

STRATHKINNESS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of Meeting held on Thursday 5th February 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

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

Mrs Walker welcomed Mr Brooke to his first meeting as a Community Councillor.

Apologies: L. Jess, L. Meyer. Fife Councillors A. Verner, J. A. Liston.

Proposed Parking Restrictions at Sunnyside Two residents attended the meeting to express their concerns about the proposals for parking restrictions as set out in the report to the North East Fife Area Committee of 17th December 2025. They have no objection to the proposal for the north side. However, they object to the proposal for the south side, which includes both sides of the entrance to Pettycruik. They believe this would result in an unnecessary loss of parking spaces on this side and would move the existing pressure on on-street parking further up Sunnyside and/or on to Main Street. They propose an alternative solution which would restrict parking on the south side for a few metres along the entrance to Pettycruik and around the corner. They have submitted their objections and alternative proposal to Fife Council and they are aware of a number of other objectors. Councillor Clark undertook to raise this alternative proposal with Council officers, and Mrs Walker thanked them for attending.

Minute of meeting of 4th December 2025 Proposed by B. Lawrie, seconded by G. Brown.

Matters Arising: None

Springfield Homes

S.75 funding: In January Mrs Walker and Mrs Houston met at Bonfield playing field with Colin Davidson, Grounds Maintenance and the drainage contractor to discuss the ongoing wet condition of the park. The area where drainage was installed in August was firm and reasonably dry, given the recent weather. However, the area in the southwest corner near the steps leading to Clatto Gardens is extremely wet. Grounds Maintenance acknowledged that they had never expected that the work commissioned would fully resolve the drainage problem, and that this should have been made clear to the Community Council from the outset. They will arrange for the park to be spiked, at Fife Council's expense, when they can get a tractor onto the park without causing damage to the surface.

The old wooden bench on the east side will be removed and a new enviropol bench installed in its place. The bench on the west side has already been removed, and Community Councillors agreed that a new bench should be sited on the south side of the path leading to the Springfield development.

Mr Davidson also arranged for the potholes at the car park to be filled and levelled off. However, the new surface is quite soft and in danger of cutting up, and Mrs Houston will follow this up with him.

Future maintenance of the land around the exterior of the Springfield site: Dale Ashelford confirmed that the areas of undeveloped ground outwith residents' back gardens within the boundary of the site will be maintained by a factor, once it has been adopted. In the interim, Springfield are arranging for this to be tidied up. A date for this has still to be confirmed.

A programme of structured tree planting was to have been carried out on the west side of the development. Councillor Verner followed this up with Planning, and Mrs Houston will check if there has been any progress, and also enquire about the condition of the trees already planted on the site.

Fencing has now been erected at the site boundary behind Nos.12-22 Bonfield Road, leaving no space for those residents to maintain the hedges in their back gardens. It also appears that a French drain, laid in 1980 to resolve flooding from run-off from the field to the north, has been filled in, raising concerns that flooding may occur here again. Councillor Clark will enquire about the new drainage arrangements in this area of the site.

Standing Items

Treasurer's Report Ms Saunders reported that the current balance is **£930.24**. It was agreed to pay £250 for this year's hire of the Village Hall, and to discuss further use of the balance at the next meeting.

Policing There were no matters raised.

Village Infrastructure The electronic speed sign on lower Main Street has been replaced but is not effective as it is too close to the buildout where most drivers already have to give way to oncoming traffic. Also, it does not flash red above 20mph.

The broken sign lying on the bridge is awaiting new poles. There is no money in the budget until the new financial year. Councillor Clark will enquire if the old sign can be removed in the meantime.

Councillor Clark will enquire about progress with repairing the electronic speed sign at Danskin Place and the need for the shrubs to be cut back so that it is visible.

The culvert at Bishop's Wood was inspected in January and all pipes and ditches were found to be clear. It was agreed to monitor this.

Mr Brown will send photos to Councillor Clark of the deep gully on the left side of the C4 opposite Bishop's Wood.

Mr Brooke had asked whether the 20mph sign on the approach to the village from Nydie could be moved further out. Mrs Houston will check with Councillor Verner if there has been any progress.

Condition of the War Memorial: there is no update on cleaning the Memorial.

Traffic and Transportation

Low Road Crossroads: Steve Sellars hopes to confirm a timescale for installing the rumble strips soon, and to implement the reduced speed limit of 40mph in the early part of this year.

Bends at Kincaple: the missing chevron has still not been replaced; Councillor Clark will follow this up once again.

Proposed cycle/footpath on High Road to St Andrews: a Project Manager, Lesley Brown in Estates, has been appointed and she is exploring options regarding the landowners, including compulsory purchase. There is a budget in the Area Roads programme for consulting landowners.

Community Trust Report Mrs Lawrie advised that the trees on Bonfield Road that are subject to a Tree Preservation Order will be tagged to identify them. Fife Council's Tree Officer has referred the case of the tree damaged recently by Springfield to the Enforcement Officer.

Fife Community Councils Mrs Houston attended the meeting held on 19th January. Fife Council is to consult on the annual administrative grant, which has not increased for several years. There was also further discussion on difficulties in engaging with Council officers, and FCC's are to carry out a survey to gather examples. A newsletter has been circulated seeking support for community councils to have similar powers and budgets to those of English parish councils. After discussion it was agreed not to support this proposal, on the grounds that it is already difficult to encourage local people to join their community council and such increased responsibilities would be likely to deter them even more.

Correspondence SEPA is consulting on the next Flood Risk Management Plans 2028-2034, but this only extends to designated Potentially Vulnerable Areas, which do not include the Strathkinness area.

NHS Fife is consulting on a proposal to open a new pharmacy in St Andrews West. After discussion it was agreed to support this proposal.

Kilrymont Rotary Club has invited the CC to consider being linked with it, so that they can promote their community activities and events to the wider area around St Andrews. It was agreed to accept this invitation.

AOCB

Community Council recruitment Fliers inviting residents to consider joining the Community Council were delivered to the households in Clatto Gardens, and Mrs Walker thanked those involved. To date no interest has been expressed.

It was noted that the Village Hall will not be available on 7th May because of the Scottish Government elections, and that month's meeting will be held instead on 14th May.

Community Council Website Mrs Walker invited discussion on raising awareness of the website and encouraging residents to make greater use of it. Mr Brooke offered to investigate whether the school would consider this as a project.

Planning Applications It was noted that following the CC's successful request to be a Statutory Consultee on planning application 25/02909/FULL, this will now be considered at the North East Planning Committee on 12th March.

Mrs Houston had enquired with Building Control in November about a recently approved planning application, and was informed that to date no application for a building warrant had been made. Councillor Clark undertook to enquire about the present situation.

Details of other recent planning applications had been circulated and there were no comments.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 5th March 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall