

Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council

Provisional Minutes – June 2018

0. Members

1. Attendance

Community Councillors

Callum MacLeod, Ian Goudie, John Jardine, Penny Uprichard, Iain Munn, Greg Newman, Patrick Marks, Jamie McLeod, Penelope Fraser, Howard Greenwell, Izzy Corbin, Judith Harding, Neil Cunningham-Dobson

Students' Association Representatives

Lewis Wood
Kimberley Braid
Paloma ?

Co-Opted

Emma Shay
Lindsey Adam

Fife Councillors

Brian Thomson,

Apologies – Dita Stanis-Traken, Niall Scott, Dominic Nolan, Alistair Newton, Ann Verner, Jane Ann Liston, Morgan Morris

2. Minutes of Meeting – 30th April 2018

Mr Greenwell said that on his item on the Town Entry signs 6.1 on line 10 that it was the full Community Council not the Signs Committee which discarded Dr Shepherd's saltire idea.

Mr Greenwell added that he had also given an update on the co-ordination with the Loches Alliance and he'd reminded the meeting how to review previous decisions of the Community Council. He wanted both of the items included for the 30th April minutes.

3. Presentations

3.1. Community Engagement Presentation – Sheena Watson, Fife Communities Directorate

Mrs Watson told the meeting that he was present to tell the CC about Community Engagement following the passing of legislation by the Scottish Government in the form of the Community Empowerment Act 2015. She said that this Act gave CCs their place in local democracy and strengthened the role of CCs. She showed some power point slides from a recent Crail Community Trust presentation of their work known as a charette. She added that part of the reason for her attendance was to make certain that the CC knew that she and her team were around and available to give such support as they were able. While she recognised that the CC did engage in various ways with the community she felt that her presentation would show ways in which more support could be obtained when setting up activities. She commented from the slides on the activities a CC such as St Andrews worked with the public. One less familiar area was Participatory Budgeting which she explained was where public money was ring fenced and available for certain types of activities such as social isolation in a local community. The community could decide how this should be spent. She acknowledged

that this hadn't been used much in North-East Fife except recently in Cupar and the amount available was a relatively small amount on an annual basis of around £15000.

She then went on to look in more detail about the idea of a charette of which one had recently taken recently place in Crail and also in Falkland. She described charettes as opportunities to bring a whole town or village together to think and discuss about what they wanted to plan for the future. She added that there would be funding assistance for a charette from the Scottish Government later in the year should St Andrews decide to hold one. She described in more detail the event, which had taken place in Falkland set up as a weeklong presentation. This started by highlighting two major local concerns but gradually extended into other areas. She also gave more detail about what had taken place in Crail. Crail had hosted a first day charette then leafleted all the houses in the village with some questions and had engaged an architect company to do much of the organisational work such as the leaflets etc. An event was organised where people were involved in discussions and workshops.

Mrs Harding asked when once a community had identified what it needed what kind of money was available to try and work on the needs identified? Mrs Watson in reply said that a lot of charettes were usually like arms length organisations and had worked with community development trusts or had set up another organisation to take projects forward. Mr McLeod asked Mrs Watson whether it was members of the public who were driving the charette by bringing up local concerns and asking relevant questions rather than already established groups? Mrs Watson felt it was a collaborative process with a potential bonus of helping the local population becomes more aware of the role of CCs etc. She thought that communities could help try and shape future developments. She added that the Council had to take note of the outcome of these events when looking at local needs.

Miss Uprichard asked how this plan would fit in with the major plans such as the Fifeplan and what weight it would have? Mrs Watson in reply said that the Fifeplan was an attempt to declutter and simplify.

Dr Goudie started by commenting that Mrs Watson's team were batting on a very difficult wicket in St. Andrews. He reminded her of past major consultations such as the development plan in which hundreds of local people had written only it seems to be ignored. Mrs Watson acknowledged the frustration in such areas and said that her team didn't try to raise the hopes of local people unrealistically when community engagement took place. She recognised that community engagement was a challenge but there could still be positive outcomes. She reminded the CC that the Community Empowerment Act was putting CCs at the heart of things in the local community.

