

# DAIRSIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minute of meeting held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2006 at 7.30pm in Memorial Hall.**

**Present-** G Becher, E Woodcock, N Davis, S Hain, J Edwards, S Swinley, B Littlejohn, D May, Cllr P Douglas, Colin Gilbert (East Area Locality Manager) and 2 members of the public.

There were no apologies.

**Minutes-** These had been previously circulated and adopted as correct. Prop. D May. Sec N Davis.

## **Matters Arising-**

**Pedestrian Crossing-** This was to go ahead in May at Fife Council's preferred site between the 2 entrances of the garage.

**20mph limit and engineering works** would be going ahead in May.

**Letter to Chief Executive Fife Council.-** The Chairman had written this and also to Iain Smith MSP.

**Mr Hamilton's letter to Fife Council-** there had been no reply.

**Core Paths-** Jill Edwards had been delegated to progress this topic. She had had contacts with Alison Irvine and Muriel Dymock re rights of way and had a copy of a map marking rights of way and other paths. There was to be a meeting with Mr Wainwright of Todhall re the Middlefoodie path. Jill thought the general feeling of the village was that the Middlefoodie path was a right of way and should be well kept. Jill was to progress and collate information and also contact Lorraine Evans, Fife Council asking about reinstating the Foodie footpath. Also ask Mrs Tomlinson the local Herald correspondent to make a general plea for comments about rights of way. The aim was to establish official ground and path maintenance with a possible compromise and also query if funding was available for the farmer.

**Best Kept Village.-** Mrs Birtwhistle the Acting Head at Dairsie Primary School had encouraged the School Gardening Club. The former Head had now returned and it was decided to allow her time to settle in.

The Secretary and Treasurer of the Community Council had attended a seminar in Cupar re Villages in Bloom. The deadline for applications for funding for 2007 is November.

Mrs Tomlinson would be asked to mention this in the Dairsie News that the Community Council would like to gauge opinion and is looking for people interested in being part of a sub committee to progress this initiative for 2007, keeping it simple and bearing in mind the Open will take place in St Andrews next year.

**School Warning Light**- still flashing after several contacts with Fife Council. Query whether this sign will be removed when the 20 zones are activated.

**Welcome Leaflet** – George Becher to ask Andrew Stevenson re sub committee. Colin Gilbert, Locality Manager, offered to fund one leaflet a year from the Locality Budget.

**Councillor's Report**- Cllr Douglas informed the meeting that there had been 1300 pages of submissions dominated by housing figures, low cost housing and education. There had been 562 responses from the Dairsie area. Councillors had turned down the Structure Plan in the Environment and Development Committee with a wafer thin majority. The next round was that it needed to be ratified by the full council. The quality of responses was by and large good with serious thought and shrewd comments.

There would be elections in May 2007. Cllr Douglas would be standing down. Dairsie would be part of Cupar Ward. The Labour administration would have less seats and there would probably be a coalition. It would also be difficult for Councillors to attend more Community Councils. Cllr Douglas listed all the paperwork and committees he attended, a fraction being Licensing Court, Children's Panel, Community Councils, Prison Visiting, Common Good Committee, Community Safety Committee, Environment and Development Committee and many more.

**Treasurer's Report**- David may reported that the accounts were completed but still had to be audited. New regulations meant that Fife Council now required copies of bank statements. The auditor had to sign these and give name, address and contact details.

Current Account £10.98    Savings Account £302.14

Awaiting grant of £317.54

There was a discussion about the Response from the Community Council re the Role of Community Councils. There was a query about the grant and cost of an auditor if one required to be paid. Community Councillors incurring expenses did not claim reimbursement. If expenses were claimed there would be little money left. The amount of grant had been the same for 10 years and may be reviewed next year.

G Becher to progress this and write to Fife Council to ask what they are willing to support (Mike Melville, Law and Admin). Also the insurance policy for public liability does not cover fetes, fireworks and dances (Check Policy).

G Becher to ask if there could be a link with the Community Council and Pitcairn Trust via Common Good Fund regarding public liability insurance.

**Correspondence** – letter re 'free' website. The treasurer advised against this as there were too many distracting ads. The cost of renewing the Dairsie website for the next 2 years was £56.38. This site is continually updated with all the local hall and organisations info plus other updates eg bus service.

**Association of Community Councils**. This would cost £15 for a national membership fee. There was a discussion about whether Dairsie should join now although in the past the decision was against. A set up of neighbouring local

associations could facilitate proactive ideas and provide more strength. Saul Hain was delegated to visit the East Neuk Association of Community Councils on 1<sup>st</sup> June in Cellardyke to investigate the set up of Local Association Community Councils. Dairsie may investigate the possibility of a post 2007 election set up with Springfield, Ceres, Pitscottie and Cupar. Early days. Colin Gilbert offered to facilitate close association.

**PREF** – A demonstration against the Structure Plan would take place before the full Council meeting in Glenrothes on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm.

**Date of Next Meeting- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at 7.30pm in Memorial Hall**