

MINUTES OF CHARLESTOWN, LIMEKILNS AND PATTISMUIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL 7 PM ON TUESDAY 30TH APRIL, 2024

1. Attendance: Geoff Cartwright, Sue Hamilton, Lesley Scott, Jane Kilgour, David Blyth, Peter Hutchings, Mandy Littlewood, Paul Byford, Beryl and Tom Leatherland, Councillor Andy Jackson, Councillor Brian Goodall, Michael Coughlan.

2. Apologies: Councillor Verrecchia, Jo McFarlane, Tess Gibson, Lex Dunko

3. Minutes of previous meeting: Proposed by Geoff Cartwright and seconded by Tom Leatherland.

4. Playpark: Peter Wilson has submitted 4 applications for various funds, one being Edinburgh Airport, who have declined at the moment but we are able to apply again. Playpark group met last week and have a QR code for folk to use for payment. Amounts will be transferred to the community council account. Need to keep accountability and visibility for payments through Paul. £700.00 has been raised so far from donations.

Bert the scarecrow is doing the rounds advertising the Scarecrow Festival planned for 1st - 2nd June 2024 to raise funds for the Playpark. We have 12/13 scarecrow applicants so far and need as many as possible round all the villages of Limekilns, Charlestown, Pattiesmuir, Pitliver and Crombie. Once everyone has entered, a list will be created with a printed map for folk to find all the scarecrows. It is hoped that the Church will be open for tea/coffee. We are hoping the Scarecrow event will bring wider awareness and good support and donations to the Playpark from the Community and from wider afield. We will invite involvement from Stirling Developments.

5. Matters Arising:

- Charlestown Harbour. Two new boats have arrived. (There is no notice at the harbour entrance to say it is closed).
- West Fife Woodland Trust have made a good job of the West footpath. Phase two will be constructing a wooden balustrade, They also tidied the kilns. Nothing has been paid to West Fife Woodland Trust for the work.
- Tom Parnel at HES had written to the Estate
- Speeding. Sue wrote to the Inn regarding speeding and has heard nothing back. Sue to write to Lesley Craig at Fife Council. Brian will speak to Police.

6. Broomhall: Tess on holiday.

- Thanks to the Estate for filling the pot holes in Queens Hall carpark.
- Could the laurel bushes be trimmed back please.
- A985 footpath abandoned for the moment. Can we have an update.

7. Interim Secretary's Report: - None

8. Treasurers Report: Paul will submit the accounts to the Examiner before the next meeting of the Community Council which will be the AGM.

9. **Police Report:** Arrived too late for the meeting.

10. **Planning:**

- Fife Development Plan - Resounding silence maintained by Fife Planning Team in response to our interest in getting involved. ScotGov say they would be paying close attention to the evidence based elements submitted by Councils.
- Kingswood Development - A meeting has been arranged for 2 May between the Planning Sub-Group and Stirling Developments.
- Planning Applications - No significant new items submitted or decided this month.
- Pattiesmuir. Fife Planning Department, on advice from Traffic Scotland, have deemed that the visibility splays for the Pattiesmuir junction already exist. The widening of the Pattiesmuir road-end is a further condition of the planning approval. We await its completion

11. **Nature Group:**

- Sewage and Surface Water Drainage. Extraordinary levels of Sewage Related Debris (SRD) were found on the recent beach clean. Jo convened an excellent meeting at which Lyn McKissock and her sister Gaye Mackay spoke. They work professionally in the Sewage and flooding business, and know the villages well, having grown up here. Other than the Muir Homes houses, most of the village has combined sewage and foul water pipes. There are 7 Combined sewage/surface water outlets which carry SRD onto the beach in heavy rain. The Main Street area is served by Victorian 6-inch clay pipes and suffers regular foul flooding. Gaye talked about the value of 'Rain Gardens' to intercept flow from roofs, for both residential and commercial buildings. We should plan a village meeting so that more people can get a better understanding of problems and solutions and responsibilities. Gaye and Kim and Lee Haywood (SW) and possibly Brian Darcy would be good to have as speakers
- Seagrass survey -with help from Lyle from Ecology Centre Burntisland.
- Fresh-water monitoring is being done on a monthly basis in the Lynn Burn.
- A Biodiversity working group has met for the first time.

12. **Councillors Report.**

Councillor Goodall's report of his busy month is appended to these minutes.