Dr Shepherd then spoke and made suggestions about what the CC could do in this area of community engagement. He said that the aim was effective community engagement and the objective was to temporarily occupy premises from time to time in the town centre for the principal purpose of community engagement. The Mission Statement would be to start and set up a small but effective community engagement hub to ensure that the CC was better informed and able to represent the wishes of local people. The mission statement was also to set exemplar standards of community engagement in the local community by means such as setting up temporary resource centres where necessary where CCs could interact with local citizens. Any longer term centre set up would also act as a resource centre for local activities where necessary or appropriate. He thought that this could be in the town hall. The management of the centre would be under the auspices of a new committee of the CC with its services advertised locally through various means from social media to local newspaper adverts.

Mrs Harding asked Dr Shepherd if he had a time frame for getting things going? Dr Shepherd in his reply indicated that he and Mr Newton had had a couple of initial meetings with Fife Council officials who he thought were supportive of the plans. Dr Shepherd commented that St. Andrews did struggle to help its less fortunate citizens citing a figure of 18% child poverty in the town and only 15% in Cupar.

Miss Uprichard was sceptical about the engagement proposed by Dr Shepherd was actual community engagement between the CC and local people. She thought that the CC didn't

have the finances to carry out things by itself. She concluded that the whole exercise as set up through Fife Council based on the Scottish Parliament legislation was just something the CC was being asked to comment on without any concrete outcome. Dr Shepherd in reply said that he was hoping for something more than that and that the community could get together and by dint of numbers etc that the community would get more power, which he thought the legislation was all about. He concluded that the community needed to get in early to avoid “missing the boat”.

Mrs Fraser wondered why Dr Shepherd was suggesting that the meeting would take place in the centre of town? She thought that it would be better to have the meeting at the edge of town where most people who might benefit from this idea live. Dr Shepherd acknowledged that this might be a good idea. He was hoping that the CC would support his idea and set up a committee to take forward the ideas he'd presented.

Mr McLeod asked the meeting if there was agreement that a new committee could be set up, called Community Engagement? Mr McLeod reminded the meeting that the CC had the ability to invite non-CC members to join a committee if it was appropriate in terms of expertise etc. Interested parties to make Dr Shepherd aware of their interest in participating in the committee. There was general agreement to set up the committee. Dr Goudie reminded the meeting that in terms of interacting with people and giving people information that the responses being given are representative of the people giving the responses and probably no wider group. The danger with this Dr Goudie added and the danger in the 2009 Scottish Government paper on Good Practice Guidance for local authorities and Community Councils was in taking responses on social media for instance as the view of the whole community, whereas he thought that was most unlikely to be the case. He cited as an example the Madras Pipeland situation as a cautionary tale of how things could go wrong causing divisions within a community. He reminded the meeting of the demographic of the responses on social media to that situation and how it wasn't necessarily typical of the whole community with parents with children being heavily represented despite being only 10% of the local population. He also added that in respect to views on planning people could change their views over time after an initial euphoria to a more sober assessment of the plans and their actual impact. He hoped that Dr Shepherd and his committee would be mindful of the need to take this into account as their work progresses.

Mr McLeod thanked Mrs Watson for her presentation.

3.2. Bins Update – Martin Kingham - Service Manager for Waste Operations

Mr Kingham explained that since the last meeting his staff have worked hard to try and improve the situation in a range of ways. He started with household waste and said that recycling advisors visits to HMOs and other domestic householders had doubled to twice a week. They were visiting problem households that had issues with their presentation of waste. They were also identifying bins surplus to requirements such as bins obtained by householders on sack collections, as those households did not have storage facilities to take their bins off the street. Such bins will be taken away and bags issued with the hope householders learn to use them appropriately. He hoped that his service would see an improvement in the management of domestic bins in the town centre by providing students etc with more information. His team are also working with St Andrews University Environment team to put together a comprehensive letter to go out to students by email on the issues of proper waste management and recycling to go out at the start of the next semester.

