



Minutes of Meeting Held on Wednesday 13 September 2023 at 19:00hrs at CR Smith.

v1.01

Sederunt: (Present / Apologies / Unknown):

Community Councillors & Councillors:

C.Cllr Wilma Allday (Honorary President)	P	C.Cllr Gordon Harvey (Chairman)	P
C.Cllr Ian MacFarlane (Vice-Chairman)	A	C.Cllr Graeme Whyte (Secretary)	P
C.Cllr Ross Cassidy (Treasurer)	U	C.Cllr Keith Omond	P
C.Cllr Ruth Watson	P		
Cllr Auxi Barrera	A	Cllr Gavin Ellis	P
Cllr Gordon Pryde	P		

Others:

Norma Farquharson	P	Alex Allan	P
Derek Armitage	P		
PC Stewart Paton	A	PC Kirstie Colquhoun	A

Actions are recorded in a separate Tasks List available on our website.

1. **Welcome, apologies & conflicts of interest:** C.Cllr Gordon Harvey welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were recorded. Members were asked to declare any potential conflicts of interest either now or at the appropriate point in the meeting.
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**
 - a. **Approval.** The Minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed (v1.02). They were proposed by C.Cllr Wilma Allday and seconded by C.Cllr Ruth Watson.
 - b. **Matters arising, not on the agenda.** The Chairman covered the following points:
 - i. **Community Council Elections.** Seven nominations had been received by Fife Council, so this CC will reform. A number of key CCs have folded, including Kingseat.
 - ii. **QMF Waste Bin.** Alex Allan reported that he had contacted Fife Council about the promised new bin at Queen Margaret Fould. Mr Allan recorded his thanks to Stevie Campbell of Fife Council Street Cleansing Department for his prompt action of installing the requested bin.
 - iii. **Bin Strategy.** C.Cllr Harvey emailed other CCs about the Bin Strategy. Touch & Garvock were the only one to respond. Cllr Pryde reported that the Council's new Waste Management Software system, called WhiteSpace, had cost £98,024 plus £26,999 per annum for annual maintenance. Council officials are convinced that WhiteSpace will pay dividends in terms of better performance and savings. Cllr Ellis agreed to initiate a review of the system in terms of value for money at the appropriate time.
 - iv. **Auxi response re flooding.** The information previously provided was considered adequate. C.Cllr Harvey thanked Cllr Barrera for her assistance.
3. **Police Report:**
 - a. **Monthly report.** The Secretary shared the Police Report kindly sent in by PC Stewart Paton.
 - b. Members of the public were reminded to report non-urgent Police matters to their local community police officers by email – police@bellyeomancc.org.uk.
4. **Officers' Reports:**
 - a. **Correspondence.** The Secretary reported that miscellaneous correspondence had been circulated to members.



- b. **Bank Balance.** The balance stood at £9,847.53 after payment of £118.08 for the annual Microsoft 365 annual subscription.

5. Planning:

- a. **Whitefields Development.** Cllr Ellis contacted Police Scotland (Inspector McGurk) about the standard of vehicle movements on and off the site. Police Scotland then attended the site to review operations. The grouting works are well under way and the Chairman had written to Taylor Wimpey about a week previously, enquiring about three issues which appeared to be at odds with the planning conditions. These were the lack of a wheel washing facility; the lack of capping on any pipes; and the lack of any acoustic barriers at Glenalmond or the northern edge of Queen Margaret Fault. Additionally, the Chairman had asked what noise reviews had been carried out. To date the Chairman was still awaiting a reply from Taylor Wimpey.
- b. **Northern Link Road (NLR).** There had been no further activity from a planning perspective, but the Chairman had been advised by Taylor Wimpey that the replacement road for the northern part of Whitefield Road which would lead from Kingseat Road to approximately Robertson Road, was likely to be available for use in 2025. However, traffic from Kingseat Road to the Halbeath Retail Park junction would not be able to use the Northern Link Road until 2027-2030 at the earliest. The Chairman advised that since these roads were to be funded from the sale of houses, the downturn in house sales could potentially delay these dates. Discussion ensued on the lack of information from Fife Council on such a strategic item of infrastructure.

6. Public Services:

- a. **Green Area Issues.** Discussion ensued about a number of green area issues. The Community Woodland project would be kick started again. The Secretary was asked to liaise with FC's Stephen Duffy on a number of issues, to assist with moving them forward.
- b. **Speed limits & Crossing points on Whitefield Road at Hospital.** At a previous meeting Cllr Pryde had been requested to set up a meeting with the transportation official (Lesley Craig) who had decided not to reduce the speed limit over the whole length of Whitefield Road. Ms Craig had asked that the meeting be via Microsoft Teams, that she be accompanied by colleagues, and that the meeting be expanded to cover the Northern Link Road. Whilst the meeting saw merit in all of these suggestions, there was concern that the 30mph issue might get lost in the wider discussion. Cllr Pryde was asked to make the necessary arrangements whilst ensuring the agenda allowed time for both subjects to be fully discussed.
- c. **Core Path (Bellyeoman – Townhill).** C.Cllr Whyte agreed to contact Stephen Duffy on this matter and copy the email to Cllr Ellis.
- d. **Unkempt 'Factored' Areas (ongoing since September 2002).** The Chairman and Vice Chairman had met the local MSP (*Shirley-Anne Somerville*) to seek the Scottish Government's introduction of a mechanism to require Councils to enforce householders' title deed conditions in relation to the maintenance of common areas. C.Cllrs Harvey & MacFarlane had been encouraged by the meeting and the agreement of the MSP that she would write to the housing minister raising the issue with him. Cllr Pryde reported he had spoken with a Council official who was looking at the Queensgate common area maintenance issue, and that she had advised him that she was going to "start from scratch" in consideration of the issue.
- e. **Alderston Playpark fence and gate.** Cllr Pryde reported that there was no update on this matter at the moment and that he planned to catch up with Council Officers on this issue.



- f. **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community - James Allan Centre.** Cllr Pryde reported that a consultation event will take place in October on the use of the centre and play park facilities.
- g. **B912: Whitefield Road to Kingseat, flooding & bushes; Potholes at Lassodie.** No update from Cllr Barrera at this stage.

7. Environment:

- a. **Alderston Drive seepage issue.** Cllr Pryde has requested archived planning documents for the area, and he hoped to receive them next week.

8. AOCB

- a. **Rats.** There are reports of rats being seen in gardens of properties neighbouring the Whitefield Grouting area. The issue may also be related to the habitat of garden decking. Further observation and investigation will be carried out by residents and reported back. Cllr Pryde reminded everyone that the Council have a service to help with eradication of pests.
- b. **Electoral Reform.** C.Cllr Harvey will draft a response to the survey on electoral reform and circulate to members. ER are holding a public meeting, details available upon request.
- c. **CoOp Grounds.** C.Cllr Allday reported that workmen have been in attendance working on the shrubs in the CoOp grounds that were problematic.

- 9. **Date and Time of Next Meeting:** C.Cllr Gordon Harvey thanked everyone for their attendance and intimated that the next meeting of the Community Council would be the Inaugural Meeting of the new Community Council and was scheduled for **Wednesday 25 October 2023 at 19:00hrs in the CR Smith Boardroom.**

It was noted that there had been no potential conflicts of interest intimated, and with there being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:30hrs.