13. **AOCB:** Floral Displays Group want to plant trees at various areas. Cricket club happy to have trees planted there. Upper Wellheads plot of land. Need permission from Parks, Brian Goodall will contact Mark Blackman.

Date of next meeting 28th May at 7pm Queens Hall

Councillor's Report - Brian Goodall

A bin for Douglas Bank and Pattiesmuir. At the meeting of Charlestown, Limekilns & Pattiesmuir Community Council on the 26th of March I received request for a bin at or near Douglas Bank Cemetery. Residents at Pattiesmuir have also requested a bin for the area in the past, given how many dog walkers, in particular, visit the area from Rosyth and the neighbouring villages. I've passed on this request to the relevant senior Council Officer.

Red Row Potholes. I first reported the potholes at the entrance to Red Row, Limekilns in June 2022. It's a private road but I made the case that these potholes are mostly at the connecting point between the private Red Row and the Council adopted road at the Church Street/Promenade junction, and so it would be appropriate to use some of the Council's small Private Roads Budget to fund these pothole repairs. However, 22 months have now passed and there's still been no action from Fife Council. So, on the 27th of March I once again contacted the Council's Transportation Service and made the case, yet again, for these potholes to be filled.

Fife Sport & Leisure Trust. On the 28th of March I attended a meeting of the Fife Sport & Leisure Trust (FSLT) Board. I'm one of Fife Council's nominated members of the Trust's Board. The Trust runs Fife's Swimming Pools and Leisure Centres on the Council's behalf. FSLT recently streamlined its membership offer and sales of the new Club and Lite Memberships have been going really well, with there now being more Members using the Trust's swimming pools and sports facilities than ever before.

The Cairns, Charlestown. I was contacted about the possibility of adding a line to mark the edge between the road and the new parking area at The Cairns in Charlestown. I took this up with the Lead Consultant, Roads Design and Build, with the Transportation Service. He said it is not normal practice to mark parking bays or the edge of a carriageway in a residential street and that when vehicles park next to the kerb on either side of the carriageway the road design allows for sufficient road width for vehicles to pass in between. However, he has agreed with my suggestion that we monitor the situation at The Cairns once the works are complete and residents get used to the available road width. The works have now been completed with the exception of a section where the new road surface and the old road have still to receive a bitumen seal and some grass seed will also be sown on the areas of bare ground on the boundary of the green. Both jobs will be undertaken when the weather and workload allows.

Illness. From Monday 8th of April until Monday 15th of April I was out of action with a respiratory infection. I returned to work on the 16th of April but with limited capacity as symptoms were persisting.

Biodiversity and Flooding. On the 16th of April I attended an online meeting of the Association for Public Sector Excellence (APSE) Scotland's Biodiversity Sub-Group. I'm particularly interested in the work being undertaking in some other Council areas to address flooding issue by re-naturalising rivers. Following the meeting I was also able to connect the group's lead officer with Fife Coast & Countryside Trust in relation to the work the Trust has been doing on nature finance.

Common Good Workshop. Also, on the 16th of April I attended an online workshop looking at Common Good assets and funding options. I'm keen to develop a better understanding about what Common Good assets there are within the local area and to find out just what local groups and projects could benefit from Common Good funding.

Fife Council South & West Fife Area Committee. On the 17th of April I was able to attend a meeting of the local Area Committee online. We had reports presented on the new High School project, Educational Outcomes, Community Payback and the Area Local Community Plan.

Speeding on Admiralty Road and the rest of the A985 . At the South & West Fife Area Committee meeting on the 17th of April I raised the issue of speed limits on the Trunk Road A985 through Rosyth

(Admiralty Road) and on past Pattismuir, Pitliver, Charlestown and Crombie. Agreement on 20mph reductions on Admiralty Road is almost in place and I'll keep working towards further speed limit reductions on the rest of the A985 where it passes our villages.