In relation to commercial waste Mr Kingham informed the meeting that his two Environmental Health Enforcement Officer colleagues of the Food and Workplace Safety Team, Vicky and Andy who had been at the December meeting, had been spending a lot of time in the St Andrews area. He said that they were about half way through visiting the 300 or so businesses identified as producing commercial waste. They had been giving advice on legal responsibilities, recycling etc via visits and follow up letters. A website has been promoted as well on the issues. They have also produced a bin sticker to identify the ownership of containers. They have also been arranging for the uplift of bins they'd identified as abandoned. To date some 20 abandoned bins had been uplifted from the town centre.

His department have recognised that something more will need to be done to enforce better bin presentation in the longer term and be affordable within his department's resources. They had taken on board the suggestion at a recent CC meeting and were looking at schemes running in Edinburgh, Glasgow and most recently Inverness. This basically relates to set times for bins to be out and taken off the street after being emptied. He recognised that there was a need to be a certain amount of public engagement to sell the scheme to businesses and operators and ensure a successful change in bin management. That process will take until at least the end of August to complete. He reminded the meeting about the value of having members of the public reporting inappropriate bin management, as his staff would not be able to give the same level of attention as they have been indefinitely as they cover the whole of Fife.

Mr Newman noted the issue about the reduction in the presence in the longer term of Fife Council staff monitoring the behaviour of bin users and wondered how the CC could assist? Mr Kingham replied that the CC could choose whatever way it liked if it felt a need to monitor the situation. He also added that Fife Council might also encourage street cleaners to note any issues and report to his department for possible action. Miss Uprichard thought that the impact of the visitor numbers to St Andrews should be taken into account when deciding how to deploy staff.

Mrs Harding wondered about the systems in relation to bin management outside the town centre? Mr Kingham said that there were policies and these were available on the Fife Direct website in relation to overflowing bins or fly tipping beside bins. Mr Kingham added that bin collection crews were equipped with ipads to photograph any problem bins and report them to Fife Council Contact Centre for possible action.

Mr Cunningham-Dobson asked if Fife Council was still taking landfill from other Councils and was Fife exporting material for landfill as well? Mr Kingham said he wasn't aware of that practice, as he wasn't involved with the disposal side of waste management. He offered to find out what was happening. Mr Cunningham-Dobson also commented that the town he thought would be dirtier if it wasn't for the Clean and Green team and whilst he recognised the financial constraints in Fife Council he wondered if there was a case for more funding for this team and heavier fines for poor waste management by businesses? He thought that there was often a strong smell of rotting food when the businesses had their food waste bins out for collection. Mr Kingham acknowledged that businesses had to separate their waste for disposal in the same way as householders. He then commented on the process of consulting the businesses and working with them to develop a system, which will work without any additional resources.

Mr Jardine asked Mr Kingham if he gave any lectures on the subject to schools? He commented on the habits of local school children creating some litter and encouraging seagulls as a consequence. He thought that there should be some education of pupils about the consequences of such behaviour. In relation to students managing their garbage in their flats Mr Jardine suggested that landlords should make the responsibilities of their tenants to properly dispose of their garbage part of their contract.

Mr Greenwell complimented Mr Kingham on his presentation and said he was pleased to hear about the bin stickers. Mr Greenwell asked how long it would take after the end of the consultation to have the proposed new authority to impose bin collection times in operation? Mr Kingham replied that the project timetable was laid out to allow the time for consultation, and then the next available committee they could take a paper to would be October. If approval were given Mr Kingham thought that implementation wouldn't be until January next year.

3.3. St Andrews in Bloom update

Barbara Boyd from St Andrews in Bloom gave an update on a couple of issues. One matter related to the carpet bed in St Andrews and the St Andrews in Bloom proposal for its future management. The carpet bed has until now been a Fife Council responsibility with no input from her group. However with cut backs Fife Council have decided to stop work on this display area. Issues around the funding of this area have developed in the past couple of years

and Barbara gave a brief account of the past two years when funding had to be sought from external sources willing to spend several thousand pounds on sponsorship. This year funding has dried up with past funders not willing or able to continue. The cost is in the range of £6500. Barbara's group don't feel the bed is value for money. Her group have discussed what could happen and have come up with a possible solution, which will change the bed radically. They have proposed reducing the size of the bed and putting a St Andrews welcome sign within the midst of sustainable planting. The sign would have the town crest if possible. The cost for the project including the sign is estimated to be about £2000. They would apply to the Common Good Fund for this one off project and were seeking approval from the CC. The sign she added would be raised 10 cms from the ground and would be aluminium coated and 3 x 2 m. Mr McLeod asked members if they were happy with the proposal. There was general consensus and Mr Greenwell added that the CC should indicate its approval of the CGF application for the project.

