

## **Creich and Flisk Community Council**

### **Minutes of Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

#### **Present**

Bernard O'Donnell, Andy Heer, Jim Duncan, Bob Arbuckle, Laura Arbuckle, Elspeth Barker, Matthew Wilson, Ian Macallan, Tom Macallan and Gordon Cuthill.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **Apologies**

Ian Purvis and John Macpherson sent their apologies.

#### **Annual General Meeting**

The chairman opened the meeting by stating that the first task of the evening was to appoint office bearers but Andy Heer said that does not happen at the AGM of Community Councils as it happened in November 2018 and that they are for the duration of the appointment of the community councillors which is five years.

The chairman was surprised at this and accepted it but continued to say that he was proposing to resign as chairman because he felt let down by Fife Council in their response to the criticism of the community council by Mr Ian Macallan. Matthew Wilson expressed his disappointment at this situation as he thought the chairman had carried out his duties responsibly. Ian Macallan then started to discuss the situation regarding his complaint but was told in no uncertain terms by the chairman that he did not want to listen to him and he was asked to be quiet. The chairman then stated that he would continue in his role but would not change his approach or attitude at the meetings despite the criticism by Fife Council. Tom Macallan asked that this be minuted. Tom Macallan was disappointed at this approach, was also told to cease his comments and the chairman said he could take it further if he wished.

The chairman summarised the year as being significant with the business dominated by one issue, namely activities at Carphin House. He and the Community Council spent a lot of time dealing with this issue. Official complaints regarding planning application were made during the year as a result of strong feelings by Luthrie residents against traffic and noise issues related to proposed activities at Carphin House. In essence he thought the community council had operated well. Ian Macallan responded by starting to express concerns over noise and traffic and wanted to discuss it further as he did not understand these concerns. The chairman interrupted him and stated that these complaints were over and done with and we should move on.

#### **Meeting**

Apologies and Declarations of interest were as in the AGM.

#### **Minutes of the last meeting**

These were accepted.

#### **Matters Arising**

##### **Formal Complaint against the Creich and Flisk Community Council**

This had already been covered in the AGM.

## **Police Report**

The chairman had received a report summarised as follows: Speedwatch campaigns are starting next year and support is requested from community councils. Concern was expressed for the misuse of fireworks at Halloween celebrations. Residents should be encouraged to be extra vigilant at Christmas to minimise thefts etc. and take simple precautions. Drivers should be taking extra care in the winter due to additional hazards. Between August and October 2019 police in North East Fife responded to 78 Emergency Grade 1 calls and 814 emergency Grade 2 calls.

In relation to Creich and Flisk the following statistics apply:

	Reported Crimes	Road Traffic	Concern for Persons	Miscellaneous
August	2	1	0	19
September	1	3	0	9
October	0	1	1	2

## **Broadband**

The chairman stated that both Luthrie and Brunton now had access to superfast broadband. The speed in Flisk is unchanged. A meeting chaired by Willie Rennie had recently taken place in Cupar and a resident of Luthrie had attended. Schemes to enable groups of residents in areas of slow broadband speed were discussed. Matthew Wilson was aware of these and is looking into them.

## **Mobile Telephone Signals**

The chairman had written to Willie Rennie who had passed on his concerns to Scottish Minister Wheelhouse. The reply from him was wholly unsatisfactory and the chairman has responded again to Mr Rennie. No response to that letter has been received.

## **Defibrillator request for Luthrie**

Since the last meeting a resident of Luthrie has offered to pay any outstanding cost of a defibrillator following a contribution by the community council. Two residents of Luthrie have agreed to carry out training of residents in Luthrie of its use.

## **Speed Limits in Luthrie**

Andy Heer had asked Colin Stirling of Fife Council regarding imposing a 20 mph limit in Luthrie and his response was that it could happen but it would necessitate many more road signs in the village. This might be undesirable. It was agreed that Luthrie Residents group should be asked if this should be progressed. On the question of where the current speed limit signs are positioned it seems that these really cannot be moved but Andy Heer suggested "countdown" signs could be considered.

**Action Laura**

## **Planning**

An objection letter had been sent following many objections to the community council from residents in Luthrie after the last meeting.

## **Finance Report**

The income and Expenditure Account for the council for the year finished 30 September 2019 was distributed. This showed an opening bank balance of £438.80 and having received an annual grant of £429.28 with expenditure of £42 for hall hire and £200 for bench refurbishment at Luthrie Church the closing balance as at 30 September 2019 was £626.08. £500 of that is allocated for the part purchase of a defibrillator in Luthrie and £40 is for Data Protection fee.

## **Planning Applications**

The secretary reported that there had been seven planning applications in the area since the last meeting. Four related to Carphin Farmhouse, two were for Flisk cemetery and one was for a residence at Gleduckie. Tom Macallan asked for details of the ones at Carphin Farmhouse but Bob indicated he did not have that information to hand but he thought three were agriculture related and one was building related but that they would be available to see on the Fife Council website.

## **Roads Report**

Elspeth reported that the drains in Luthrie could not cope on 4<sup>th</sup> November during the torrential rain due in part to the amount of leaves around. She is aware of this problem though and tries to keep the drains clear to prevent flooding near her house. The ditch at the side of the road between Luthrie and Brunton was mentioned and Jim reported that he had indicated this problem on the Fife council web site but nothing had been done about it. It was mentioned if a vehicle went into the ditch it would not get out. Andy said if Jim gave him the complaint reference number he would follow it up.

**Action Jim and Andy**

## **Housing to 2040 – Community Council Engagement**

The chairman read from a flier of an exhibition touring Scotland describing what houses of the future might be like. It will be in Dundee on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. This was e mailed to the members of the community council.

## **Fife Passenger Transport**

Another flier reading from the chairman. This is a survey being carried out by Fife Council to find out the wishes of the public for public transportation in the future to allow them to decide policy for years to come.

## **Children's Panel Scotland**

This is a recruiting campaign for enthusiastic people to become Panel Practice Advisors with Children's Hearings Scotland. More information was distributed to the community council members by e mail.

## **Any Other Business**

Ian Macallan raised the subject of Carphin House and his surprise and disappointment at the reaction to his business activities. He could not understand the problems and expressed his willingness to build bridges with the local community and community council. After a brief discussion it was agreed that a meeting would be organised in Luthrie Village hall in about four weeks. This would not be organised by the Community Council but through the offices of Andy Heer in conjunction with Ian Macallan. Ian Macallan would keep Bob Arbuckle informed of details etc. It was left to Ian to decide the format of the meeting but the intention is to invite any interested parties to hear his plans and to provide a forum for people to ask questions.

**Action Andy, Ian and Bob**

As there was no other business the meeting was concluded.

**Date and Time of next Meeting: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30 pm.**