New High School Naming. At the Area Committee meeting on the 17th of April, we received confirmation that a consultation process will take place over the summer in relation to the naming of the new High School that is being built in Rosyth. I recommended at the meeting that local Community Council's should be consulted as part of this process in addition to the existing School's stakeholders. While children from our villages will remain in the catchment area for Dunfermline High School or St Columba's RC High School, some parents may wish to make placing requests for the new school and some villagers have been asking me what the school will be called. Following the meeting I formally submitted the name suggestion I've been supporting, of Caledonia High School or possibly Rosyth Caledonia High School. This suggestion, Caledonia High School, originally came from the Chair of Rosyth Community Council. I like it as it has a universality to it which recognises the cross-community nature of the new school's intake, but also references the proximity of HMS Caledonia and our area's long-standing connections with the Navy. It had been suggested that some clearer reference to the School's geographic location would be desirable, which is where the back-up suggestion of Rosyth Caledonia High School comes from.

Surgeries. Unfortunately, I had to cancel my surgeries on the 17th of April due to ill health. My next surgeries will be held in the EATS Rosyth Community Hub and in the Gellet Hall, Limekilns on the 15th of May at 4pm and 5pm respectively.

Education Appointments. On Thursday the 18th of April I took part in a meeting of the Council's Appointments Committee to select a Long List of possible candidates to become Fife Council's new Executive Director of Education. We selected 6 possible candidates who will now be taken forward to the next stage of the recruitment process, an assessment centre event.

On Friday the 19th of April I chaired a meeting of the Education Appointments Committee as we interviewed candidates to become Headteacher for Ceres and Craigrothie Primary Schools. With input from representatives from each of the schools' Parent Councils we were able to make an appointment and I think the new Headteacher will do a great job running both of these schools.

On the 24th of April I chaired the Interview Panel looking to appoint a new Headteacher for Inverkeithing High School, an extremely important appointment in itself, but even more so when you think it's extremely likely that the new Head will be leading the school community through the transition to the new school building in Rosyth.

River Restoration Project. Fife Coast & Countryside Trust have made an application for funding to appoint a River Restoration Project Officer for Fife. At my suggestion it's proposed that a project be developed for the Brankholm Burn in Rosyth, if this funding application is successful. As well as restoring nature to the burn this work could also help address some of the area's flooding issues.

Trees Cut down by A985 Admiralty Road. I've been asking questions of the Fife Council Estates team as to why a section of trees and shrubs was cut down at the north side of the site for the new high school in Rosyth. It's a short stretch along the A985 Admiralty Road. The initial response was that the trees were unhealthy, but I've challenged that, as all trees and shrubs have been cut down in this small section not just selected ones. Also, it would appear that most of the trees cut down were native species, like Birch, Scots Pine and Holly. Just the type of trees we need to plant more of, and not be cutting down without very good reason. On the 19th of April I walked along to get pictures of the area to forward on to the relevant officers along with a request for a more detailed explanation. On the 22nd of April I received the explanation as to why these trees and shrubs had been cut down. It is to facilitate the construction of the internal access roads for the school. They have confirmed that there will be no direct access off the A985 and that two native trees will be planted elsewhere on the site for each of the trees that were removed.

My first 5K runs of the year. Being ill for more than two weeks before it wasn't the best preparation, but I still completed my first 5K continuous run of the year. It was also my first organised race of the

year, and my first ever 5K run as a vegan. On Sunday the 21st of April I was delighted to complete the Up & Running 5 Kilometre at Glasgow Green. 6 days later I also completed my first ever Parkrun in the lovely Alvaston Park in Derby. It was also a 5K continuous run.

Wet Wipes Ban. Great to hear the confirmation from the Scottish Government that they will bring in legislation this year to ban wet wipes that contain plastic. Inappropriately flushed wet wipes are a big problem as we see often at our local beach cleans.

Carnegie Trust AGM. In the evening on the 25th of April, I attended the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust AGM. I'm one of Fife Council's nominated members of the Trust's Board and I've been able to highlight, both to the board and to the local community, in recent months that The Carnegie Trust's mission to "spread sweetness and light" extends not only to Dunfermline but to the Rosyth Ward area too. Recently I've been able to support funding applications to the Trust from Rosyth Men's Shed, EATS Rosyth Community Garden, Park Road Primary School and Limekilns Primary School.

Diabetes UK Fundraiser. My latest challenge to swim 22 miles, the equivalent of the English Channel as part of a fundraiser for Diabetes UK is ongoing. You can follow my progress and make a donation at <https://swim22.diabetes.org.uk/fundraising/brian905>

Contact info

As well as at my surgeries, mentioned above, I can be contacted anytime via email at Cllr.Brian.Goodall@fife.gov.uk or via Facebook at www.facebook.com/cllrbrian.goodall