4. Fife Councillors.

4.1. Jane Ann Liston - apologies.

4.1.1. Whyte-Melville Fountain

Cllr Liston reported that after an encouraging switch-on on May Day, the water flow has once again diminished to a trickle and the water in the basin has turned green. Council officers have apparently attended, but she did not have details of any inspections and/or work carried out. She was asked by the Friends of the Fountain to ask for details of precisely what work was carried out in 2015 to see if we can work out what is going wrong.

4.1.2. Madras College – Meeting with Rector

Cllr Liston along with other elected members attended a meeting with the Rector, David McClure, to discuss pupils' attainment as there have been changes in the way it is measured. While Madras is holding up well, further cuts are required which are manageable in the short term but will require radical action to achieve should the same level be expected further down the line.

4.1.3. Government Obesity Initiative & School Pupils

Cllr Liston also took the opportunity to discuss with Mr McClure the matter of the new Government initiative on obesity in young people. She heartily support the aims of the Scottish Government in this but fear it does not go far enough. As may be recalled, she has long advocated keeping at least the youngest secondary pupils within the school grounds at lunchtime, and should the new building go ahead there may be an opportunity to make progress with this. It is also disappointing that the initiative does not appear to recognise that councils cannot restrict food vans from lurking outside the schools at lunchtime unless there are specific licensing grounds for doing so; a request from the Parent Council and/or the Rector, and promotion of healthy eating are not valid grounds for refusing or restricting a licence. It is a pity that the Scottish Government has not seen fit to provide councils with a mechanism to protect the young people in this way but perhaps they will in due course.

4.2. Dominic Nolan apologies

4.3. Brian Thomson

4.3.1. Madras School Meals

Following on Cllr Liston's comments on childhood obesity, Cllr Thomson reported that he'd checked out some statistics recently about the take up of school meals He'd found that there was only one school in Scotland with a lower take up of school meals than Madras college!

He acknowledged that the lunch facilities at the school were poor so it wasn't completely surprising that pupils opted to go to the shops. He thought that the situation might change when the school moved to its new site given the distance from any shops.

4.3.2. Cycle Racks

Cllr Thomson reported that the three cycle racks have all got permission and work may start in June.

4.3.3. West Port Light Problem

Cllr Thomson reported that one of the lights at the West Port was still out of action. He was trying to find out from the appropriate official when it would be fixed.

4.3.4. Lade braes

Cllr Thomson reported that the proposed upgrade of the Lade Braes due to start this calendar year was still not firmed up. At a meeting with officials Cllr Thomson thought they were dragging their feet or that there was a delay with the additional funding from Sustrans. He said that he and his fellow councillors asked officials to start work this calendar year even if the Sustrans funding hadn't appeared.

4.3.5. Station Park - Rugby and Hockey Posts

Cllr Thomson reported that the rugby and hockey posts at Station Park were in poor condition. He added that Fife Council had stopped maintaining them due to lack of budget. He'd approached officials to get a quote to get work done and thought that funds could be accessed for the work from other budgets. He'd also spoken to the president of the Madras Rugby Club to discuss getting them to fund paint and brushes for the work with the work then being done by Community Service. Mr McLeod suggested that the 200 Club could be approached to get a grant to buy paint and brushes.

4.3.6. Entrance Signs

Cllr Thomson reported on Fife Council's views and policies relating to road signage. He'd had a few queries from officers and he'd wanted to know what the Council's policy was in relations to road signs. He was told that there isn't a policy as such but signs have to be provided in accordance with current traffic regulations. In relation to permission to erect a sign Cllr Thomson reported that the only permission required was that of the Roads Authority. He also confirmed that Fife Council had no funding to pay for signs but he advised that other sources could be accessed such as the CGF or local planning budget.

