

STRATHKINNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting held on Thursday 4th September 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The Community Council meeting was preceded by a discussion with a resident about planning application 25/01829/FULL. Community Councillors listened to the concerns raised. A number of residents had lodged their objections but as the expiry date had now passed the Community Council was unable to take any action.

Present: L. Walker [Chair], J. Houston, E. Saunders, G. Brown, B. Lawrie, L. Jess, A. McArdle. Fife Councillors A. Verner, J. A. Liston, R. Lawson, A. Clark.

Apologies: L. Meyer.

Minute of meeting of 5th June 2025 Proposed by B. Lawrie, seconded by G. Brown.

Matters Arising: None

Springfield Homes

S.75 funding: The drainage works at Bonfield playing field commenced on 25th August and appear to have been completed. This will leave approximately £10k of the total funding of £35k and further discussion will be required on how this should be spent.

Mrs Walker has been approached by some residents enquiring about the future maintenance of the land around the exterior of the Springfield site. Mrs Houston will write to Springfield to enquire.

Barrier at the foot of the path leading onto Bonfield Road: Mrs Houston had belatedly received a reply from Dale Ashelford, the Community Engagement contact at Springfield Homes, about the Community Council's request for a barrier to be installed in place of the bollards, to help prevent children running or cycling into the road. His response was that barriers were explored but, given the location of the public artwork required as part of their planning, were not a viable option. The path has not been adopted by Fife Council at this stage.

Standing Items

Treasurer's Report Ms Saunders reported that the annual grant has been received from Fife Council. The current balance is £1,036.

Policing There were no matters raised.

Village Infrastructure Proposal for Christmas lights: Councillor Liston had forwarded some details about lights in Guardbridge, which were less expensive than those costed previously. She advised that as the Council is installing new light standards, the CC should first check if any installation of lights will be permitted. Mrs Houston will write to enquire.

The electronic speed sign on lower Main Street has still not been repaired/replaced. Councillor Verner will pursue this again. The sign is almost completely obscured by overgrown shrubs and these also need to be cut back.

Condition of the War Memorial: the Memorial is in need of cleaning, and Councillor Liston had raised this with Kirstie Freeman, Community Manager. There has been no update and Councillor Liston will enquire about the Graves Dressing Fund.

The collapsed road edge on Craigtoun Road opposite the road to Denhead has been more or less repaired, but a small area still needs attention. Councillor Verner will pursue this.

The drains on Bonfield Road, Main Street and other areas in the village are choked with weeds and need clearing. Councillor Clark will pursue this; Mrs Walker will send him photographs of examples.

Former wildflower meadow at Bonfield playing field: the Council agreed in 2024 to take back management of the area from the Community Trust. It is now badly overgrown with weeds and Councillor Clark will follow this up. The CC is happy for the area to be returned to grass. Councillor Verner suggested that this might be suitable work for the community payback scheme and she will make enquiries.

Mrs Walker identified several matters requiring attention at the bridge on Main Street, opposite the nursery. There is a collapsed road sign lying on the bridge; the sign 'Main Street' is loose; and the stonework needs repaired. Councillor Liston will follow these up. The hedge across the road near the nursery is overgrown, making the pavement narrow for buggies etc. It is not known who owns this ground. Councillor Verner will follow this up.

Traffic and Transportation

Bends at Kincapple: one chevron has still to be replaced, and Councillor Clark will follow this up. Ms Saunders has reported the overgrown vegetation at Monksholm to the Roads Service.

Low Road Crossroads: the petition to reduce the speed limit on the B939 to 40mph, which gathered over 800 signatures in support, was heard at the North East Fife Area Committee on 27th August. Fife Councillors all spoke strongly in favour, and it was agreed that Roads and Transportation officers would carry out a review of the location with the intention of introducing a 40mph speed limit; and should officers find cause to not introduce a 40mph speed limit, that a report detailing the reasons should be submitted to the committee. Councillor Liston will enquire about the timescale for this.

Proposed cycle/footpath on High Road to St Andrews: Councillor Clark will enquire about progress with the officers' report.

Pavement parking ban: it was agreed that no exemptions are required for Strathkinness.

Community Trust Report Mrs Lawrie reported that public consultation on the proposed Tree Preservation Order is to be undertaken in September. The apple juicing day will be held on Sunday 28th September. 'Considerate parking' signs will again be displayed on Bonfield Road.

Fife Community Councils Mrs Houston and Mr Brown attended a meeting on 23rd June. Lindsay Thomson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services in Fife Council attended and, amongst several topics discussed, she heard CC's concerns about differing standards of contact with Council Officers. She encouraged CC's to register these concerns in the current consultation on the Scheme for Community Councils, and Mrs Houston has since done so.

Out of Hours Group (St Andrews Community Hospital) There was no update.

Correspondence There was no correspondence.

AOCB

Condolences Mrs Walker noted that three residents, Sean Withams, Roy Moffat and Douglas Mottashaw, had passed away during the summer. Councillors expressed their condolences to their respective families and friends. It was agreed to discontinue the practice of recording condolences.

Planning Applications There were no applications apart from the application discussed above.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 2nd October 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall