



**DRAFT Minutes of Meeting Held on Wednesday 20 March 2024
at 19:00hrs at CR Smith.**

v1.03

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)	P	C.Cllr Graeme Whyte (Secretary)	P
C.Cllr Ruth Watson (Treasurer)	P	C.Cllr Ross Cassidy	A
C.Cllr Keith Omond	P		
Cllr Auxi Barrera	A	Cllr Gavin Ellis	A
Cllr Gordon Pryde	P		

Others:

Norma Farquharson	P	Alex Allan	P
Derek Armitage	P	Zoe Mayes	A
PC Stewart Paton	A	PC Kirstie Colquhoun	A
Bryce Goodall, Halbeath & Duloch CC	P	Peter O'Sullivan, Headwell CC	P
Aileen Farlam, Headwell CC	P	Archie Ferguson, SPEN	P

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

- 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.
- Minutes of Previous Meeting:**
 - Approval.** The Minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed (v1.02). They were proposed by C.Cllr Keith Omond and seconded by C.Cllr Ruth Watson.
 - Matters arising, not on the agenda.**
 - The Chairman noted that due to the absence of Cllr Ellis, there was no update on the Council's Waste Policy.
 - The Chairman also noted that the potholes in Robertson Road that Cllr Pryde had been chasing, were being worked on, but some very bad potholes appear to have been ignored or missed.
- Scottish Power Energy Networks – Townhill Road Presentation.** Archie Ferguson of Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) gave a full and interesting presentation on the forthcoming electrical mains work. Out of date electricity mains cables require upgrading to be fit for purpose for current and future demands on our electricity network. In some cases, parts of our network may be 60 years old and definitely requiring upgraded. Unfortunately, this will mean inevitable disruption whilst the works are carried out. SPEN have worked closely with Fife Council to try and minimise any disruption, such as tunnelling under Appin Crescent, rather than digging it up. The works will be from Townhill Power Station to Elgin Street. The section that is expected to have the most impact on residents and businesses within our Community Council area will be Townhill Road. SPEN plan to start work on 1 April 2024 and the work may carry on through until September 2024. While every effort will be taken to minimise disruption to the community, there will inevitably be delays at sections where temporary traffic lights will manage traffic flow. It is not envisaged that Townhill Road will be subject to a closure order, but there may be short periods of closure while plant moves in and out of work areas. Mr Ferguson has offered to be a liaison with the Community and Community Councils in his role as Planning Officer for these works. The information leaflets provided by SPEN will be uploaded to the CC website and our Facebook Page.



4. Police Report:

- a. **Monthly report.** No police report had been received.
- 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.

5. Officers' Reports:

- a. **Correspondence.** The Secretary reported that miscellaneous correspondence had been circulated to members.
- b. **Bank Balance.** It was presumed that the bank balance was £9,847.53 as there had been no income or expenditure. It was expected that the signatory transfer process would be completed ahead of the next meeting, subject to completion by the Bank of Scotland once forms had been submitted.
- c. **ICO Registration.** The Secretary raised the subject of ICO registration. Fife Council gives out mixed messages, sometimes suggesting that not all CCs may need to register, other times suggesting the opposite. Although the CC had previously investigated this issue to our satisfaction, the Secretary was tasked with double-checking the current status and requirements for our CC.

6. Planning:

a. Whitefields Development.

The two applications (infrastructure and housing) which the CC responded to previously with a statutory response had not been determined, and planners had written to the applicant requesting extra time, until mid-April 2024, to consider the applications. A new application for the installation of a sewer pipe down Whitefield Road had been submitted and the Chairman had submitted a request that the CC be a statutory consultee which had been agreed by the Council.

A draft response had been issued to Members and the meeting was shown a slightly revised version, which was agreed. In light of the information earlier in the meeting from SP Energy Networks, a further small change would be made, and the meeting agreed the change need not be referred back to the Members, given the need to submit the response within the Council timescale.

b. Northern Link Road (NLR).

A useful meeting had been held with Mr Treadwell and Mr Shand of Fife Council on the issue of planning for the NLR, which had also been attended by four other CCs at the invitation of BCC, to help the wider community understand what was being planned.

Amongst the issues discussed were the reasons for the NLR 'route' which the Council advised were to help discourage car use and to share traffic volumes with Halbeath Road rather than relocate it all to the NLR. The lack of any control at the southern Queen Margaret Fauld entry was raised, as was a concern that Whitefield Road and the north/south section of Kingseat Road would be used as shortcuts avoiding the longer route via the NLR. Concern was also expressed that the structure of the railway bridge approaches, and the lack of traffic signals at the southern exit of the NLR in Halbeath, would discourage use of the NLR. The Council would consider all of these views and would advise when the consultation for the NLR was imminent.



7. Public Services:

- a. **Green Area Issues.** An update on an earlier quote for the work had been sought, and a response was awaited from the West Fife Community Woodland Group. Concern was expressed that some of the work might no longer be possible in 2024 as the growing and nesting season would soon be underway. It was hoped that any update would address this issue. The Chairman had attended the Dunfermline Greenspace forum earlier in the day and had asked whether the Council's Communities' team could advise on other funding routes to allow a wider scope of work. An onsite meeting would be arranged to take this forward.
The Secretary was asked to liaise with Fife Council over the damage to the Lauriston Park and some other outstanding issues.
- b. **Speed limits & Crossing points on Whitefield Road at Hospital.** The 30mph signs were being changed over today and it was hoped this work would be completed the following day.
- c. **Core Path (Bellyeoman – Townhill).** Cllr Pryde reported that he understood that the Council would be laying hard core on the core path 'imminently'.
- d. **Unkempt 'Factored' Areas (ongoing since September 2002).** Cllr Pryde updated the meeting that the planning officer was now working with a legal colleague on this matter (QM Fauld factoring issue). There has been no update of feedback on the more general factoring issues.
- e. **James Allan Centre & playpark area consultation.** Cllr Pryde reported that the Ahmadiyya Community were awaiting the outcome of a full property survey before deciding any further action on this matter, from their perspective.
- f. **B912: Flooding.** In the absence of Cllr Barrera there was no update on this issue.

8. AOCB

- a. **Queen Margaret Fauld additional speed bump.** It was understood that this matter had been investigated and the Council were of the opinion that there was no current need for an additional speed bump. There was no update available on this matter in the absence of Cllr Ellis.
- b. **Parking restrictions in Buckburn Place.** It was understood that the Council would not add any parking restrictions in this area at the current time.
- c. **Provision of waste bin in Whitefield Rise.** There was no update available on this matter in the absence of Cllr Ellis.
- d. **State of fence around pylon opposite Buckyburn Place.** After some discussion, it was felt that the fence would be the joint or several responsibility of the residents.

9. **Date and Time of Next Meeting:** The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and intimated that the next meeting of the Community Council was scheduled for Wednesday 24 April 2024 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 20:50hrs.