

CHARLESTOWN, LIMEKILNS AND PATTISMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting Tuesday 28th January 2025 7.00 p.m.

1. Attendance

Geoff Cartwright, Sue Hamilton, Mandy Littlewood, Lesley Scott, Peter Wilson, Councillor Brian Goodall, Councillor Andy Jackson, Peter Hutchings, Jane Kilgour Paul Byford

Craig Lindsay, Alex Lodge, Malcolm Hamilton, Tom Leatherland, Paul Spriddle, Carol and Steve Williams, Chris Oliver, Leanne Drummond, Nigel Martin, Lesley Laird

2. Apologies

Tess Gibson, Lex Dunko, Jo McFarlane, Moira Adams, Councillor Verrecchia, Dr Abdul Haydee

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting Approved by Peter Hutchings and Lesley Scott

4. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

- a. **Playpark:** Peter Wilson provided an update on fundraising activity. The updated Caterpillar shows £105,000. That includes a pledge from Fife Environment Trust of £30,000 based on us completing our fundraising by May 2025. We have recent commitments from Forth Ports, and CR Smith, and raised over £200 at the School Christmas Fair. An application for £15000 has been made to the SW Fife Area Cttee of Fife Council. A letter is being circulated to all households seeking further support, and other funding applications are being submitted.
- b. **Double Yellow Lines.** Prom lines, the council have confirmation of the design work and will go before the area committee on 30th April. Nothing yet regarding Old Orchard junction. Sue will take up.
- c. **Toilet signage.** No response yet about sign at the shop and on the toilet.
- d. **Sign at Wellheads-** Completed. Charles Way street lamp has been done.
- e. **3rd Community Notice Board.** Another like we have could cost £12,000. Maybe a smaller one could be erected in the bus shelter by the school. Will need to get permission to put it there.
- f. **Airport consultation.** Tom reminded that people only have until the end of January to submit individual comments on Edinburgh Airport's draft 'Noise Action Plan'. It has some positive aspects including additional charges for night flights, but the number of night flights has increased with scheduled arrivals extending to after 02.00, and scheduled departures now starting before 06.00. A main criticism from the 'Noise Advisory Board' is that it lacks any Key Performance Indicators or quantitative measures of what is being achieved.

5. Broomhall

- a. Lesley Laird (both a former deputy leader of Fife Council and a former MP) spoke regarding the ongoing issue with Charlestown Harbour and the lack of action being taken, and suggested it is now time to take actions to a higher level to obtain a response and ultimately a conclusion to the problem. Lesley agreed to be co-opted onto the Community Council and spearhead an action plan to move forward. MSP Shirley-Anne Somerville has been contacted and a Forth Ports letter has provided some account of how the current situation has developed.
- b. No progress on footpath/cycle track on side of A985. Why not?
- c. Fife Council has been contacted regarding the pot holes in Double Row, and have stated that it is an Estate Road. Cllr Goodall will request that a contribution is made from the small unadopted roads budget.

6. Community Twinning

Malcolm Hamilton up-dated the Community Council about the potential Twinning Project with Gensac in France. He has been in touch with a number of clubs, families, businesses and

individuals. Malcolm has the use of a room at The Bruce from 2-5 pm on Tuesday 4th and Thursday 6th February, for public open discussion and a chance to share information and for people to sign up for further involvement. Like all French communes, Gensac has a Mayor and paid officials. It has links to limestone construction and the production of lime. Gensac already has a twinning arrangement with an Italian Village. There has been a positive response from the head teacher at Limekilns Primary School, who agrees that our children will be significant beneficiaries of such a twinning arrangement.

7. Communication

- a. Alex Lodge has created a website for Charlestown, Limekilns and Pattiesmuir. This needs furnishing with local history, residents' photos, Community Council minutes, and local interests and news that folk would like to submit.
- b. The Village Link was published for December but going forward we are looking for one or two people with time and publishing skills to take over the production and sending out of the Village Link. **Interested in finding out more? Please contact the Community Council.**

8. Village History

- a. Craig Lindsay is creating more information regarding the village history and looking to the installation of plaques on places of interest i.e. War Memorial, Ship Inn, and people of historical interest. If anyone is interested in helping with this project please contact Craig.
- b. This year will be the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Limekilns Parish Church building and a number of Celebrations are planned.
- c. War Memorial fell over in the recent storm. The last time it fell was in 2011. It will need co-ordinated action and funding to get it back in place.

