

# Royal Burgh of St Andrews Community Council

## Monthly Meeting 2nd February, 1998 – Minutes

Approved [but incomplete]

### Present

Mr Macgregor (Chairman), Mrs Cassells, Mr Crichton, Mr Fraser, Mr Gray, Dr Goudie, Mr Lindsay, Mr D Macdonald, Mr M Macdonald, Mrs Mackenzie, Mr Muir, Mrs Murray, Dr Riddell, Mr Sangster, Mr Strachan, Mrs Tero. Student Representative Rebecca Mund-Soegoord and Councillors Cassells, Hill, Liston and Melville.

### 1. Apologies:

Mr Macmillan, Mr Risk, Mr Paterson and Student Representative Mr Corrigan.

At this point the Chairman indicated that he had received a letter of resignation, due to ill health, from Mrs Stewart-Meiklejohn – he had accepted her resignation with regret and commended her hard work for the Council over the years.

### Presentation of Award to Young St Andrews Citizen of the Year:

Mr Strachan introduced the winner of the Award Miss Anita Duncan detailing her work in connection with the Crime Prevention Panel, youth Discos and plans for the proposed Youth Café.

Miss Jill Webster, President of the University of St Andrews Students' Voluntary Service was presented with a Commendation Certificate and cheque in appreciation of the work the Students' Voluntary Service have given and continue to give to the community.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Strachan for all his work in connection with these awards.

### 2. Submissions from members of the public

Mr Gordon Christie gave a short talk to members of the Council on his historical researches.

### 3. Minutes of the Council Meeting of 5th January, 1998

In item 8(a), line 1 and line 3, the word 'owners' to be replaced with the word 'agents'. With these amendments the Minutes of the Meeting of 5th January were accepted.

### 4. Matters arising

#### (a) Cycle Paths

Dr Goudie said he would comment on this later.

#### (b) "Any Questions" Programme

A hall seating at least 250 people is required by the BBC. As it was proposed for the broadcast to be held during the St. Andrews Day celebrations there would be difficulty in obtaining the use of the Town Hall. There were proposals put forward as to the use of the Madras College Hall or one of the University Halls. The matter was passed to the Finance and General Purposes committee for further discussion.

#### 5 (d) Hall Bookings

A meeting on June 1st would be in order.

#### 4(d) Green Belt

This was still being discussed by Planning committee.

#### 5(g) Kate Kennedy Club

Mrs Tero proposed 'Joan the Fishwife'.

#### 6(a) St Andrews Day sub-Committee

Mr. Crichton advised that a sub-committee has been organised and that the sub-committee proposed to arrange a show of paintings under the title of "Images of St Andrews". probably in the Victory Memorial Upper Hall for 3 days. Mr Crichton had attended a St. Andrews Festival

Week meeting and noted the existence of "Seed Corn Grants". He would be attending another meeting at the end of February. Mr Gray advised that the Festival may be organised as a three day event rather than a week event.

### **Band Stand Concerts**

Mr Strachan still awaiting a reply.

## **8(a) Notice Board**

has been erected in the Mercat at a cost of £40 thanks to Mr D Macdonald's good offices and is in use. A request for an up-to-date list of Council members is requested.

## **5. Correspondence**

### **(a) Queen's Gardens and Queen's Terrace Residents' Association.**

We noted the concerns raised by the Association which we share. At this point the recycling strategy of Fife Council was questioned. Mr Cassells advised that Fife Council had no recycling strategy.

### **(b) Community Participation Seminar.**

It was noted that lunch will be provided.

### **(c) James Wilson's Anniversary.**

The proposal put forward by Mr Keith McCartney was agreed by the Council.

### **(d) Sustainability indicators for Fife**

Passed to Planning committee.

### **(e) Fife Racial Equality Council**

Statement by newly appointed official – Noted.

### **(f) St Andrews Street Fair Steering Group**

Meeting to be held in Local Office on Tuesday 10th March at 10am. Recreation & Leisure committee to nominate a member to attend.

### **(g) Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland**

Mr. Lindsay indicated that he would like to attend.

### **(h) Scottish Water & Sewerage Council**

Passed to Welfare committee.

### **(i) St Andrews Operatic Society.**

Publicity for their production of 'Oliver', placed on table.

### **(j) Jurek Putter**

has advised the council of his present project on St. Andrews Cathedral and gave details of the licence to use his work. Passed to the Finance & General Purposes committee to look into this.

### **(k) Loches**

Mrs Murray advised that the Alliance was now into an action phase and gave details of visits which have taken place and those that are being planned. An application for Charitable Status has been applied for and it is understood that this has been granted.

