

LEUCHARS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held 7.00pm, 1 November 2007, The Hive, Leuchars

Present: Carroll Finnie (Chair), Jim Finnie, Mark Strong (Treasurer), Joyce Edmonston (Secretary), Trish Graham (new member), Cllr Ron Caird, Cllr Tim Brett, Inspector Martin Johncock, Georgina Morrison (new member), Suzanne Callan (new member), Yvonne Anderson (new member), Sqn Ldr Keith Wardlaw (MCO RAF Leuchars).

Apologies:

Cllr Maggie Taylor, Susan Budd (Community Development Worker), Wilma Coyne.

| ITEMS | ACTION |
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| <p>Chair's opening remarks:</p> <p>1. CF welcomed everyone including four new members to the council. Election of offices took place: CF re-elected as Chair; MS re-elected as Treasurer; TG elected as Secretary. Vice chair position remains vacant.</p> <p>2. Following her decision to stand down, CF thanked JE on behalf of the council for all her work as Secretary during the last nine years.</p> | |
| <p>Approval of Minutes of 02.10.07</p> <p>Minutes accepted: proposed by JF, seconded by MS.</p> | |
| <p>RAF issues:</p> <p>1. <u>Disposal of RAF houses:</u> Defence Housing Executive is disposing of RAF houses in Warwick Close (65 in total). Not clear if these will be sold on the open market or whether 50% will go to Fife Council and 50 per cent to ex- RAF personnel.</p> <p>2. <u>Noise footprint:</u> Typhoon noise footprint not available from RAF Coningsby as cost is over £100,000. Although It is acknowledged the Typhoon will have higher/louder footprint than the existing footprint, Fife Council will have to use existing one (65 decibels outer zone, 72 decibels inner zone) until Typhoon arrives in 2010. RC assured members that Fife Council planners are mindful of the noise footprint.</p> <p>3. <u>Children's' carol service:</u> Military transport no longer available because of Health & Safety restrictions. The padre will talk to local schools to see what can be done. CF confirmed the Station Commander is keen to work with local youth and called for ideas on how this can be achieved.</p> <p>4. <u>RAF sports facilities:</u> Physical Education Officer has confirmed schools would need to be insured in order to use RAF facilities and that availability is more likely at weekends. Station Commander interested in helping if possible. TB suggested that insurance issue could be addressed through Head of Education. KW to investigate (with Jim Wilson) possibility of arranging football tournaments. General discussion</p> | <p>RC & TB to investigate how houses will be disposed of.</p> <p>All: Ideas on how RAF can work with local youth.</p> <p>KW to investigate staging of football tournaments</p> |

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| <p>about lack of places to play football in and around Leuchars. Fife Council to look at various brownfield sites around the village for use.</p> <p>5. <u>Pipeline zone</u>: Pipeline supervisor has been informed of gypsy/travellers starting to develop site at Five Roads roundabout in the vicinity of the fuel pipeline. Gypsy/travellers have been warned about the serious consequences of digging near the pipeline. Now back with Fife Council. RC confirmed that the planning department have contacted the MOD.</p> <p>6. <u>Double glazing at Leuchars PS</u>: CF has spoken with Station Commander who suggested writing to Menzies Campbell. Balmullo PS was given a grant (no longer available). Guardbridge PS to be contacted to see how they obtained double glazing.</p> <p>7. <u>Skateboard park</u>: RC expecting feedback regarding brownfield site for this in order to take forward. Further discussion about RAF involvement at Training & Development Flight meeting to be held 16.1.08.</p> | <p>TB to write to Menzies Campbell, Ken Greer (Head of Education) and Guardbridge PS</p> |
| <p>Police issues:</p> <p>1. <u>Introduction</u>: MJ gave his background in dealing with community issues. He confirmed there is not a great deal of crime in Leuchars - mostly antisocial cases and youth disorders. He queried whether youths are causing problems or just the perception that they are. In his experience he sees the best solution as a combination of youth diversion (eg skateboard park and youth shelter) and enforcement.</p> <p>2. <u>Community police presence</u>: there is a community police officer (Jim Michie/Colin Campbell) in Leuchars at the new community police house every evening, whenever possible.</p> <p>3. <u>Youth shelter</u>: MJ investigating where youths would like this sited. Would like to involve RAF in the maintenance of it so that it remains local.</p> <p>4. <u>Dome hawk video unit</u>: Cheaper alternative to CCTV. These units are mobile and are maintained by local community councils. Police have requested one for Leuchars, but trying to borrow one in the meantime. There were questions as to how these are funded and whether footage could be used as evidence if necessary. MJ investigating further and reporting back next meeting.</p> <p>5. <u>Bus shelter</u>: RC confirmed Council transportation department are liaising with police to remove bus shelter.</p> | <p>TB & RC to enquire of other community councils about funding received for these units. MJ to investigate further</p> |
| <p>Matters arising from the Minutes</p> <p>1. <u>Station road repairs</u> Road repairs alongside rail station have been completed, though no yellow lines as yet.</p> | |

