

## KINGSBARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011

**Present:** Cllr. Donald MacGregor, Cllr. Mike Scott-Hayward, **KCC :** Calla Cobb, Eileen Brown, Catherine Scott, Raymond Hair, Kit McMahon (Sec.), Rob Moodie (Vice-Chair), Alistair Duncan (Treasurer), , Kate Holy (Chair) and 18 members of the public.

**1 Apologies:** Cllr. Elizabeth Riches, Fiona Mitchell (East Neuk & Landward Area Locality Manager)

**2 Minutes of Previous Meeting 01/01/11:** These were read and approved.

(Prop: E

Brown; Sec: C. Cobb)

### **3 Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

**a) Traffic Issues.** Kit McMahon reported the receipt of an e-mail from Gordon Hughes, of Fife Council Traffic Management Dept., following his attendance at the KCC Meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup>.

The issues put forward for consideration by Fife Council:

- investigating/implementing a 'countdown' approach signs to the village 30 mph speed limit.
- erecting Slow Down signs
- mounting a speed monitor at the south end of the village.
- alteration to HGV signs at Smiddy Burn.
- signage at Hillhead bend needs to be upgraded.

These issues will be processed, subject to priority commitments and the availability of funds to implement them.

The Dunino sign at Station Road, previously reported as missing, is, apparently, still in place.

Also received were the results of speed monitoring of through traffic in the village, carried out in previous years. These will be made available for consultation, courtesy of Sandra and Len, on the small information table, in the shop.

**(K McM)**

**b) Memorial Hall.** It was reported that, at the AGM for the Hall Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, a new expanded committee had been elected.

The dialogue set up with representatives from the Community Council, from the Hall Committee and Fife Council officers Fiona Mitchell and Community Education Worker Angus Mc Kain is set to continue. Three productive discussion sessions have already been held and the KCC will continue to do all it can to assist the Hall Committee in working towards making the Hall more available for community activities.

**c) AV Equipment.** The KCC needs to know that funds are available from the correct budget to support this purchase. At the next KCC a budget will be produced so the KCC will be aware what funds are available to be allocated. **(AD)**

### **4 Report of Planning Committee**

**a) Planning Application for 22 houses West of Station Road: Ref. No: 10/00873/FULL**  
**Planning Application for 18 houses North of Station Road: Ref. No: 10/00871/PPP**

Rob Moodie reported that both these planning applications by the Cambo Estate had been 'deemed refused' by Fife Council as Cambo has appealed to the Scottish Government on the basis that the local authority has not yet come to a decision. This appeal will be held by a Reporter and all information that has already been received by Fife Council will be passed on to the Reporter. All those who have already made official comments will be contacted by Fife Council to alert them to this and they will then have a further fortnight to make any additional comments. It is expected that any new comments will contain new information. A decision from the Reporter is expected before the end of May 2011.

Rob Moodie then showed altered designs for the development west of Station Road which had been submitted by Cambo Estate shortly before it made the appeal. It was noted that the rooms were extremely small and the houses, though originally stone fronted were now to be all white wet dash.

**b) Planning Application for a house to the south of the Hollies: Ref. No: 10/03748/FULL**

There is considerable concern still over the exit from the driveway to be created on the new site for the house next door to the Hollies which is to be shared with the Hollies. It was generally agreed that exiting the Hollies is currently an extremely difficult manoeuvre and will be even more difficult under the new arrangement. The house is situated so near the speed limit sign that many cars have not slowed down sufficiently and there is inadequate visibility at the corner. The KCC has already objected to Fife Council concerning this matter among others, as have the current owners of the Hollies and some individuals. Rob Moodie showed maps of the roads which showed how unsafe this exit will be. Cllrs. MacGregor and Scott-Hayward will take this matter forward at the meeting of the Planning Committee which discusses this planning application.

**(D MacG; M S-H, P Sub-C)**

**c) East Newhall Farm Steading: conversion to micro distillery, café and visitor centre.**

Rob Moodie reported that this application had been granted with conditions. Fife Council had taken note of KCC concern on the access road. The access road will now be the road that used to be the access to the old Cambo Country Park.

**5 Website Sub-Committee Report** The website is now up and running and has been advertised through a flyer in the shop and through peoples' doors. It is still being updated and developed by Nick Lunan, the Administrator, to whom many thanks were given.

**(NL)**

**6 RAF Leuchars.** Kate Holy reported that Leuchars Community Council had circulated a petition against closure which had been placed in the village shop and returned to the Liberal Democrat Party which is collating the petition for the local community. All local political parties are united in their stand against closure. There will not be a decision until after the Scottish elections in May. The point was made that closing RAF Leuchars would affect the whole of the Fife economy.