4.3.7. Bogward Road Bus Shelter

Cllr Thomson reported he'd been having difficulty pinning down officials about the repair required for this shelter/stop. He'd eventually managed to speak to a Cllr Craik who is involved with transportation and the company supplying the replacement glass will be contacted. Mr Marks suggested that the whole shelter should be replaced as it is an older style and looks shabby compared to a newer shelter across the road and elsewhere in town. Cllr Thomson acknowledged that the department dealing with this was one of the worst performing he'd dealt with in the Council.

4.3.8. Buchanan Gardens – Car Parking Issue

Cllr Thomson reported that there was a problem in Buchanan Gardens of cars parking on the pavement. Part of the problem he thought was that some house owners had three cars and their driveways were unable to accommodate that number. Cllr Thomson had enquired about what could be done to discourage drivers parking this way but was informed that legally there was little the police could do on an unrestricted stretch of road other than make owners of cars aware of their irresponsible behaviour. Mrs Fraser commented that she'd checked out the situation in relation to Fife Council's response to this problem and had discovered that they'd not adopted a particular order, which would give authority to managing this problem. Cllr Thomson in reply said that he'd been advised that it wasn't illegal to park on a pavement but it was illegal to drive on one. He added that the Highway Code discouraged drivers from this practice especially if it was blocking the pavement to other users. Cllr Thomson also advised

that he believed the Scottish Parliament was looking at bringing in legislation to make parking on pavements illegal.

4.3.9. Woodburn Place

Cllr Thomson commented that he'd been contacted by Mr Marks about the poor condition of this stretch of road leading into the East Sands by the Gatty. Officers had inspected it and agreed to try and get it included for the work programme for the next financial year.

4.3.10. Temporary Footpaths by Gatty

Cllr Thomson had received concerns about the condition of the footpaths in front of the Gatty, which is undergoing a major development. He'd asked the university to look at the problem and thought they'd agreed to try and improve the path. On a related issue Mr Marks commented on a large hole on the path close to the nearby toilets a potential obstacle for

4.3.11. Old Road Signs

Mrs Fraser commented on the dirty and deteriorating state of some of the old road signs and wondered if the Council ever cleaned them? Cllr Thomson thought that the Council might replace damaged ones but he'd never known them to be washed by council staff. Mrs Fraser clarified that she was talking about the historical signs and Cllr Thomson agreed to raise the matter with Fife Council as those signs had some historical relevance. He wondered whether Mrs Fraser had particular signs in mind? Mrs Fraser replied that the ones out the Pitscottie Road from St Andrews were the worst but she added that it was all-relative!

4.3.12. Footpath Tarmac

Mr Marks had recently observed the replacement of concrete paving slabs with tarmac. He wondered about the Council rationale behind this work. He thought that slabs would have a longer life expectancy than tarmac despite possibly getting damaged and needing to be replaced occasionally. He also wondered what was happening to the old slabs? Cllr Thomson in reply said that he accepted that slabs were harder wearing but he thought they required more maintenance and could become trip hazards and that tarmac was viewed by the Council as cheaper to maintain. He thought the slabs were recycled but would check on what exactly happened.

4.3.13. Disabled Access to Town Hall

Mr McLeod asked about the plans to improve disabled access to the Town Hall, which at present is difficult. Cllr Thomson said he'd asked a while ago for costings to set up a push button entry for disabled wheelchair users etc but hadn't heard anything so was grateful for the reminder and would chase up the matter. He didn't think that cost should be very much.

4.3.14. Lack of Wi-Fi in Town Hall

Mr McLeod commented that there was no Wi-fi in the Town Hall and wondered if anything was going to happen. He'd also heard high prices quoted for setting up Wi-fi in the building and couldn't believe the costs he'd heard mentioned. Cllr Thomson agreed to look into it but thought that the costs could mount up given the nature of the building compared to Wifi in a house. Mr Greenwell who had a background in IT said he could price a relatively inexpensive way to get the Town Hall wired up for Internet access. He gave a brief explanation of what he thought might need to be done at a much cheaper price than that quoted.

