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Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council

Agenda - February 2001

There will be a meeting of the community council at 7pm Monday 4th February in the Burgh Chambers of the Town Hall. There will be a short break at about 8pm when the 200 Club draw will be taken.

1. Attendance

Apologies: Archie Strachan, Marcus Booth, Ken Crichton

2. Minutes of January 2001

(read for accuracy in matters of substance - harangue the secretary for minor (spelling etc) errors outwith the meeting)

3. Presentations

(For anyone wishing to address the meeting on a matter relevant to St Andrews. Please contact the Secretary or Chair before the meeting. Priority will be given to those who have been invited to speak or have given advance notice)

3.1. Community Policing

3.2. St Andrews Families Project

George Baird to speak

4. Fife Councillors

4.1. Frances Melville (West)

4.2. Jane Hunter-Blair (Central)

4.3. Sheila Hill (South)

4.4. Jane Ann Liston (South-East)

5. Matters Arising from previous meetings

5.1. Scenic Map

The map was unveiled by Jane Hunter-Blair on 25th Jan with press coverage.

But, inevitably not everyone is pleased. See Appendix A

5.2. Young Citizen 2000

Young Citizen 2000: Kim Scott

Commended: Paul Smith

Citations - Appendix B

As Kim Scott who has been awarded the Young St Andrews Citizen of the Year Award for 2000 is leaving for Belize shortly to take part in a rural development project and is not available to attend the Community Council meeting on the 5th February 2001 it has been necessary to arrange the presentation of the awards to take place on Monday 29th January.

The Chair and the three Vice Chairs have been consulted and have approved this arrangement for the 2000 award.

Archie Strachan

5.3. Bandstand Concerts

A grant has recently been received from the Common Good Fund to fund the 2001 series of bandstand concerts at the Bow Butts during June, July and August 2001. I will therefore shortly be making bookings for this series of concerts.

Please note, however, that my plea for some help on Sundays during the summer remains unanswered!

Archie Strachan

5.3. Meeting with Iain Smith MSP

22/1/01. Attended by Archie Strachan, Murdo Macdonald, Frank Riddell, Pete Lindsay.

Iain Smith was updated on the issues raised in September (3.2). Most points were just noted as being watched or showing some progress which wouldn't benefit from his intervention at the moment. He believes the future of community councils to be safe as a result of Kerley report. We emphasised our support for a hospital despite misgivings about the health board's preferred site and the state of the planning system. He expects a national review of the planning sometime in the next 2-3 years.

He would be interested in knowing if the problems with control of common good funds is wider than Fife, which would make it of general interest to Holyrood as a national problem. Pete Lindsay to follow up with ASCC. [PL]

5.4. GNER Services in Scotland

(Nov 5.4, Dec 5.4.3, Jan 5.3) Response from the Strategic Rail Authority - appendix C

Does community council wish to take any further action on this matter?

5.5. Locality Roads Meeting

25/1/01 Attended by Murdo Macdonald, Chris Lesurf, Pete Lindsay.

Very useful information, though depressing - no major work in St Andrews likely this year. Next if we're lucky. Roads have a budget of £7m with identified required work of £37m... Information given on how work is prioritised - local opinion, while not an overwhelming factor, does tip the balance between close matched alternative schemes. Suggested that Pothole Watch could be more formalised/enhanced if the subject is of high priority to community council. [PL]

Murdo Macdonald is to try to arrange more meetings on this with Roads Service

5.6. Repairs to the Kinkell Brae path

Kate Hughes, Locality Manager, writes:

"Local office Network and Community Services have managed to secure funding to upgrade the path from East Sands leading up to Kinkell caravan park. The work will be started as soon as possible and will be completed in this financial year."

5.7. Locality Plan

Kate Hughes writes further "Please make my apologies to the Community Council for the delay in getting back to you [on the locality plan (Sep 3.3)] and inform them that as soon as the working group have decided on the format of the Locality Plans I will contact you."

[there are rumours of March - PL]

5.8. Kingask Liaison committee

Chris Young was our rep...

Can anyone take over the position?

5.9. Elections

Fife Council Law & Admin write to ask - in view of the potential general election in *our* scheduled month, May - what dates of 20/27 Sep, 4/11 Oct we might prefer for our elections

Does community council have an opinion?

Other matters arising...

6. New Business

6.1. CCTV

Murdo Macdonald to speak

6.2. Queens Gardens & Terrace Residents Assoc

have copied to us a letter to Cllr Jane Hunter-Blair concerning a proposed pedestrianisation of South St - based on recent press discussion, they say. They do not seem to be against such an idea (if it has been floated) as such, but would hope that a traffic management plan would be devised to reduce/prevent an increase of traffic in their streets. They ask for advice on the on ensuring the view of permanent residents of the town centre are taken into account.