9. Broadband Update

- a. Rosie Hopwood wrote to say that the Scottish Government are no longer supporting the scheme to supply vouchers to selected properties for broadband connection. It is likely that there will eventually be a plan to cover the whole villages. There will be a plan before too long but Open Reach may not be involved.
- b. Robin Wragg of Overhaven has expressed concern as to how this might be done using poles and overhead lines. This has happened at the entrance into Dunfermline on the Limekilns Road, in Crossford and in Rosyth. Fife Council Planning have no jurisdiction in this matter. Operators may start an installation without informing residents and put poles where they choose. They stick a label on erected poles to say who you can complain to. If anyone spots any likely broadband installers in the villages, please inform the Community Council.

10. Planning

- a. No applications have been determined. Saltpans application SEPA have deemed the area as a flood risk.
- b. Fife Council Local Development Plan. There is an online event for Fife Community Councils tomorrow, explaining the process and progress of the development of the plan. Peter, Sue and Jo plan to attend.
- c. Kingswood. Tom Leatherland had met a Napier University PhD student who is carrying out research on the potential for Biodiversity Enhancement that might be provided by the SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems) which are a requirement for all new development. She took a group of us on a very informative walk round some of the Duloch SUDS in her study.

11. Nature Action

- a. CLP Nature Action is now a Charity. New website coming soon. February.
- b. New bank account set up. A massive thanks to CC for hosting over last 5 years.
- c. Jo is speaking to Fife Community Payback about cleaning the beach in Charlestown Harbour.

- d. School/community Garden starting again after half term. Funding Josh the warden working 1 day a week until end of December 2025. Mo Owens, volunteer, is working closely with the project too. Looking for volunteers to help with the garden, both working with children in school time and for work parties. Other projects underway with the school too.
- e. 2025 Community Beach Clean dates confirmed as Sunday 23rd March 2 pm, Sunday 8th June 11.30-12.30 and Sunday 23rd September 11.30 -12.30. Please join us. All equipment provided. New beach clean leaders too. Training provided.
- f. River Monitoring starts again in March, contact us if you want to get involved/training free.
- g. Need your help to record all plants, animals, everything in the villages. Please download Citizen Scientist iNaturalist app or go to the website of iNaturalist and search for CLP Nature Action under Projects and join as member. Upload photos. Data once verified will be used by scientists and developers, crucial we have it. The school is doing it too!
- h. Contact Jo on clpnatureaction@gmail.com for more info on any of the above.

12. Police Report

- a. 306 calls related to the West Fife and Coastal Villages area, of which were 46 reported crimes, 56 road traffic, 59 Concern for person and 50 anti-social behaviour. Remainder of the calls were miscellaneous matters / information
- b. New 20mph zones. Several West Fife towns/villages have recently had 20mph zones implemented. The CPT have received several queries in relation to these new zones and any enforcement of these. We will monitor the new 20mph zones and members of the Police Scotland Road Traffic department have carried out speed monitoring action recently, providing advice, warnings and enforcement action as appropriate.
Should any person wish to volunteer for the Community Speed Watch Program, or wish any further information, please feel free to contact us via e-mail.

13. Councillor Report. Brian Goodall's report is appended

14 Treasurers Report

Paul is working on draft accounts to sign off in March

15. AOCB.

- a. Collection times from the village post boxes are variable due to the post being collected when our daily post is delivered. The 9am collection time on all boxes is fiction.
- b. Community Council agreed to donate £100 to The Bruce Arms towards their provision of a village Christmas Tree, and a new set of lights.
- c. The Gas Mains work on A985 continues as they deal with a succession of leaks. Lengthy time involve is apparently due to waits for necessary spare parts

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 25th February 2025