4.4. Ann Verner

4.4.1. Problem of Birds bursting refuse sacks

Cllr Verner reported that she'd been contacted about birds bursting refuse sacks at the narrow end of Market Street and Castle Street. Cllr Verner emailed Fife Council to ask that seagull proof sacks be issued to residents affected.

4.4.2. Kinburn Museum Flag

Cllr Verner reported that she'd emailed Andy Macellan in April regarding the museum flag. The flag was replaced within a month.

4.4.3. Disposal of Fats/Oils Issue

Cllr Verner reported she was working with enforcement officers regarding disposal of used fats and oils.

5. Planning Committee

5.1. Committee Reports

5.1.1. Planning Room Meeting Place

Miss Uprichard reported that she'd spoken to Jane Kennedy the new BID manager about possible use of their office for planning committee meetings, as the Students association room will be unavailable until the next semester. Jane has agreed to let the committee use their office.

5.1.2. Planning Meetings in May

Miss Uprichard reported that the committee had two meetings in May and had objected to a couple of things. One of the objections related to plans to build a Care Home in Hepburn Gardens. Miss Uprichard won't be a signatory to the committee decision as she lives next to the site and will instead send in a personal objection to avoid a conflict of interest.

A committee request has been put into Fife Council asking for diagonal parking in Market Street on the basis that diagonal parking will be easier and less risky for motorists than the current right angled parking stances.

Miss Uprichard had also put in a letter on behalf of the committee about three developments near the West Port, which are problematic. The premises involved include the former Droothy Neebours pub now under a new name and ownership and the florist in the former Westwood Newsagent's premises.

Miss Uprichard then spoke about her concern about the numerous university developments taking place or planned and how there seemed to be no end to them. She recollected someone speaking to her around the year 2000 claiming that the university had little desire to support the needs of the town but was determined to grow at any cost. The numerous developments including the university's key role in the western development had made her feel her fears were being justified. She then mentioned the strategic agreement between the University and Fife Council set up around 2006 and renewed 2010 but abandoned in 2013 to be replaced by meetings 2/3 times a year in the University Court. She reminded the meeting that she'd previously circulated a list of 12 developments emanating from the University in recent years and the major impact these might have in some cases on the town.

6. Matters Arising

6.1. Reports from Representatives

6.1.1. Partnership Board

Mr Newman reported that for the past year he'd been the chair on the partnership Board but will retire from that task. He sought the meeting's agreement to resign completely from the board of the organisation as the CC rep as Mr Roberts he reminded the meeting was back on the Board. Mr McLeod said he'd contact Mr Roberts to check if he'd be willing to be the CC rep after Mr Newman had departed. Mr Newman indicated he still planned to attend two more meetings before ending his role.

6.1.2. Cathedral Lighting Group

Mr Dobson-Cunningham reported that the Cathedral Lighting Group was proceeding very well. A final bat survey was taking place and if this was satisfactory he thought the lights would be on by St Andrews Day or thereabouts. Costs have so far been less than anticipated.

6.2. Signs Project

Mr Greenwell reported that the signs project hadn't progressed as much as he'd have liked in the past month. He'd written to Fife Council about the signs project but hadn't had any reply

to date, but from Cllr Thomson's comments he understood why there hadn't been much response. He added that he'd follow up with local councillors and Mr Goodfellow the best locations for the signs. He had three applications for funding out with local organisations, namely the Community Trust, R&A and Preservation Trust and he's had acknowledgements from these organisations of receipt of his applications. He was also going to put in applications to the Pilgrim Trust and National Lottery but hadn't time before his holiday. He had received estimates from two companies for the signs and was awaiting the response of a third company.

Dr Shepherd in response claimed that the sign was destitute of any aesthetic value. He thought that St Andrews needed a sort of a brand and not just a carbon copy of the Loches sign. He acknowledged Mr Greenwell's work in relation to the applications for funding etc, but felt that the design of the sign was in his view miserable and awful. He didn't think the design was what St Andrews wanted and was thirty years out of date. He felt that the short life committee had been ignored and should be convened again to look at the way to get a proper aesthetically pleasing design. Mr Munn suggested that local people should have a say in the design of the sign but in his own view he felt that a simple design was more suitable and not something with a lot of other information which drivers wouldn't have time to register before they'd driven past. He felt that the ongoing debate and opposing views weren't productive.