6.3. Forthcoming Westminster Election

Kris Murray Browne, SNP prospective candidate, would be willing to come to speak to us/answer questions.

What does council wish to do?

(and what about the other parties)

7. Reports from Officers

7.1. Chair

7.2. Treasurer

7.3. Secretary

8. Committees

8.1. Planning

8.2. Recreation

8.3. Millennium

8.4. Publicity

9 AOCB

If members intend to raise items under AOCB please let the Secretary or Chair know before the meeting. Remember, unless it is urgent, placing items on the agenda for next month's New Business would be more effective...

Appendix A - Correspondence on the Scenic Map

1. From the Chairman of the Friends of the Botanic Gardens

Scenic map of St Andrews attractions: South Street, St Andrews

I am appalled and dismayed by significant omissions from the above map, and would like to be told how inclusion of non-commercial attractions was determined. Who approved the list and design? Of particular concern to me is the absence of any mention of St Andrews Botanic Garden. Despite being partially illustrated (and therefore within the Map area), it is not named. No directions to it are given and no reference is made to it anywhere on the Map itself or on the side panels where attractions are listed and described.

We have a public Garden here of international repute. Many come to St Andrews specifically to visit it. Beautifully landscaped, with a huge collection of plants, both outdoors and in extensive glass-houses, it gives pleasure and interest all year round. Gardens are a major tourist attraction nowadays. Yet, on the Map, it is ignored. Why? Is there a reasonable explanation? Can you guarantee that the omission will be rectified, if not immediately, as soon as possible?

I have sent a hard copy of this e-mail, with which a leaflet about the garden (widely distributed) is enclosed. An informative web site can be found at www.st-and.ac.uk/standrews/botanic

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Edith Cormack

Chairman, Friends of St Andrews Botanic Garden

Home address: 58 Buchanan Gardens

St Andrews KY16 9LX

Telephone: 01334 476970

2. Secretary's Response

... The Scenic Map is the property and responsibility of Scenic Maps Limited. They did consult the community council for advice on the contents of the map, but they had the final say on content, not us. I'm fairly sure that we did raise the naming of the Botanic Gardens at the last review meeting in December, and certainly advised that that map should be large enough to include them, for the reasons you give, in the initial design.

3. From Chairman of the Friends of the Botanic Gardens

re Scenic Maps - St Andrews Botanic Garden

I have received Mr Rattray's e-mail reply to my letter. It explains many things. I hope you have received a copy.

I have spoken to Alistair Barnard, of Fife Council, and have copies of the correspondence between him and Mr Rattray, which includes quotations for the inclusion of Craigtoun Country Park and St Andrews Botanic Garden in the Scenic Map package. I now appreciate Fife Council staff reluctance to be involved in this commercial enterprise.

This leaves St Andrews with a conspicuous information board carrying an incomplete and misleading map of the town's attractions, with a number of significant landmarks missing. This will be compounded by the distribution of 33,000 Scenic Guides 2001, also containing the map, and internet publicity.

As a tourist, I would be extremely frustrated by the information NOT included in the Map.

As a tax-payer I am saddened to discover that attractions maintained by Local Authority are not automatically indicated, whether an entry fee is charged or not.

As a resident, I believe that the Community Council's decision to be seen to be involved with this highly commercial enterprise was extremely unwise, and its advisory role incompetently carried out.

Edith Cormack

Chairman, Friends of the Botanic Garden

4. Secretary's Response

We have received a copy of the reply to you from Scenic Maps.

I hope you would agree that having got the map it is in the best interest of all, tourist or taxpayer, to ensure it is as correct as a pictorial map can be. Might I ask that you detail the inaccuracies and significant missing landmarks to Scenic Maps that they might consider them for corrections. We would be interested in a copy of the list too so that we can also raise them with Scenic Maps and to see what we missed.

One omission you did note on when we discussed this on the phone was the St Andrews Museum in Kinburn Park. Mr Rattray of Scenic Maps tells me that this was omitted at the specific request of the museum even though they were offered a free advert.

[Discussions between Dr Cormac and Scenic Maps appear to be continuing - PL]

Appendix B - Young St Andrews Citizen of the Year Award 2000

Young St Andrews Citizen of the Year: Kim Scott

Kim was President of the Madras College INTERACT Club during session 1999-2000. In this capacity she has shown a great deal of organisational and leadership skill in encouraging pupils to participate in INTERACT activities, especially fund-raising. As a result of Kim's application and enthusiasm a considerable sum of money was donated to the Macmillan Cancer Relief Charity local branch and further donations have since followed along the path pioneered by Kim.