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| <p>2. <u>St Andrews Hospital</u>: TB bringing representatives from the new St Andrews Hospital & Health Centre group to the next meeting (4.12.07) to give an overview of the new hospital. Invitation to the presentation to be extended to Strathkinness, Guardbridge and Balmullo community councils.</p> <p>3. <u>Floral displays</u>: CF presented brochure of available floral displays. She has walked around the village with John McVicar to select suitable sites. Suggested one large tub be sited centrally coming into the village (at roundabout) as well as smaller tubs elsewhere. We do have money plus a grant. GM had asked Kingdom Housing Association if they would provide floral displays on the Castle Knowe estate but had had a negative response. JF suggested local businesses sponsoring the displays and/or local children involved in planting to foster ownership and care.</p> <p>4. <u>Speed warning units</u>: Discussion about intermittent use of the speed warning cameras sited at entrance to village (Dundee side) and whether these units could be sited permanently. Funding for speed warning units will come from the 2008 budget.</p> <p>6. <u>Dropped kerbs</u>: Local resident wheelchair user has had problem with lack of dropped kerbs.</p> <p>7. <u>Community Planning Budget</u>: CF queried what this grant can be used for. JE had received e-mail confirming this was to be split between seat at top of School Hill and improvement to street lighting. Questioned whether it can be used for planting/floral displays.</p> <p>8. <u>Remembrance Day</u>: TG to lay Remembrance Day wreath instead of MS.</p> | <p>TG to invite members of Strathkinness, Guardbridge & Balmullo community councils.</p> <p>MS to further investigate costings of displays.</p> <p>JF to investigate suitable storage for tubs.</p> <p>JF to ask wheelchair user to contact TB directly.</p> <p>TB & RC to clarify use of budget with Kate Hughes.</p> |
| <p>Correspondence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Friends of the Earth – Training for Change 2. Planning committee meeting 09/10/07 3. Leader 2007-2013 4. NE Fife Area Committee Meeting 24/10/07 5. Scottish Landscape Forum 6. Thank you from St Athernase 7. Planning applications: Wheeler, 18 Fern Place, Leuchars – extension. | |
| <p>Fife Council Issues</p> <p>Action pt 50: Dropped kerbs: TB progressing with Transportation Department</p> <p>Action pt 49: Trip hazard outside old Police House: KH progressing</p> <p>Action pt 48: Parking at cemetery: KH investigating with Burial Services</p> <p>Action pt 46: Dip in road Main Street roundabout: RC to contact the Water Board again.</p> <p>Action pt 44: Seat at School Hill: TB to confirm with KH regarding source of finance for this.</p> <p>Action pt 43: Additional lamping: Ongoing.</p> | |

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| <p>Gypsy/travellers site, Five Roads Roundabout JF gave background to this problem and circulated plans for the site. Large-scale development work (top soil removed to form bunds) has already started on the site without planning permission. CF's letter of objection circulated and general discussion about this and other points of objection raised. Fife Council has a duty to provide facilities but CF cited 1996 Local Plan and that provision has already been made with spare capacity at Tarvit Mill and Kelty. RC confirmed planning can take no action until Sheriff serves interim interdicts on all travellers. Pitch 1 has received an interdict. If this is ignored then a breach of interdict will be served. Breaches of interdicts to be discussed at planning committee of 19.12.07. JF asked why planning is even being considered while these interdicts were being served. It was agreed that a letter of objection from the community council as a whole be sent.</p> | <p>TG to write letter of objection on behalf of the community council.</p> |
| <p>AOB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community council has £2000 in funds. Agreed a monthly financial statement was not needed. 2. Ideas from all were called for for a village fete or gala. Agreed a gala subcommittee be established to cover such things as risk assessment, insurance, H&S aspects, portaloos etc. TB suggested setting aside money for this now. Fife Council is likely to approve. Possibility of lottery funding (as Tayport had received this). CF called for interest. 3. Agreed that abridged version of minutes (400-500 words) should go into St Andrews Citizen. This could also carry village news. 4. RC read out article from the Courier, concerning road developers. Council can now issue fixed penalty notices for up to £5000 without taking legal action. 5. CF had received a donation of £195 which is to be spent on local youth. CF to speak to Susan Budd about how this should be spent. 6. CF has been invited to a civic reception (30.11.07) for St Andrew's Day. 7. TB to ask about siting doggy bins on Station Road. 8. 'No parking' signs incorrectly sited in Meadow Park - should be at the entrance, ie on the lamp post by the swings. | <p>All: ideas for gala. All: establish gala subcommittee.</p> <p>TG to submit abridged version of minutes to Editor</p> <p>CF & SB to discuss how this money can be used.</p> <p>TB to enquire. TB to take up.</p> |

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 4 December 2007 at 7.00pm in The Hive.

Members of the public are welcome to attend.