Mr McLeod said that Mr Greenwell had contended that a decision had been made at a previous meeting about the sign. Mr Greenwell in reply said that in his recollection a decision had been made and the only dissenter was Dr Shepherd whom he felt disrespected all the other CC members who voted for the simple design of sign on a white background with Royal Borough and the crest. He thought that the sub committee had also informally agreed on a simple design. Mr McLeod informed Dr Shepherd that in order to change a CC decision he'd have to request to suspend standing orders to allow the CC to change its mind because any decision stands for 6 months without that process. Dr Shepherd in reply said he wasn't going down the formal route but he still felt that the town deserved a better sign than that proposed by Mr Greenwell. Miss Uprichard supported the idea of a simple sign in simple colours for the town. Mr McLeod thought that, as there was no challenge to Mr Greenwell's design the CC decision remained in place.

7. Committee Reports

7.1. Recreation Committee

Mr Jardine reported that there had been no formal meeting of the committee in the past month. He advised the meeting that plans to have the putting competition in June were not going ahead as he'd been unable to get use of the putting green. September will be the next possible month for the competition.

He also advised the meeting that Mr Roberts had purchased the PA system for the Bandstand Concerts.

He is still looking for a speaker for the Civic Reception.

7.2. GP Meeting

No meeting

7.3. 200 Club

June draw – 1st Mr C Blake 2nd Mrs Penelope Fraser 3rd Innes Methven

7.4. Health, Education and Welfare Committee

Mrs Corbin had attended a Fife Licensing Forum on 17th May as a member of the public.

7.5. Rail Committee

No report

8. New Business

8.1. Changes in Planning legislation

Mrs Fraser reported that there were proposed changes going through the Scottish Government in terms of planning legislation but the CC had missed the opportunity to comment in time. Other CCs had put in comments about the inequitable situation with regard to the ability of individuals to object to plans compared to developers who have the resources to make legal challenges. She had a link which she said was on the Scottish Parliament website which members could access.

9. Reports from Office Bearers

9.1. Chair

Mr McLeod reported on his activities in the past month. He had spoken at the meeting on the Out of Hours Service issues organised by Willie Rennie MSP in the town hall. A brief discussion took place with Dr Shepherd suggesting a possible way to put pressure on the Health Board Partnership. He mentioned that there was new legislation Health & Social Care (Adequate Staffing) Act that could possibly be used as a lever. Mr McLeod added that those attending were shocked that the offer by local GPs to be based locally for out of hours was rejected with the Partnership insisting that they would have to be based in Victoria Hospital for out of hours covering most of Fife.

On 16th May Mr McLeod attended a meeting of the Holy Trinity Action Group. On 3rd June he attended the launch of the Beach Wheelchair scheme. He planned to have Jerry Beaulier to attend the CC to update the meeting on the scheme.

On the 6th June Mr McLeod is attending the reception to launch the St Andrews Voices Festival and on 7th June he will attend a meeting of the Town Group. On the 18th June to mark the start of WW1 Centenary commemorations he will be attending a conference at the University.

9.2. Treasurer

15 cheques paid up to date and website with April and May accounts uploaded.

9.3. Membership Secretary

No business

9.4. Secretary

See agenda for emails/letters received - comments welcomed.

10. Any Other Competent Business

10.1. Thank you to departing Student President

Mr McLeod thanked Mr Lewis Wood for his contribution to the CC in the past year and thought he'd been a particularly active voice for the student body. Mr Wood thanked the CC and introduced his successor Paloma. He thanked the CC for allowing him to be involved and said he'd still be in town for a few years so would be happy to hear from the CC. He added that Paloma would be carrying the initiatives he'd been working on such as how to better community engagement. He acknowledged the difficulty in getting students educated into understanding the community they were entering, not just the university but also the local town and its residents. Paloma he said would be developing ways to deal with students when they arrive for the first time in areas like bin education and the specific needs of the community. He hoped that this might alleviate some of the issues in the town.

Paloma introduced herself and said she was looking forward to working with the CC over the coming year especially on issues as mentioned by Lewis.