## **6. Matters raised by Committees**

### **(a) Youth Committee**

Mr Strachan's proposal that Mr Owen Greene, Chairman of the Youth Committee, be co-opted on to the Council was accepted. The Youth Committee were proposing to issue a questionnaire to gauge opinions of youth requirements. The next meeting would be held on 28th February and Mr Strachan would be attending.

### **(b) Planning**

(see separate sheet). 1, 2 and 3 for information.

4. A draft leaflet on the Transportation Study will be available at the local office. It was suggested that each household should receive a copy or that it should be made more fully available and at least more fully advertised. There is to be a four week consultation period on the Strategic Study, and an exhibition in the Supper Room from 30th March to 1st April.

5. Dr Goudie has queried the position of the John Knox (M. Mitchell) site but as yet has had no reply to his letters.

### **Green Belt**

The committee are firming up the position they are adopting and will then produce a leaflet of their own, distribution and production of which may be supported by Fife Council if an

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## **Report of the PLANNING COMMITTEE**

### **Meetings of 12.1.98, 19.1.98, 23.1.98 and 26.1.98 for the Community Council Meeting of 2 February 1998.**

#### **Planning Applications.**

**(i) Olivers, 116 Market Street.** Mr Crichton placed an objection to the proposed internally illuminated hanging sign, and to the materials proposed for the fascia.

**(ii) Bus shelters, Largo Road.** Shelters with internally illuminated advertising panels are proposed for both sides of the Largo Road near its junction with Broomfaulds Avenue. Mrs Murray wrote accepting that this would be useful provided the pavement is not obstructed. We are happy for the interiors of the shelters to be lit and for advertising to be displayed, but placed an objection to the use of internal illumination.

**(iii) Royal Bank, South Street.** Mr Crichton wrote to object to the materials used for the fascia and hanging sign.

#### **(iv) Ardgowan Hotel.**

Mr Crichton submitted an objection to the number and size of the proposed signs, as well as to the materials.

**2. Service Towers, Purdie Building, North Haugh.** Our meeting of 12.1.98 was attended by two representatives of the University and two members of the architectural firm involved in the project. We reaffirmed that we did not object to the application in principle, and indicated the changes, in design and finish, that we thought would render the application more acceptable to the local community. The application has since been refused permission by the Area Development Committee.

#### **3. Lawhead North.**

Bett Homes Limited has appealed to the Secretary of State against the refusal of their application for this site. Fife Council has indicated its preference is for the appeal to be determined by way of a public hearing.

**4. St Andrews Transportation Study.** A reply has been received to Mr Fraser's letter seeking clarification of the current situation. Mr Alan Bryan says that he hopes to be able to issue a small leaflet to explain the Transportation Plan to the public in the near future. The committee minute from 16 June 1997 and the indicative sketch enclosed with the letter confirm the decisions taken on the change to a one-way flow in Doubledykes Road, the extension of the area covered by parking charges, the proposed areas for the residents' parking scheme, the proposed park-and-ride route and the proposed areas for short-term environmental improvements. He indicates that, following the recent committee decision, further work is need to determine the Kingdom of Fife cycle route through the town.

#### **5. Strategic Study.**

(Interim Report – NOT FOR PUBLICATION) The meetings of 19.1.98 and 23.1.98 focussed primarily on considering how we should react to the three options proposed by Fife Council. The meeting of 26.1.98 was attended by Mr Bill Lindsay of the Planning Department, and we discussed with him how the Study might best be brought to the attention of the residents of the town. Although he does not believe the staff resources would be sufficient to permit participation by officials in a public meeting, he agreed to give consideration to a range of possibilities in addition to the staffed exhibition already planned. These included a door-to-door leaflet produced by Fife Council and possible funding, printing and distribution of a Community Council newsletter on the matter, provided that its content was deemed appropriate.

Although the Planning Committee has still to finalise its own position on the three options, the

Committee is broadly agreed that it cannot give full support to any of the three. Option 1 (No new land for development) is seen as unrealistic. Option 2 allows for expansion to the north-west of the town, but identifies considerably more housing land than we believe is necessary in the period to 2011. We are agreed that Option 3, which includes development of the southern hillside, would be an environmental disaster. The Committee is moving towards an Option 1.5, possibly supporting the use of some of the land identified in Option 2 (close to Strathtyrum), but seeking to conserve the important view of the town from the Strathkinness High Road. Such an option would be made viable by the use of more land in the Kinness valley, where we see housing as less environmentally damaging. During the meeting on 26.1.98 Mr Lindsay indicated that Fife Council were prepared to entertain options other than the three broad scenarios that they had sketched out.