**7 Flooding:** Rob Moodie showed photographs from a dossier that had been sent to Fife Council a year ago following the floods at that time. Kit McMahon reported that there had been three previous submissions to Scottish Water and Fife Council concerning incidences of flooding. Each authority had carried out investigations in their own area of responsibility, with results reported to the community. A map of underground watercourses and drains had been requested but never received.

Further photographs have been sent to Fife Council since then and residents were requested to forward any new flood photographs to the Community Council so this could continue to be pressed as an issue. A resident described what action was being taken regarding the flooding on the road by the Manse which is currently acting as a drain for the local farmer's field. Photographs have been sent to Fife about this site and the KCC will continue to press forward with this issue.

**(RM KH KMCM)**

**8 Village Tubs:** Eileen Brown reported that the tubs were maintained by a team of 8 – 10 volunteers. This year, a decision had been made to use more mature plants, as there is not enough greenhouse space to bring small plug plants to the correct size before planting. Two trees have been planted in North Carr View to replace ones that had died and there are three more to be planted, at sites, to be agreed, in the village. Eileen Brown asked for ideas from residents for the use of the remaining money in funds for floral enhancement. Kit Mc Mahon reported that the Floral Enhancement Grant from Fife Council had been awarded for 2011 – '12. An update on the remaining funds available will be presented at the next KCC Meeting.

**(AD, KMCM EB)**

**9 Kenly Wind Farm Project:** Rob Moodie gave a history of the Wind Farm Project to the residents and a handout was given to show the up-to-date position as far as we know it. It is expected that the University will move for planning permission towards the end of the month and that further public meetings will be held by the University. Rob Moodie also showed an artist's impression of how the wind turbines will appear from the Square and how far they will be visible. It was noted that the turbines will hardly be visible from St Andrews at all. The Chair indicated that it would be helpful for KCC if it had some idea of what the residents' views were in their response to any planning application the University might make. In the following discussion these points were made: concern was expressed over any health and noise effects of the turbines; there was doubt felt by some over the efficiency of turbines; there was concern over how the turbines would channel electricity into a the national grid through a complicated local system; concern over house prices; concern over environmental impact issues (yet to be published by the University); uncertainty about what money would come available. It was noted that a Community Development Trust would need to be set up to administer the fund. On the other hand there was support for the use of 'green' energy and an effort to become less reliant on fossil fuels.

The Chair summed up the response of the meeting to the proposed Wind Farm as mixed and all agreed that more information was needed before people felt able to make a decision. The Chair also reminded residents that when the planning application comes to be made, every individual is entitled to give their comments to the local authority. A further meeting of the Kenly Wind Farm Project Board is expected in the next few weeks and this will be reported back at the next meeting.

**(KH, RM, K McM)**

## **10 Any Other Business:**

**a) Helpline for Older People.** A leaflet advertising this service will be displayed in the shop. **(KH)**

**b) ENLEN Meeting.** A meeting will be held in The Barns on Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup> from 4 – 7pm by the East Neuk and Landward Energy Network. This organisation was set up by local community councils to advise residents on what was available to reduce energy costs and carbon footprints. All are welcome.

**c) Potholes in Back Stile.** Raymond Hair raised the issue of potholes in Back Stile which are extremely bad after the recent cold winter. He realised that this was a national problem but pointed out that the quick repairs made usually lasted no more than 2 weeks. He suggested that enquiries be made as to whether a more enduring mixture could be used on these repairs. **(D MacG, M S-H)**

**d) Community Council Grants.** Kit Mc Mahon reported that the basis for calculating this annual Grant was set to change for the financial year, beginning in April. Councillor Donald Macgregor confirmed that a decision had indeed been taken, at committee level, in response to discussions with community council representatives who had attended several regional meetings, in 2010. Members representing the smaller communities have consistently put forward the case for increasing this Grant, as funding received was proving inadequate to meet even the most basic of the expenses it was intended to cover. As one of these smaller communities, Kingsbarns should stand to gain under the new system of calculation.

At the next KCC meeting, a budget will be produced so that community council members and residents will be aware of what funds are available and how these might be allocated. **(AD, K McM)**

**11 Date of Next Meeting.** The first Monday in May is a Bank Holiday. It was, therefore, agreed that a provisional date should be set for, **Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup> 2011**, subject to confirmation of the availability of the Memorial Hall.

**(K McM)**

*\*Initials in brackets relate to the initials of those people taking action on a particular Item.*

Martin Dibley, pp **(Secretary)**, Kit Mc Mahon, **March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011.**