 14th & 15th September. Night with sponsors will be on 14th September

11. Next meeting will be Thursday 19th September @ 18.30 in the Maxwell Centre.