Several pupils at the school have also benefited from Kim's enthusiasm in that they were helped in several ways to pursue various activities abroad, working in different developing countries in health and education projects and so projecting the good name of St Andrews overseas. Kim is herself leaving for Belize shortly to take part in a rural development project.

At the moment she helps in the evening with the Community Use activities at Madras College Kilrymont Road, again in a voluntary capacity.

Kim has been nominated for the award by her school for her enthusiasm, energy and ability to motivate her peers to involve themselves in a variety of activities from which the community as a whole has benefited considerably.

Commendation: Paul Smith

Paul has been nominated by the staff of Rymouth House which is a residence for adults with learning difficulties. During 2000 he has been visiting Rymouth in a voluntary capacity helping and befriending residents. He has readily participated in such diversity of activities as taking residents for walks, helping them with hobbies and pastimes and small domestic chores. His caring attitude for people less fortunate than himself has been much appreciated by both the residents and staff.

Archie Strachan

Appendix C - Recent withdrawal of GNER service in Scotland

Thank you for your e-mail addressed to Jo Phelan of 5th January 2001.

GNER's decision to temporarily suspend its service between Edinburgh and Aberdeen was not taken lightly. The reason for it was that the East Coast Main Line was suffering from the effects of over 200 Emergency Speed Restrictions as a result of the Hatfield derailment. The route also suffered the effects of severe weather conditions including the complete blockage of the line between York and Doncaster caused by a landslip.

This produced extended journey times and meant that GNER was not able to offer its normal service frequency because of constraints on the number of hours which train drivers could work and to ensure that trains were in the correct place to ensure as robust a service as possible in what were exceptionally difficult circumstances.

In mitigation for the suspension of the service, GNER operated a shuttle bus service between Aberdeen and Edinburgh in the paths of the cancelled trains. As soon as GNER was able to do so, the service to

Aberdeen was restored.

In respect of the Franchise Agreement, our requirement is that the TOC use reasonable endeavours to run the timetabled service. We are very concerned that TOCs' do everything in their power to avoid cancellation of services but given the severe extent of the disruption following the Hatfield tragedy, it is our view that GNER acted reasonably and within the terms of the Franchise Agreement for reasons set out above.

Yours sincerely,

Gill Moore

Franchise Administrator

Appendix D - Correspondence

Date	in	Who	Subject	
11/01/01	I	Fife Health Board	'Right for Fife' consultation doc	jp/hew
12/01/01	I	LFCC	Newsletter & Fife Community Care Plan	jp/hew
12/01/01	I	Fife Health Board	Our National Health roadshow	jp/hew
15/01/01	i	Community Services	Celebrating Fife new ownership	f
19/01/01	i	East Local Services ctte	Agenda 24/01/01	f
20/01/01	i	SNP	Prospective candidate	f
20/01/01	i	Planning Service	Bus Station barrier	f
20/01/01	i	Human Rights Law Consultancy	Mobile phones, masts & human rights - conference	f
22/01/01	I	Lauder College & Fife Council	Funding Seminars	F
22/01/01	i	Home Safety Forum	Agenda 5th Feb	f
23/01/01	i	Orange	Exhibition in Glenrothes 2/2/01	f
23/01/01	i	Mr Christie	Heritage info	f
24/01/01	i	Community Services	Copy of memo re Town Hall display	f
26/01/01	I	Law & Admin	CC Elections 2001	f
26/01/01	I	Fife Partnership Group	Role of the Voluntary Sector confr	f
26/01/01	i	Fife Health Board	Right to Fife consultation finfo	jp/hew
28/01/01	io	Friends of the Botanics	Scenic Map	
29/01/01	i	Entrust	Project application form	f
28/01/01	o	Scenic maps	Friends ot Botanics	
29/01/01	i	Scenic maps	Friends ot Botanics	f
29/01/01	io	Sheila Hill	Scenic Map	
31/01/01	i o	Friends ot Botanics	Scenic Map II	
30/01/01	i	Strategic Rail Authority	GNER in Scotland	f
01/02/01	i	Fife Millennium Cycleways Proj	Cycleclips Magazine - Winter 2000	f
01/02/01	i	Planning Service	Finalised Fife Structure Plan	f
01/02/01	i	Queen's Garden & Terrace Residents Assoc	Proposed pedestrianisation South St.	ig/plan

St Andrews Pothole Watch

List: Potholes (40mm/1.5in) in the road, damaged pavements (20mm/.75in), missing or damaged toby covers, blocked drains, floods, defective streetlights etc.

Identify the location (Street and number on closest house or streetlight for instance).

Hand to Cllr Jane Ann Liston or to Fife Roads Service.

Defect & Location